

Skateboard Park Strategy 2017

Executive Summary

The City of Pickering recognizes the importance of skateboarding as an unstructured form of recreation for the physical and creative well-being of its citizens of all ages and skill sets. As such, City Council directed staff to develop a Skateboard Park Strategy as a supplement to its Recreation and Parks Master Plan. The City of Pickering commissioned van der Zalm + Associates and New Line Skateparks to undertake the strategy and provide a concept design for the City's priority skateboard park site. The report recommendations are as follows:

a. Existing Skateboard Parks

The current skateboard park located in the Diana, Princess of Wales Park is aged and in poor condition. Retrofitting this park is not a feasible option and therefore, when a suitable replacement has been constructed it should be decommissioned.

b. Skateboard Park Area

Based on current population and skateboard usage data, the City of Pickering is in need of 2,212m² (23,810ft²) of skateable area. With population growth this is expected to rise to 3,090m² (33,263ft²) over the next 10 years. With an expected buildout population of 70,000 people, Central Pickering (Seaton) will require 1,680m² (18,083ft²) of skateable area.

c. South Pickering Network Option

Option 1, 'Civic Centric' is the recommended concept for the City of Pickering. This will provide an immediate larger focal skateboard park, while adding localized skateboard parks spread across the city for improved access and inclusivity.

d. Central Pickering (Seaton) Network Option

This would provide a community level skateboard park at Seaton's centre with either skate spots or skate dots dispersed across the surrounding new or existing neighbourhoods.

e. Priority Site

The Pickering Recreation Complex front plaza is the recommended priority site for the central community skateboard park. This site is most suitable to host a Community level skateboard park. This location will provide optimal accessibility, visibility and amenities while also retrofitting the front of the Recreation Complex.

f. Inclusivity

Include other wheeled-sport user groups in the skateboard park venues and throughout the design process. This includes but is not limited to bmx, inline skaters, scooters, roller skaters and longboarders.

g. Funding opportunities

A variety of funding sources should be considered including municipal, provincial, and federal governments, as well as, the private sector, non-profits or other community partners in the allocation of funds, grants, donations and partnerships.

h. Ongoing Engagement

This report sets the framework for creating a skateboard park network in the City of Pickering. To fulfill the 'Civic Centric' network concept many routes may be taken. Potential sites should be reviewed further and prioritized with community involvement.

van der Zalm
+ associates

landscape architecture
park + recreation
urban design
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