

## PHILLIPS TO THE FALLS

Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
Assessment and Cleanup Grants

### *Former Industrial Corridor Transformed into a Recreational Centerpiece for the City of Sioux Falls*

**ADDRESS:** General industrial corridor, north of downtown Sioux Falls, SD  
**PROPERTY SIZE:** 26 acres  
**FORMER USES:** Scrap metal salvage, rail, lead-acid battery storage, miscellaneous industry  
**CURRENT USES:** A recreational city park and updated transportation corridor



For additional data and geographic information for this and other Brownfields Grants, please visit EPA's **Cleanups in My Community** - <http://iaspub.epa.gov/Cleanups/>

#### EPA GRANT RECIPIENT:

The City of Sioux Falls received a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment grant in 1996, a \$200,000 Showcase Community Finalist award, and a \$200,000 Brownfields Cleanup grant in 2004.

#### PROJECT PARTNERS:

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND:

For years, an approximately 26-acre area located between downtown Sioux Falls and Falls Park (a recreational city park) had been passed over for redevelopment due to contamination uncertainties. The property had been used for more than a half-century for lead-acid battery storage and scrap metal salvaging, and included a rail yard and a roundhouse. An EPA Brownfields Assessment Pilot awarded to Sioux Falls in 1996 confirmed the presence of heavy metals and organic chemicals, and helped the city to resolve land acquisition issues and develop a cleanup plan.

#### KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Performed a detailed environmental investigation of the entire project area through the Assessment Pilot and Showcase Community Funding.
- Assisted the city in resolving land acquisition issues and in developing and implementing a cleanup plan.
- Leveraged a more than \$900,000 cleanup effort that involved the removal of contaminated soil and capping of selected areas.



*Falls Park was expanded all the way to downtown Sioux Falls through this project.*

#### OUTCOME:

Modifications to newly-expanded Falls Park continue as part of the Falls Park Masterplan and most recently included the completion of a decorative archway, gazebos, an outdoor sculpture garden, and additional landscaping. Two declining historic warehouse buildings were rehabilitated in anticipation of the city's "Phillips to the Falls" project, and since then four additional historic buildings have been rehabilitated with the intent of additional private development occurring. The revitalization generated by this project has increased retail and office uses in the north end of Sioux Falls' downtown district.