

CITY OF MUSCATINE



COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
215 SYCAMORE STREET
MUSCATINE, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550 Ext. 166

For more information contact:

Kevin Jenison
Communication Manager
Public Information Officer
City of Muscatine, Iowa
(563) 264-1550 Ext. 166
kjenison@muscataineiowa.gov

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GIANT BIKE STATUES PEDAL INTO PERMANENT HOME

Created to welcome RAGBRAI riders to Muscatine, sculptures now welcome all visitors

MUSCATINE, Iowa – The beloved giant bicycles that stole the show during RAGBRAI's 50th Anniversary ride are back on display in Muscatine—this time for good!



Standing 14 feet tall and stretching 23 feet long, the two vibrant bike sculptures were built by the talented mechanics at Muscatine Power and Water's (MPW) Power Plant. First installed at Riverside Park in July 2023, the bikes quickly became one of the most photographed stops along the Mississippi River as thousands of riders passed through Muscatine on the final day of the historic ride.

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Cyclists and visitors lined up for snapshots with the sculptures, the Fisher of Clams statue, and the sparkling river views—creating memories that celebrated both RAGBRAI and Muscatine's unique character.

After being carefully stored at MPW's Cedar Street facility, the bikes now have a new permanent home at Duncan Park, at the corner of Houser and Hershey. The location not only offers great visibility for visitors entering Muscatine but also sits right along the very route RAGBRAI riders traveled through town.

"It is a really unique structure," said Erika Cox, Director of Customer and Technology Experience for MPW. "To be able to have the entire community and visitors enjoy the bike sculptures is a real win-win."

City officials say the sculptures are more than just art—they're a symbol of Muscatine's creativity and welcoming spirit.

"These sculptures highlight what makes Muscatine special—our ability to come together as a community to create something memorable," said Matt Mardesen, Muscatine City Administrator. "They're a fun reminder of RAGBRAI's impact and a lasting welcome for everyone coming into town."

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Parks & Recreation leaders echoed that excitement.

"The bikes are a perfect fit for Duncan Park," said Rich Klimes, Muscatine Parks & Recreation Director. "They connect directly with our trail system, add a splash of color and creativity, and give families, cyclists, and visitors one more reason to stop and enjoy Muscatine."

As did City elected officials.

"These bikes represent Muscatine at its best: innovative, fun, and connected to the river and trails that make our community special," said Brad Bark, Mayor of Muscatine. "We're thrilled residents and visitors alike will be able to enjoy them for years to come."

The sculptures now stand as a bold, colorful welcome to Muscatine—celebrating the city's love of cycling, its role in RAGBRAI history, and the creative spirit that makes Muscatine shine. Residents and visitors are encouraged to stop by Duncan Park, snap a photo, and see the bikes up close for themselves.

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