

BEFORE





City of West Branch

141 North Front Street, West Branch

COMPLETED OCTOBER 2014

Project overview

Unused for more than a year due to a fire in downtown West Branch's central business district, the city's DDA proactively purchased this parcel as a means of creating a new asset for their community. With financial assistance from the MEDC, the community chose to connect the downtown area of West Branch with their riverfront bicycle trail system. This regional connection will not only provide a resting place for downtown visitors, but also act as a gathering center for the city's business patrons and multitude of community-wide events on a daily basis.

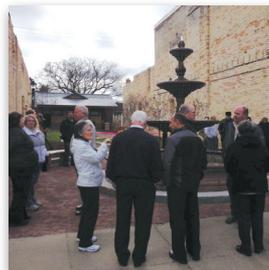
Improvements to this space include the removal of the half-burned structure and clearing of the lot for creation of the new "pocket park." This new asset features community bathrooms, a fountain, a non-motorized path connector, and significant landscaping, signage, and lighting upgrades to match the surrounding downtown streetscaping. Named Victorian Park, this DDA downtown redevelopment effort will serve as a positive catalyst for future renovation efforts throughout downtown West Branch and the surrounding region.

MEDC investment: \$244,986 Community Development Block Grant

Local investment: \$30,279



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