

Blue Valley Industrial Association Transportation Study

FAQs

What is the Blue River Ecodustrial Corridor (BRECO)?

BRECO is a 4,600-acre corridor on KCMO's east side poised to be one of the nation's first regenerative industrial zones.

Where is the Blue River Ecodustrial Corridor?

Stretching from where the Blue River meets the Missouri river in the north, to I-435 and the Blue River in the south, including the Truman Sports Complex.

Located 10-minutes from downtown KC and 25-minutes from KCI.

What does Ecodustrial mean?

Ecodustrial is a new term combining the words 'ecological' and 'industrial', meant to communicate eco-conscious industrial activities.

It's a deliberate choice to foster a business district that creates strong industrial jobs that benefit the environment and create new opportunities for recreation, environmental restoration and green amenities throughout the area.

As part of 'ecodustrial', the goal is to create better industrial jobs – jobs for the 21st century – that are healthier, have a better purpose, and promote a cleaner future.

How does the BVIA Transportation Study differ from BRECO?

The BVIA Transportation study is just a piece of the larger BRECO puzzle.

There are many components that need to work together harmoniously to make the area thrive again and become a preferred area for industrial development.

While local stakeholder groups work on other components, such as river restoration and blight clean-up, connectivity and mobility (i.e., highway, trail, bus access) is what the Transportation Study will focus on. Without strong connectivity and easy ways to move throughout the corridor, the area will struggle to reach its full potential.

What's the current state of the area?

It's a work in progress. While the area has seen disinvestment for the past several decades, there are 560 acres of underutilized parcels of land, as well as existing thriving businesses such as: Custom One Truck Source, Superior Bowen, May Technology & Manufacturing, and more.

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There are 134 acres of existing trails and parks in the area, 2.5 miles of MO River frontage, two major interstate interchanges and 420 acres of rail right-of-way.

Efforts to remediate environmental contamination, clean up blight and a 'Renew the Blue' river restoration campaign are underway.

Doesn't the area flood?

- \$300 million in floodway improvements were completed within the last decade
- A \$250,000 U.S. Economic Development Administration grant was awarded to repair and improve water infrastructure

Why does this area have potential?

- The area has the key connections to rail, river and interstate.
- Power infrastructure is in place with ample unused capacity.
- A large workforce population is nearby who today must travel far for industrial employment.
- Environmental leaders have made significant efforts in the "Renew the Blue" campaign.
- Organizations such as the Economic Development Corporation of KCMO has made this one of their top priorities to drive economic opportunity.
- Existing waste to product/regenerative industry is already present and growing (i.e. recycling, glass, urban lumber).
- The KC Maker Economy continues to grow in the area.
- The local AECD community is a leader in smart building practices, regeneration, urban planning and this can be evidence of our leadership.

Who supports this effort?

- BVIA
- KCIC
- KCATA
- EDCKC
- PortKC
- City of KCMO
- MARC
- MCC
- Evergy
- KC Terminal Railway
- And more

See more about the vision and history of BRECO at www.breco-kc.com.