

Donor Plaque, Solar Lighting and New Landscaping Unveiled at Simsbury Bike Sculpture

Town and state officials, donors and supporters of the Simsbury Bike Sculpture gathered on May 6 to celebrate completion of the one-and-a-half-year project.

An engraved plaque recognizing more than 70 contributors was unveiled by Jill Mitchell, of Mitchell Auto Group, the largest contributor. Bike sculpture artist Vicente Garcia welded more than 100 bike chains and brake rotors to the plaque stand.

Project Manager Ann Marie Potter also announced solar lighting and new landscaping, including a curved rock wall, stones and arborvitae shrubs. The bike sculpture also has been raised for greater visibility.

The entire project was funded by \$10,100 in financial donations and more than \$5,000 of in-kind services.

Potter noted that Simsbury is now home to the only large-scale bike sculpture on the East Coast Greenway, which runs from Maine to Florida.

She thanked everyone who supported the project and is “part of a community that’s willing to think out-of-the-box, pitch in, and take a leap of faith on something a little different.”

The bike sculpture was constructed by Garcia out of more than 190 pieces of recycled steel and weighs over 500 pounds. It was installed last spring to commemorate Simsbury’s designation by the League of American Cyclists as the first Bicycle Friendly Community in Connecticut.

Following photos are provided by the courtesy of Matthew J. Wagner



Vicente Garcia created both the Simsbury Bike Sculpture and the stand for the donor plaque.



Project Manager Ann Marie Potter gets a laugh from the crowd. The Simsbury Bike Sculpture was completely funded by donations - \$10,100 in financial contributions and more than \$5,000 of in-kind services.



PJ Gronski of The Bicycle Cellar was a member of the Simsbury Bike Sculpture Committee. His shop also donated the wheel chains and rotors that are welded to the plaque stand.



Simsbury artist Vicente Garcia (kneeling, in red) with several supporters and donors. Vicente constructed both the bike sculpture and plaque stand, which includes more than 100 bike chains and rotors.



Several dozen donors, supporters and friends of the Simsbury Bike Sculpture listened as project manager Ann Marie Potter led the ceremony.



The plaque for the Simsbury Bike Sculpture was unveiled by Jill Mitchell of Mitchell Auto Group, the largest donor.