

Downtown Rochester redevelopment should complement private projects

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([Democrat and Chronicle](#), September 28, 2007) — Redevelopment of downtown should start from either side of Main Street, the head of a local design center says, focusing on street-level improvements in areas where private development already is planned.

The final drafts of design concepts from a three-day January workshop were unveiled Friday evening at the Rochester Regional Community Design Center, 1115 E. Main St.

"This is a next chapter, building upon what has been occurring," Joni Monroe, the center's executive director, said earlier in the day.

Monroe points to the area around Fitzhugh and West Main streets, where Florida developer George Traikos has promised a \$6 million overhaul of the Academy Building.

On the east side, the focal point is near Eastman Theatre, which is planning a \$35 million renovation while plans are moving forward to build housing or a hotel on a parking lot across the street.

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