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Photographs available upon request

Dedication Celebrates Pittsfield's Silver Lake Walkway

PITTSFIELD, MA— Mayor Daniel L. Bianchi and the Pittsfield Economic Development Authority (PEDA) will dedicate the recently completed Silver Lake Walkway, between East and Fourth Streets, on Friday, May 23 at 10 a.m. A ribbon cutting ceremony will officially open the reclaimed lake and shoreline, with benches and plantings, as the city's newest recreational amenity.

Now in use by the public, Silver Lake is open for nature-watching, boating and winter skating. The lake hosts a variety of fish species, including largemouth bass, carp and sunfish, for catch and release fishing. The banks have been replanted with grasses, shrubs and trees and a handicap accessible pedestrian walkway graces the northern and eastern shorelines.

Silver Lake is a focal point of the 52-acre William Stanley Business Park, General Electric Company's former industrial facility in the heart of the city. PEDA has been aggressively marketing the park, with three of nine original parcels now occupied.

"It is unique to have a lake in an urban setting," Mayor Bianchi said. "Silver Lake will enhance the William Stanley Business Park and will add a valuable marketing aspect to the business park."

"The Silver Lake walkway is a great addition to the recreational resources offered in our inner city," said James McGrath, Pittsfield's Park, Open Space, and Natural Resources Program Manager. "We're pleased to have been a part of its development."

Under the terms of a consent decree, General Electric funded the Silver Lake project to remediate the shoreline and cap the lake. In accordance with the decree, and in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, the work resulted in a new and vibrant resource for all to enjoy.

"This is a significant landmark in the city and PEDA was pleased to play a key role to acquire the shoreline property and facilitate the construction of this lovely walkway," said Corydon Thurston, PEDA Executive Director. "This project is yet another example of the scenic beauty and recreational amenities that set Pittsfield apart as a compelling location for business development."

Guests attending the dedication ceremony are asked to park in the lot next to the Western Massachusetts Electric Company solar facility along Silver Lake Boulevard and proceed to the tent adjacent to the driveway.

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Pittsfield Economic Development Authority (PEDA) is a quasi-public agency created by a special act of the Massachusetts State Legislature, for the purpose of receiving and redeveloping approximately 52 acres of General Electric Company's former industrial facility located in the heart of Pittsfield Massachusetts. For additional information, visit williamstanleybp.com