Chicago’s 606 Trail Brings Community, Connection to City Neighborhoods

“We’re taking a 100-year-old piece of our industrial heritage and repurposing it for another 100 years. This was a rail corridor and now it’s going to be this beautiful park, a living work of art and a transportation corridor all rolled into one,”

– Beth White
Director of The Trust for Public Land’s Chicago regional office

Project Summary

**Challenge:** Provide efficacious, energy-efficient, vandal-resistant luminaires to safeguard pedestrians, cyclists and drivers beneath Chicago’s 606 (Bloomingdale) Trail.

**Solution:** LuxTran™ LED luminaires installed in 37 (one new and 36 restored historic) concrete viaducts, which accommodate two-to-six lanes of ground-level vehicular traffic, cyclists and pedestrians.

**Benefit:** 150,000 hour LED lifetime (L70) means significantly reduced maintenance, LEDs provides rapid payback, and rugged fixtures withstand the constant vibration generated by viaduct traffic.
LuxTran™ Helps Deliver Pedestrian Safety and Energy Savings Under the 606 Bloomingdale Trail, Chicago, IL

Illuminating patron safety and local art.
The 606 has proven to be extremely popular, attracting families, recreational bikers, runners and walkers, as well as neighborhood residents going to and from work and school. To preserve users’ safety and comfort, good visibility is paramount: local residents demand bright, reliable lighting.

To help address safety concerns for neighborhood residents and new users of The 606, the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDoT) installed a total of 186 new Kenall LuxTran LED luminaires under the trail’s viaducts, as well as 28 new tunnel-specific High Intensity Discharge (HID) lamps.

Despite the fact that the luminaires remain on 24 hours per day, they consume less power than the old HID fixtures and are more efficacious as well. The luminaires also provide significantly improved color rendering index (CRI) values which helps illuminate new and restored artwork along the trail such as the the recently restored 35-year-old mural, “Children are our Future”, at California Avenue. Even glimpses of the underlying historic bridge framework can now be seen, thanks to ample uplighting under the viaducts.

“*We’re taking a 100-year-old piece of our industrial heritage and repurposing it for another 100 years. This was a rail corridor and now it’s going to be this beautiful park, a living work of art and a transportation corridor all rolled into one.*”

– Beth White
Director of The Trust for Public Land’s Chicago region office

For more information, please visit us on the web at www.kenall.com