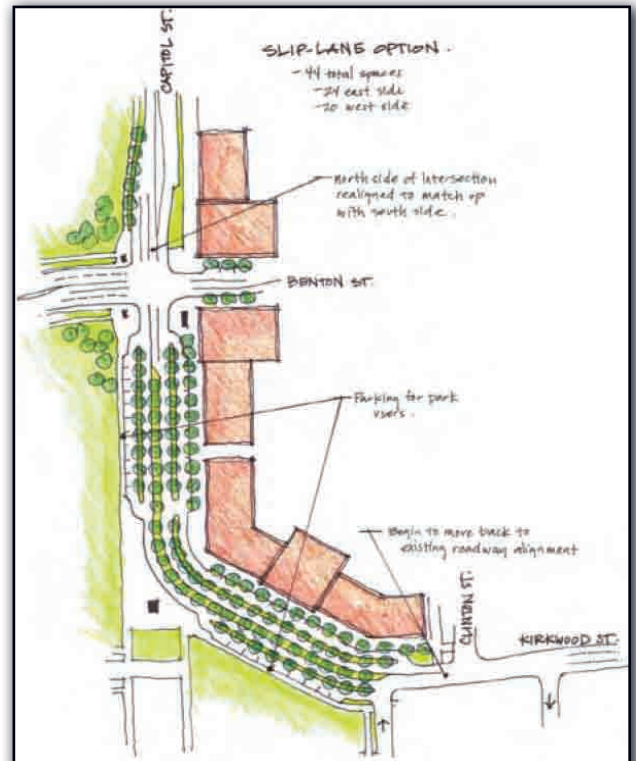


Partnership Promotes Sustainable Redevelopment for Riverfront Crossings District, Iowa City, Iowa

EPA Region 7's Land Revitalization Team is assisting Iowa City in designing a conceptual redevelopment plan for a 10-square block portion of its Riverfront Crossings District. The district includes several brownfield properties and a wastewater treatment plant that will be decommissioned over the next several years. As part of this effort, contractors working with Region 7 and EPA headquarters staff are helping the city develop a plan for inventorying, assessing, and remediating brownfields in the target area. The plan is expected to become final in mid-2011.

While a portion of the River Crossings District lies in the 100-year floodplain, the area outside of the floodplain is being considered for a combination of retail and affordable housing opportunities linked to a proposed Amtrak station and a possible light rail line. The conceptual redevelopment plan also envisions a new urban park on the site where the wastewater treatment plant now stands. The redevelopment plan will transform the area into a high-density, mixed-use, pedestrian friendly, transit-oriented neighborhood. Cleaning up the property, reusing the land, and providing new housing choices will create jobs and new economic opportunities in Iowa City.

The project in Iowa City is one of five pilots under the interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities, an agreement between EPA and the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Transportation to help communities identify opportunities to link housing, transit, and brownfields revitalization. The pilot grew out of EPA's partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to address long-term recovery after major floods hit the area in 2008. As a result, EPA, HUD, DOT, and FEMA are working together to coordinate resources and provide expert assistance to help Iowa City build a sustainable future.



Conceptual Redevelopment Plan for part of the Riverfront Crossings District