



## Sustainable Solutions

### Client

City of Milwaukee

### Location

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

## Blighted Brownfield Site Redevelopment

### Project Description

In the heart of Milwaukee lie 57 hectares (140 acres) of land blighted by heavy metals, petroleum, chlorinated organics, and asbestos, the residue of more than 125 years of locomotive maintenance. The reincarnation of this land along the Menomonee River began in 2003, when the City of Milwaukee received the property via condemnation. The city imagined a new life for this property and began planning an integrated development: the Menomonee Valley Industrial Center (MVIC)—rich in recreational, economic, and natural assets. What was once unusable land will bring as many as 1,500 jobs to Milwaukee and create an increase of more than \$120 million in recreational, aesthetic, and ecological value for the people of Milwaukee.

In 2003, CH2M HILL was hired as the program manager for the site redevelopment project, as part of the Milwaukee Transportation Partners (MTP) team. CH2M HILL conducted historical and environmental site assessments, managed remediation services, and completed the design and construction management of a new recreation park and the MVIC commercial site redevelopment.

The MTP saved the project more the \$15 million by successfully negotiating a first-of-its-kind onsite management plan with the site's regulatory agencies—including onsite stabilization and encapsulation of asbestos-containing materials. In addition, more than \$25 million was saved through value engineering, new-found revenue streams, and reuse of materials—recycled glass, timber, and brick, which was otherwise destined for a landfill.

In the new 28-hectare (70-acre) industrial park, a state-of-the-art stormwater management system was used to create habitat and return diverse and mutually beneficial species to the area landscape. In addition, the MVIC offers new “green” recreational spaces for the community—including bike and walking trails, soccer fields, tennis courts, pedestrian bridges, fishing areas, and access to the cleaner river via canoe ramps.

### Sustainable Components

- Redevelopment will bring as many as 1,500 jobs to Milwaukee and create an increase of more than \$120 million in recreational, aesthetic, and ecological value for the people of Milwaukee
- Reused materials such as glass, timber, and brick
- Stormwater management system used to create habitat and return diverse and mutually beneficial species to area landscape
- New “green” recreational spaces created for the community—including bike and walking trails, soccer fields, tennis courts, pedestrian bridges, fishing areas, and access to the river via canoe ramps