



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



## Veterans Memorial Trail (IA)

*Iowa, Nebraska*



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*Council Bluffs' Veterans Memorial Trail runs adjacent to US 275—also known as Veterans Memorial Highway—for its 5 mile*



Trail users can also connect to the [Indian Creek Trail](#) (as well as another portion of the Lake Manawa Trail) where US 275 crosses Indian Creek. Taking the Indian Creek Trail north provides direct off-road access to a residential section of Council Bluffs. Less than 0.5 mile west of that trail is the southern endpoint for the [Western Historic Trails Center Link](#), which fittingly runs to the Western Historic Trails Center—featuring exhibits on early American pioneers in Iowa—and the [Iowa Riverfront Trail](#).

The Veterans Memorial Trail ends in the west in Omaha after crossing the South Omaha Veterans Memorial Bridge over the Missouri River. The trail shares the bridge, which was built in 2010, with automobile traffic, but it maintains its own separated path. In Nebraska, the trail connects to the southern portion of the impressive [Omaha Riverfront Trail](#).

Trail users should be warned that a temporary gap exists between S. 11th Street and Pine Street in Council Bluffs. This break in the trail should be eliminated in 2013, but trail users should exercise caution until then.

Council Bluffs' Veterans Memorial Trail runs adjacent to US 275—also known as Veterans Memorial Highway—for its 5 mile route. On the non-highway side of the trail, runners, walkers, bikers and skaters are treated to a diverse landscape of industrial properties, residences, farmland and groves of trees.

Although the scenery on the Veterans Memorial Trail may not be as robust as that found along other trails in Council Bluffs and Omaha, the trail provides a crucial link in the two cities' recreational trails network. At the eastern end of the trail at E. Manawa Drive in Council Bluffs, the [Lake Manawa Trail](#) begins. A short ride or run along that trail provides access to beautiful Lake Manawa State Park and the [Wabash Trace Nature Trail](#).



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**States:** Iowa, Nebraska

**Counties:** Douglas, Pottawattamie

Length: 5 miles

**Trail end points:** US 275 and E. Manawa Dr.  
(Council Bluffs, IA) to Missouri Ave. and S. 13th  
St. (Omaha, NE)

**Trail surfaces:** Concrete

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

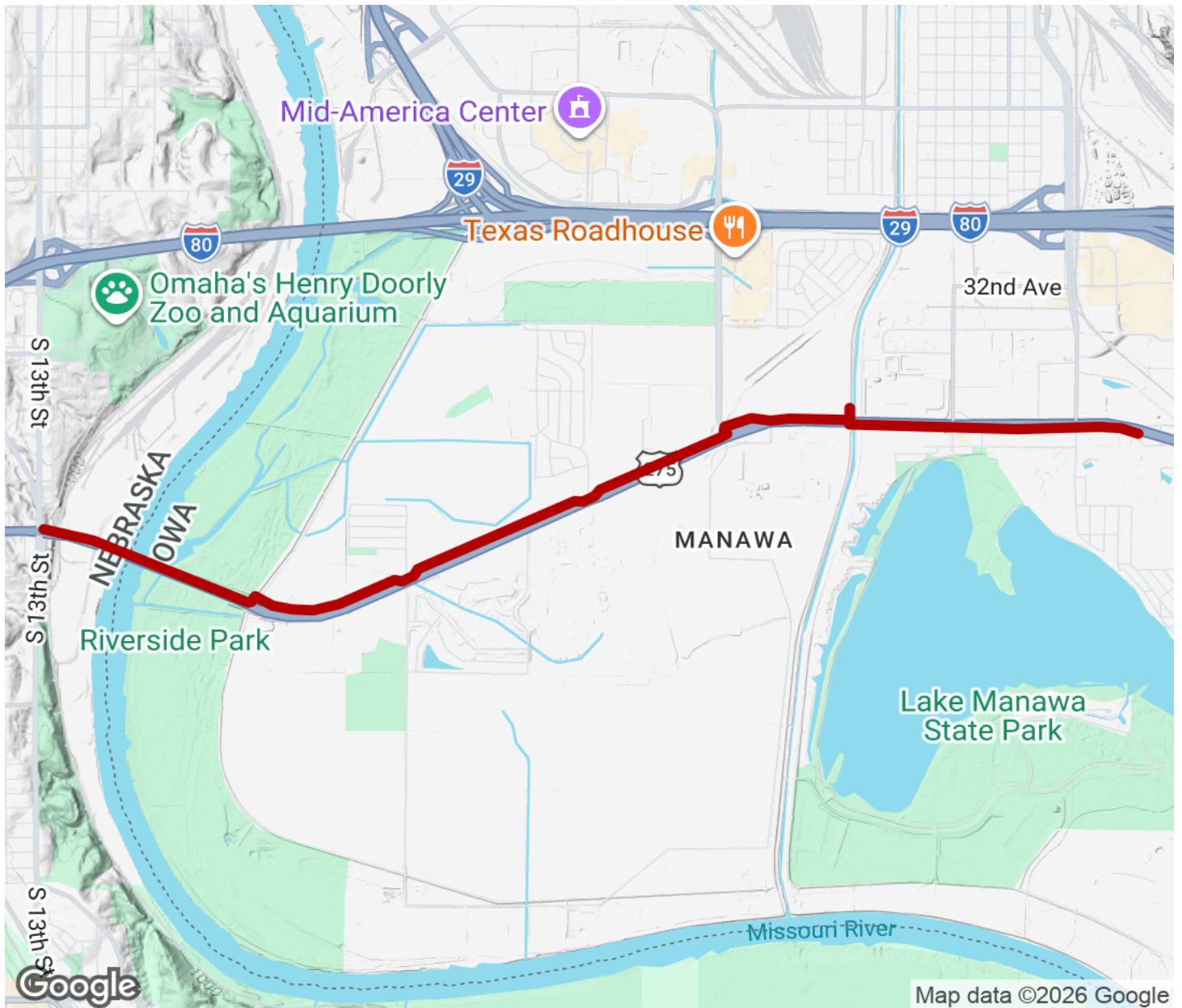
## Parking & Trail Access

There are no dedicated parking lots for the Veterans Memorial Trail, so consider parking at the Western Historic Trails Center or the Council Bluffs Recreation Complex on Richard Downing Avenue. From there, take the Western Historic Trails Center Link south until you reach the trail. Alternatively, park at Iowa West Foundation Trailhead Park or Lake Manawa State Park; take the Lake Manawa Trail north until you reach the Veterans Memorial Trail.



# Veterans Memorial Trail (IA)

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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