

# Region 5 Brownfields Success – City of Bloomington, IN

## B-Line Trail

### Opportunity:

Leadership in Bloomington, IN saw opportunity in an abandoned rail line which had served the former Showers Brothers Furniture Company (closed in 1958). If contamination associated with the rail line and associated properties could be addressed, they could be reused as a linear park.

**Targeted Investment:** Bloomington sought assistance from the State of Indiana and USEPA in order to address contamination issues on the rail line, and an associated switch yard. The City has methodically brought together a broad range of funding to assess, clean up, and redevelop this land.

2001 – Indiana Assessment Grant - \$48,496

2006 – Indiana Stipulated Remediation Grant - \$300K

2008 – Indiana Stipulated Remediation Grant - \$400K

2008 – Indiana Trails and Parks Initiative Technical Assistance - \$58,445

2008 – INDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant - \$5.4 Million

2013 – USEPA Community Wide Brownfields Assessment Grant - \$200K

2017 – USEPA Community Wide Brownfields Assessment Grant - \$300K

**Results:** The City has completed two phases of the re-purposing of the B-line as a linear park. Now pedestrians and bikes have a scenic pathway through the core of Bloomington. This has resulted in \$22 Million in private investment along the B-line, building upon the \$34 Million 1994-1996 renovation of the former Showers Brothers factory as the new City Hall and Indiana University Research park.

The next phase is the planned redevelopment of an adjoining switchyard into a park, based upon a 2011 City-funded plan. The anticipated cost of the Switchyard Park project is \$30-35 Million.

