

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program



Michigan Placemaking in Action... Detroit Dequindre Cut Greenway



Before:



After:



The City of Detroit, in partnership with many state and private agencies, developed an abandoned below-level rail corridor formerly used by the Grand Trunk Western Railroad (referred to as the "Dequindre Cut"), into a 1.35-mile pedestrian/bicycle trail and greenway. The project provided a nonmotorized link from destinations inland, such as downtown Detroit and Eastern Market, to the William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor, the Detroit Riverwalk and surrounding neighborhoods. Federal TE funds were awarded to the project for site preparation, construction of access ramps at Lafayette Boulevard and Gratiot Avenue, stormwater and utility improvements, installation of security cameras, and the trail construction.

- Federal TE investment: \$2,055,448
- Matching Funds: \$513,862 from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
- Public/Private Partnership: The greenway would not have been possible if it were not for a strong public/private partnership between the City of Detroit, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, Southeast Michigan Community Foundation Greenways Initiative, Kellogg Foundation, Kresge Foundation, Downtown Detroit Partnership, SmithGroup JJR, community advocacy groups (such as the Riverfront East Alliance and the Lafayette-Elmwood neighborhood), the Michigan Department of Transportation, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- Phase Two of the Dequindre Cut is a component of the \$10 million 2012 Federal TIGER Award for the "Link Detroit!" multi-modal infrastructure improvement project.

Project Impact:

- Complete transformation from an unattractive, unused area to a beautiful public space improving walkability and nonmotorized connectivity within the city.
- The Detroit News reported that Tony Goldman, CEO of New York City-based Goldman Properties, says he's close to making a major investment in downtown Detroit. He cited interest in the Dequindre Cut area and said it was his favorite public place in the city of Detroit.

"This federal funding helps pay for improvements that make a real difference in economic development and quality of life. Transportation enhancements like these make Michigan communities even more attractive to residents, visitors, and business investors."

- Kirk T. Steudle, State Transportation Director