DOWNTOWN DES MOINES POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Iowa Capitol Building**: 1007 E Grand Ave (anchors the east end of the East Village), open 8AM-5PM weekdays and 9AM-4PM Saturdays, 515-281-5591, open to the public and definitely worth a look inside; good views of downtown from the west side steps
- **Raygun**: 505 E Grand Ave (in the East Village), 515-288-1323, the ultimate in kitschy t-shirts and Midwest memorabilia
- **Pappajohn’s Sculpture Park**: 1330 Grand Ave; open sunrise to midnight daily; 2+ block open-air park with interactive sculptures from world-renowned artists; Kum & Go’s national headquarters, designed by Italian architect Renzo Piano, anchors the park on the north side and the first floor is open to the public; several restaurants can be found bordering the south side on Locust Street, with Exile Brewery and Restaurant two blocks south at 1514 Walnut Street
- **Court Avenue District**: begins one block south of the hotel on 4th Street and continues onto Court Avenue and further south on 4th and 5th Streets and 3rd Avenue, several restaurants and bars, Hy-Vee Grocery with eat-in dining, and home to the Downtown Des Moines Farmers’ Market
- **East Village**: east of the hotel across the Des Moines River primarily along E Grand Ave, E Locust Streets, and streets connecting; home to Zombie Burger, Raygun, AC Hotel’s top floor bar, and many shops and restaurants
- **Downtown Walking and Bike Trails**: a loop stroll from the hotel to Gray’s Lake (open 6AM-10PM) and back can be done in hour and a half to two hours
- **Principal Park**: 1 Line Drive; home to the Chicago Cubs triple A team, the Iowa Cubs; bars and restaurants on the north and west sides of the park
- **Des Moines Botanical Garden**: 909 Robert D. Ray Dr, 515-323-6290, about eight blocks east and north of the hotel on other side of the Des Moines River, use the Principal River Walk Trail
- **Major downtown corporations** include Wells Fargo, Principal Financial Group, Nationwide Insurance, Ruan Transporation, Wellmark, and Meredith Publishing Company; a Raygun t-shirt logo reads: “Des Moines! Our primary industries are kicking ass, taking names, and selling insurance!”
- **Ingersoll Avenue**: just west of downtown with shops, restaurants, and adjoining residential neighborhoods; taxi to Eatery A and from there stroll up and down this avenue for shopping and eating destinations; if your game, an hour walk back to the hotel
- **A Walgreens Pharmacy** can be found 3.5 blocks from the hotel at 606 Walnut St, 515-283-2591; **Hy-Vee Grocery** can be found 2 blocks from the hotel at 420 Court Ave, 515-697-0360
- **Des Moines Transit** runs a free bus, “the D Line” that for the most part travels west on Grand and east on Locust Avenues weekdays from 6:30AM-6PM and Saturdays 10AM-5PM. Find a bus stop with the D Line sign, wave a D Line bus down as it approaches and hop on for free; the line takes you past the Pappajohn Sculpture Park, to the East Village & Capitol, and points in between; every ten minutes
- **Other places of note**: West End Architectural Salvage, Mullet’s, Hessian House, Americana, Fong’s Pizza, Java Joe’s, El Bait Shop, High Life Lounge, Django, Centro, Wooly’s, the Continental, Lucca...