Successful integration of the Jibboom Junkyard Superfund site (the Site) into the City of Sacramento’s River District Redevelopment Area has transformed the formerly contaminated facility into a scenic destination along the existing Sacramento River Parkway bicycle trail.

The Associated Metals Company operated a metal salvaging facility on the 9-acre property from 1950 until 1965. At that time, the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) purchased the 9-acre parcel to construct an interstate highway and right-of-way on seven acres of the Site. Sampling identified soil contamination related to former salvaging activities, and EPA placed the Site on the National Priorities List in 1983. EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers excavated contaminated soil and backfilled these areas with clean soil on the undeveloped, 2-acre area of the Site to prevent exposure to contaminated soil and migration of contaminants into ground water. CalTrans had previously used clean soil to elevate the 7-acre portion of the Site 10 feet above surface grade during interstate highway construction, to prevent any potential exposures to contaminated soil.

In 2005, the City Council of Sacramento approved the Jibboom Street Park Master Plan, which included redevelopment of the 2-acre portion of the Site into a riverfront park along the Sacramento River Parkway bicycle trail. EPA worked closely with local officials to consider any potential site impacts from development plans and changing land uses. EPA reviewed cleanup standards as well as ground water and soil data from the Site and surrounding areas and determined the Site appropriate for all types of use.

The City of Sacramento completed development of the Jibboom Street Park in 2007, renaming the park Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park in 2008. Today, the interstate highway remains active and the park includes pedestrian walkways, a fountain plaza, interpretive signage, benches, open green space and landscaping. Future plans for the Site include additional park and picnic areas. Plans are also in place for surrounding properties, including the restoration of the historic Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) building, commercial and office space, restaurants and residences at the adjacent PG&E state Superfund site. Redevelopment at the Site provides recreational opportunities for the local community and future development will continue to foster riverfront connectivity and support this destination along the Sacramento River.