



## CASE STUDY

# BENHAM AVE. MULTI-USE PATH

### LOCATION

Elkhart, Indiana

### CUSTOMER

City of Elkhart

### APPLICATION

Multi-use trail

### SYSTEM INSTALLED

15 x UP2 with motion sensing

### TECHNICAL FEATURES

- Motion sensing for adaptive light levels + energy efficiency
- NiMH battery for reliable cold weather performance

### OPERATIONAL IMPACT

- Reduced installation time and overall project complexity
- Lower long-term costs and maintenance burden
- Improved connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists

### THE CHALLENGE

In Elkhart, Indiana, a new multi-use path along Benham Avenue and Mishawaka Road connects residential neighborhoods with schools and commercial areas. While roadway lighting was already in place, it wasn't enough to fully illuminate the path for pedestrians and cyclists using it during the early morning and evening hours. Conventional electrical lighting was initially considered, but it would have required trenching through existing pavement, adding cost and disruption to the project.

### THE SOLUTION

The City installed 15 UP2 solar lighting systems with motion sensing to fill these gaps. The pedestrian-scale design improves visibility, without extending grid power or cutting into the newly completed path. Solar enabled flexible placement with minimal site impact, while motion sensing increases light levels when users are present and conserves energy during low-traffic periods. The project was fully funded through a combination of city investment and contributions from local businesses—reflecting strong community support.

### THE IMPACT

The path opened in time for back-to-school season, connecting an estimated 1,600 residents to schools, neighborhoods, and local businesses. For Elkhart, it's the first of many, with additional corridors planned citywide. The Benham Avenue path now serves as a model for expanding the network without pavement disruption or reliance on outside funding.

