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Press Release
Stoneham Community Development Corporation
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Stoneham CDC and Town of Stoneham Celebrate the Installation of New Artistic Bike Racks with Dedication on Town Common

The Stoneham Community Development Corporation (CDC) and Town of Stoneham came together for a small dedication ceremony on Wednesday, August 12, to celebrate the new custom-designed bike racks on Stoneham's Town Common.

In attendance were several Stoneham CDC Board Members, including President, Joan Lemire, Vice-President, Jenny Lecoq, and Mike Bratina, Treasurer, Jessica Chasse, Justin Taylor and local residents Filis Warren, who submitted the design that inspired the bike racks and Jamie McDermott, who secured a grant for the project from the Martin Richard Foundation after she ran on their MR8 Boston Marathon team. The Town of Stoneham, who also played an important part in the project, was represented by Steve Angelo, Director of Recreation, and Brett Gonsalves, Director of Public Works.

The whimsical multi-colored "townscape" bike racks were produced by Madrax using a custom design submitted by Filis Warren to the Stoneham CDC's Bike Rack Community Design contest held in Fall 2018. Filis commented on how proud she is to be part of the efforts going in to making Stoneham a bike-friendly community. The bike racks were purchased with funds from Complete Streets, donations to the CDC's community fundraising campaign and a grant from the Martin Richard Foundation, in honor of Jamie McDermott, Stoneham Resident. Jamie, who sported her yellow MR8 Team singlet, talked about running the Boston Marathon in 2018 in support of the Martin Richard Foundation. Martin Richard was the young boy who tragically lost in life in the Boston Marathon bombings. The foundation funds programs that address social equity in the areas of youth development, community building and adaptive & inclusive efforts. The Martin Richard foundation allocated funds to each runner's community to be used for a project of their choice and after careful consideration, Jamie chose to support the Stoneham CDC's efforts to add bike racks throughout the town. Stoneham DPW installed the racks in early July 2020.

You can watch a short video of the dedication which also gives a history of the project at www.stonehamcdc.org.

The Stoneham CDC is an all-volunteer group made up of local residents who are dedicated to increasing the community well-being of Stoneham, MA by undertaking community development projects, special events, and supporting long-term planning. It grew out of the

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Stoneham Town Center Action Plan developed for the Town of Stoneham with the guidance of the MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Council) in 2014. The CDC works to promote Stoneham and its amenities to a wider audience. They are now pursuing a number of projects including building a loop trail around Spot Pond, a picnic area on the Tri-Community Greenway, increasing the number of cultural events for residents and visitors and more transportation improvements. To learn more about the Stoneham CDC and donate to current projects, go to <http://www.stonehamcdc.org>.

Photo credit: Jessica Chasse