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Essex Foundation Completes Second Phase of Gateway Landscape Project *300+ Perennials Planted Along Intersection of Route 154 and 153 in Essex*

Essex, CT – Just three months after funding the installation of twelve Chanticleer pear trees along Route 154 near the intersection of Route 153, The Essex Foundation, Inc. has completed the second phase of a multi-phase gateway beautification project. Over 300 low-growing, low-maintenance evergreen and perennial ornamentals were planted in the southeast corner of state-owned land in the Route 9/ Exit 3 underpass area of Essex. The charitable organization hired Matthew Verry Landscape Design for design planning and state approval oversight while Sullivan Lawn Services, LLC was contracted for the installation services.

With the goal of creating a colorful, year-round visual display that is both drought tolerant and pest resistant, The Essex Foundation board of directors opted for a combination of Viburnum, KnockOut Rose, Black-eyed Susan, Sedum Autumn Joy and Winterberry. Funds for the cost of the planning, plant



purchase and installation were provided through a bequest to The Essex Foundation by the late Elizabeth “Diz” Barnes Callender and her predeceased sister Mary Frances Barnes. The gateway beautification project, which also included funding for the highway bridge painting, is a good example of the types of community efforts supported by The Essex Foundation – somewhat unique, requires quick action, and has an immediate impact.

CAUGHT ON CAMERA: *Sullivan Lawn Service s crew members install evergreen shrubs and ornamental perennial plants at the intersection of Route 154 and Route 153 in Essex, the second phase of a landscape beautification project funded by The Essex Foundation.*