



Wenatchee Skate Area System Master Plan

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Acknowledgements

This citywide Skate System Master Plan identifies a network of public places throughout the city, for people of all ages, races and genders to skate and enjoy. It also offers recommendations that can begin to change the way people think about and experience skateboarding in the City of Wenatchee. The following individuals and organizations provided valuable input and assistance in the preparation of this plan.

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	4
Introduction	5
Need and Demand	5
SUPPORTERS AND PARTICIPANTS	7
Supporters	8
Participants	8
FACILITY TYPES	9
Facility Types	10
Types and Sizes	10
Skate Dots	10
Skate Spots	11
Skate District	11
Regional Skate Park	11
FACILITY CONSIDERATIONS	12
Framework of Assumptions	13
Site Criteria	13
Risk	14
Noise	15
REVIEW OF CANDIDATE SITES	16
Candidate Sites	17
The Evaluation Process	17
Neighborhood Parks	17
Community Parks	21
Special Use Areas	23
Map	25
FEATURES AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS	26
Planning Level Cost Estimate	27
Funding Sources	27
OPERATIONAL POLICIES	28
Operational Policies	29
IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS	30
Implementation recommendations	31



INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The primary goal of this plan is to create a comprehensive system of world-class public skate areas in Wenatchee.

Skateboarding promotes physical fitness, self-esteem and discipline. It also provides an opportunity for people to interact in an unstructured activity while learning new skills. Skate areas provide legitimate, safe, legal places to practice. If they are designed as part of a larger park they will attract a variety of spectators. The mingling of user groups can encourage positive interactions between different users of public space.

Visit a well designed skate area and you will likely see and hear people of all ages, skaters and non-skaters alike, encouraging the skaters. This interaction can help to break down barriers and build community.

During the planning process a number of different resources were used to gather information about skateboarding, skateparks and skateboarders. The planning group wanted to know more about the need for skateparks, who participates in the sport, why, and what is the experience of other communities who have skateparks.

Need and Demand

During the past several years, Wenatchee Parks and Recreation staff, and members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) have received requests to replace and expand the existing skate park. This need was confirmed through the public information gathering process used to create the Pioneer Complex Master Plan.

An additional way to calculate the demand for skate areas in Wenatchee is to duplicate the method used by the Portland Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. They developed this method during their citywide skate park planning process: The number of skaters in Wenatchee may be calculated by using the 2008 U.S. Census statistics for the population of the City of Wenatchee multiplied with National American Sports Data. Using this method, approximately 16% of 5 to 24 year olds in Wenatchee skateboard. This equates to over 1,400 skateboarders in Wenatchee City limits alone. Using the same data, Chelan and Douglas Counties combined have an estimated 4,000 plus skateboarders.

A formula developed and successfully used for years across the nation called the Skate Park Adoption Model (SAM) calculates that 4,000 skateboarders need 48,000 to 64,000 sq ft of designated skate terrain to be adequately served. According to Washington State's Recreation and Conservation Office, skateboarding is the fifth most frequently participated in outdoor activity only behind various forms of walking and jogging, and gardening. According to the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) Sports Participation Topline Report, 2002, shows that skateboarding enjoyed a 14.4% growth between 1987 and 2001 while baseball and football declined. More important than calculating the exact number of skateboarders living in Wenatchee, it is important to recognize the goal of providing diverse parks and recreation facilities equitably throughout the city. Parks and recreation facilities may include facilities such as: basketball courts, play equipment areas, skate areas and soccer and baseball fields.

It should be noted that this is not a development plan that is cast in stone. Rather it is a snapshot of what could potentially be done given Wenatchee's current park system and budget constraints. It is expected that this will be an evolving document that will change as new opportunities present themselves.

**GREAT
SKATEPARKS
DON'T BUILD
THEMSELVES.**

GET INVOLVED.
Go to skatepark.org and
get your local thing going.

Skaters for Public Skateparks is a 100% volunteer-run
non-profit organization. By skaters, for skaters.

SKATERS FOR PUBLIC SKATEPARKS



SUPPORTERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Supporters

Skate park advocacy groups exist throughout Washington and across the Nation. Many of these advocacy groups promote the activity of skateboarding and lobby governmental agencies for new skate parks as well as raising funds to improve and expand existing facilities. The role of advocacy groups like the Community for Wenatchee Valley Skate Parks, Parents for Skate Parks, Skaters for Public Skate parks and others has continued to grow over the past several years. Skateboarders and advocates in Tacoma were recently commended for their efforts in helping call City residents to support the passage of a 17 million dollar general park improvement bond.

In Wenatchee, the Community for Wenatchee Valley Skate Parks was formed in 2009. In the last few months, it was added to Facebook and membership has grown to over 400 members.



Skate Legend Tony Hawk in Community for Wenatchee Valley Skate Parks Shirt

Participants

People of all ages and backgrounds participate in and enjoy skateboarding for both recreation and sport. Skateboarders are young and old, male and female. They are engineers, computer programmers, moms, the kid next door, and your neighbor's granddaughters and grandsons. That said, the average age of skateboarders is 14 years old, which is young compared to other sports. This is important for several reasons:

- Many of the skateboarding participants are not old enough to drive to a legal and safe place to practice, therefore it becomes even more important to provide opportunities within walking distance or a short bus ride.
- According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, kids devote 6½ hours a day to engaging in media (television, the internet, video games, etc.) as compared to 1½ hours a day spent in physical activity. Access to a skate facility may encourage kids to get outside and be active.
- Skateboarding is a good alternative for those who do not want to play on a team, cannot make the team, or cannot afford the costs associated with team sports.

Average Age of Participant by Sport	
Skateboarding ...	14.0
Soccer	17.2
Football	17.9
In-line Skating	19.8
Baseball	20.0
Basketball	23.7
Softball.....	29.1
Tennis	30.5
Golf	39.0

- Since there are limited legal places to skate and social stigmas toward skateboarders exist, many younger skaters quit the sport before they reach adulthood.



FACILITY TYPES

Facility Types

What constitutes a traditional park? A broad lawn and shrubbery? An athletic field and play equipment? Tennis Courts and picnic shelter? A community garden? It can be any or all of these things. Parks, whatever their program, provide valuable outdoor space.

The traditional solution to providing skateable spaces in parks has been to set aside a dedicated space for a “skate park” and fence it. Many street skaters prefer urban terrain however as seen in downtown areas on features that were not designed for skateboarding. These street skaters will actually avoid skate parks in favor of walls, railings, steps and plazas.

Serving the needs of skaters does not necessarily mean creating skate parks with large concrete bowl features and transitional surfaces. As with other park users, skaters are a diverse group and so are the skating opportunities they seek. These new needs are reflected in the evolution of design solutions and new terms. “Skate dots” are small singular skateable elements that can be integrated into the streetscape or park design; and “skate spots” are larger-scale facilities that serve a dozen or so and are often dedicated to one skill level.

Types and Sizes

Based on research and visits to skate parks around the Northwest, a tiered system of sizes and types of skate areas is proposed for a skate system for the City of Wenatchee. Four different types of facilities and skateable terrain constitute this proposed system; Skatedots, Skatespots, District Skate Parks, and a Regional Skate Facility. After conducting national research, siting criteria and a framework of assumptions for choosing the most appropriate sites for skate facilities was developed. There is baseline criteria applicable to all sites and additional criteria for the larger District and Regional sites. The criteria reflect the different roles of each tier in the system. This system may evolve over time in response to need and new opportunities.

SKATEDOTS

Skatedots is a unique concept and throughout the planning process citizens expressed strong support for the idea.

The idea evolved based on a paper written in 2005 by a Seattle Skate Park Task Force Member, titled “Integrated Skateable Terrain in Seattle.”

Skatedots, otherwise known as “integrated skateable terrain,” can be seamlessly integrated into small neighborhood parks and throughout the city by identifying existing spaces that already are or could be used for skating.



These elements are small, up to 1,500 square feet, and could be designed to avoid conflicts between skaters and other park users. The illustration above shows a simple raised embankment which skateboarders, rollerskaters, rollerbladers, and razor scooter enthusiasts could use to practice and refine their skills next to traditional playground equipment. Integrated skateable terrain can also include benches, rails, and ledges that typically already exist in hardscaped areas.

SKATESPOTS

Skatespots can range in size from 1,500 up to 10,000 square feet. These are considered neighborhood facilities that can accommodate up to 13 users at a time and are similar in size to a basketball court or single tennis court. Skatespots are often designed to serve one skill level: either beginner, intermediate, or advanced, because there is not enough room to successfully accommodate multiple skill levels. The current skate facility in Pioneer Park falls within this category.



DISTRICT SKATE PARK

District facilities can range in size from 10,000 up to 30,000 square feet and are about the same size as two to four tennis courts. These skateparks are meant to serve a larger area than just a neighborhood and, depending on the layout, can accommodate up to 30 users at a time. Due to their larger size, a wider range of skill levels can be accommodated.



REGIONAL SKATE PARK

A regional facility is larger than 30,000 square feet and will attract users from around the region and possibly from around the world if it is well designed. This facility would be considered the crown jewel of Wenatchee's skate system and could accommodate up to 300 users at a time. All skill levels can be accommodated and the facility can include a variety of vertical (bowls) and transitional (street) terrain. The facility should be large enough to host regional competitions and possibly produce revenue, not just through the venue itself, but also through goods and service purchased by visitors. The facility included in the Pioneer Park Master Plan falls within this classification.





FACILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Once a system of sizes was established, site criteria were also developed for each size of skate area. These criteria ultimately became the foundation for analyzing each site.

Framework of Assumptions

The Framework of Assumptions evolved while developing the site criteria. There were several criteria that were applied to sites as a pre-cursor to applying type specific criteria.

Emphasis will be given to the selection of sites that are 'gray-to-gray,' i.e. existing asphalt or other paving materials that can be converted to skateparks.

Sites will NOT:

- Be located in designated environmentally critical areas or natural areas.
- Interrupt planning projects underway or infringe upon recently completed projects.
- Be located on private property
- Replace or remove existing active uses (e.g. athletic fields, play areas)

Sites WILL:

- Have adequate area available for the size facility.
- Be distributed equitably throughout the city.

Site Criteria

Public input, national citing criteria, experience of other agencies and the City of Wenatchee's Capital investment and Comprehensive Plans were used to develop criteria most critical to selecting sites in Wenatchee. The site criteria are built on a tiered system that reflects the different types and sizes of skateparks proposed for the overall system. Each tier includes the baseline criteria.

Criteria

The following is recommended criteria in considering new skate sites:

Baseline Criteria:

SKATEDOTS, SKATESPOTS, DISTRICT and REGIONAL PARKS

- Compatible with existing uses (ex. Near an active area of the park rather than contemplative space), consider adjacent uses, and adjacent landscaping/surfaces is compatible with safe skate surfaces.
- Limit off-site impacts to residential areas and consistent with city code, i.e. noise and lighting.
- Allow for clear, passive observation by parents, emergency services, police and the public.
- Close proximity to public transit and have good foot, bike and vehicular access.
- Easily developable and have minimal construction impediments.
- Allow for the creation of a safe and secure environment;
- Provide separation from vehicular traffic, vehicular and pedestrian access;
- Design for ease of routine maintenance.

- Locate in a highly visible area with moderate to high pedestrian traffic, in an existing or new multi-purpose park, or in close proximity to other public facilities.
- Integrate into a larger park space that provides other park amenities.
- Consider sun and shade and protection from rain, snow and wind.
- Include a space for size appropriate community viewing.
- Consider the environment for the well being of skateboarders, including noise and air quality.
- Are ADA accessible.

Additional Criteria Apply to:

DISTRICT and REGIONAL SKATE PARKS

District sites are larger than Skatedots and Skatespots and serve a different role within the tiered system and therefore require additional criteria:

- Provide adequate separation from other facilities/program at site.
- Are in close proximity to drinking fountain, trash cans, restroom.
- Offer potential space for nearby action-oriented sports activities and events, such as BMX or climbing.
- Include the possibility of lighting, or integration with existing lighting systems.
- Have potential for future expansion.
- Have access to adequate parking.

Additional Criteria Apply to:

REGIONAL

The Regional facility, the largest in the tiered system, plays a different role than Skatespots and District facilities and has two criteria in addition to all the criteria listed above:

- Have the capacity for concessions.
- Promote action oriented sports activities and events.

Risk

Liability for skate parks is similar to other public sports facilities (basketball courts etc.) – all sports are played “at your own risk.” Washington's Recreational Use Immunity Statute, RCW 4.24.200.210 also applies. The statute (RCW 4.24.210), in part, provides: “Any public or private landowners or others in lawful possession and control of any lands whether designated resource, rural, or urban, or water areas or channels and lands adjacent to such areas or channels, who allow members of the public to use them for the purposes of outdoor recreation, which term includes, but is not limited to . . . viewing or enjoying historical, archaeological, scenic, or scientific sites, without charging a fee or any kind therefor, shall not be liable for unintentional injuries to such users: . . . Provided further, that nothing in this section shall prevent the liability of such a landowner or others in lawful possession and control for injuries sustained to users by reason of a known dangerous artificial latent condition for which warning signs have not been conspicuously posted.” As such, the City of Wenatchee would not

generally be liable for accidents. However, skateboarding isn't as dangerous as most people believe.

- Skateboarders skating for less than a week account for 1/3 of all injuries
- Irregular riding surfaces account for over half the skateboarding injuries due to falls.
- In 2002, the Journal of Trauma concluded in their report that, "Skateboarding is a relatively safe sport."

Injuries/100 Participants	
Hockey.....	2.7
Football	2.2
Baseball	1.8
Basketball	1.6
Bicycling	1.1
Skateboarding	0.7

Noise

Noise studies indicate that skateboards produce intermittent noise: Noise that occurs occasionally from the 'popping' of board tails and 'grinding' of the aluminum trucks (a part on skateboards) on the steel coping surfaces (usually around the edges of skateparks). These sounds are not sustained over long periods of time. Studies have shown that sounds emitted from skate parks may be diminished completely by other noises such as traffic passing by and planes flying over. As with other active recreation facilities, skate areas are not noiseless however and should be located in a manner to reduce off site or internal site noise.



REVIEW OF CANDIDATE SITES

Candidate Sites

Currently, there is one public skate area in the greater Wenatchee service area. There are designated, public skate areas in Leavenworth and Chelan and a proposal for one in East Wenatchee. There is one indoor private skate facility in Wenatchee. Cashmere removed their skate area in the early 2000's citing maintenance and gang related issues. Waterville is in the planning stage for the development of an area. There are over 150 communities with public skate areas in Washington. Communities with established skate areas that are of a similar size to Wenatchee include: Anacortes, Bremerton, Longview, Marysville, Mount Vernon, Oak Harbor, Port Angeles, Pullman and Walla Walla. Additional skate areas in Eastern Washington include Yakima, Ellensburg and Richland.

The Evaluation Process

During the course of several months, potential sites were evaluated in the following manner.

Framework Application

The evaluation team visited each site, applied the Framework of Assumptions, and removed inappropriate sites. For example, sites that did not have enough room for a skate facility were removed from consideration.

Full Site Analysis

Sites remaining after the Framework application received a full site analysis. First, the type/size of facility appropriate for the nominated location was determined. Some sites were nominated to be a specific type of skate area (Skatedot, Skatespot, District, Regional) and some were nominated for general consideration.

After determining the appropriate type/size of facility, an evaluation was completed for each site. Following is a listing of potential city of Wenatchee owned sites with analysis as to their advantages and disadvantages and overall suitability for skate areas. This analysis does not include non-city areas or facilities. Due to city budget limitations, should new property be acquired for a skate area, the property would need to be dedicated to the City at no cost and include identified ongoing maintenance funding.

Neighborhood Parks

Centennial Park

130 South Wenatchee Avenue

Centennial Park was acquired in 1992. It is the former site of the Columbia Hotel. The one acre park features a stage, benches and restrooms.

Advantages

- Central Downtown location
- Parking and restrooms available



Disadvantages

- Existing programmed uses
- Proximity of businesses

Suitability

This site is not recommended for consideration due to the parks current developed uses, downtown skate restrictions and size.

Chase Park

145 South Delaware Street

Mable Chase donated her former home site for the .52 acre park in 1909. The park features a picnic area and children's play equipment.



Advantages

- None identified

Disadvantages

- Limited size
- Existing programmed uses
- Proximity of residences
- No parking other than on street
- No restrooms

Suitability

This site could be considered for a Skatedot when the park is upgraded for handicapped accessibility.

Methow Park

420 Methow Street

Methow Park is a 1.26 acre neighborhood park that features a wading pool, picnic shelter, play equipment and basketball court.



Advantages

- Water available
- Parking available at the Community Center

Disadvantages

- Existing programmed uses
- Proximity of residences

Suitability

This site is not recommended for consideration due to the parks current developed uses, adjacent residences and limited size. The Wenatchee Community Center parking lot is located across the street from the park. Skate features could be incorporated into that facility.

Pennsylvania Park

219 Pennsylvania Avenue

Pennsylvania Park was acquired in 1924. It is a 1.02 acre park that features a multi-use field, wading pool and play equipment.



Advantages

- Water available
- Limited function restrooms available

Disadvantages

- Existing programmed uses
- Proximity of residences
- Minimal on street parking available

Suitability

This site could provide a skate dot tied into the walkway system to serve the surrounding neighborhood.

Washington Park

110 South Miller

Washington Park was acquired in 1946. The 4.12 acre park features a picnic shelter, wading pool grassy areas and play equipment.



Advantages

- Central location
- Restrooms available
- Open non-programmed space which resulted from a windstorm
- Size

Disadvantages

- Existing adjacent uses
- Proximity of residences
- Limited on street parking available

Suitability

This site could be considered as a location for a skatespot or skatedot. The area could be located on the Miller Street side. Careful consideration would need to be given to this site as adjacent park and residential uses may create park user conflicts and noise issues.

Wenatchi Park
1401 McKittrick Street

Wenatchi Park was acquired in 1993. The 10 acre park is adjacent to Foothills Middle School. It is used primarily for field sports and open play.



Advantages

- Adjacent parking available at Foothills Middle School and City Public Services Center
- Size
- Parking available across McKittrick Street

Disadvantages

- Existing programmed uses – Soccer, Physical Education and other athletic programs
- Proximity of residences and school
- No shade or water

Suitability

This site is not recommended for consideration due to the current and planned future programmed uses. The Wenatchee School District could be approached about the possibility of incorporating skate features into the adjacent school site.

Western Hills Park
900 Woodward Drive

Western Hills Park is a 5 acre park that was acquired in 1992. It features a multiple use soccer and softball field and play equipment.



Advantages

- Adjacent parking available at John Newberry School
- Size

Disadvantages

- Existing seasonal programmed uses – school
- Proximity of residences and school
- No shade or water
- Somewhat difficult to get to

Suitability

This site is not recommended for consideration due to planned future programmed uses. The skate community could contact the Wenatchee School District about incorporating skate features into the adjacent school site.

Community Parks

Lincoln Park

1410 South Mission Street

Lincoln Park was acquired by the City in 1958. The 22 acre park features athletic fields, picnic shelter, children's play equipment and stage.



Advantages

- Restrooms available
- Parking available on site

Disadvantages

- Existing adjacent uses and programmed uses may limit use.
- Proximity of residences may require buffering.
- Settling issues from former landfill.

Suitability

This site could be considered as a skate sport or skatedot location. The area should be located on the upper bench to reduce the potential for ground settling issues. Careful consideration would need to be given to this site as adjacent park and residential uses would potentially create park user conflicts and noise issues. A skatespot or dot in this park would impact and be impacted by community events such as Fiestas Mexicanas.

Pioneer Park

220 Fuller Street

Pioneer Park is a 7 acre park that was acquired between 1908 and 1919. It features a skatespot, picnic area, play equipment, outdoor fifty meter pool, wading pool, and mature landscaping.



Advantages

- Size
- Shade and water available
- On street parking and parking in Pioneer Middle School lot during summer available.
- Skate Park planned in future development plans

Disadvantages

- Proximity of residences, school and other programmed uses

Suitability

This site is recommended for the development Regional Size Skate Park in the location of the existing pool as recommended through the Pioneer Complex Master Plan process. It would act as the hub of the skate area system and serve all age and ability levels.

Rotary Park
1810 Maple Street

Rotary Park is an 8 acre parcel acquired in 1997. It has been developed through a partnership with the Rotary Club. The park features a disc golf course, picnic shelter, walking trail, play equipment and splash pad.



Advantages

- Restrooms and parking available
- Water available

Disadvantages

- Existing programmed uses
- Proximity of residences
- Existing development/incompatible uses

Suitability

This site could provide space for a skatedot near the existing basketball court.

Memorial Park
2 South Chelan Avenue

Memorial Park is the oldest park in the community. It was acquired during the years 1892, 1922 and 1929. The 3.8 acre park contains historical displays, rose garden, fountain and picnic tables. The park is the site of several community events throughout the year including the Apple Blossom Festival.



Advantages

- Limited adjacent parking available at Library and Courthouse
- Size
- Shade
- Central downtown location

Disadvantages

- Existing programmed uses – Apple Blossom Festival etc.
- Existing developed uses – Memorials, Fountain

Suitability

This site could provide a location for a skatedot if it is incorporated into the developed landscape and not impact existing and planned future uses.

Special Use Areas

Locomotive Park Gateway

1100 S. Wenatchee Avenue

Locomotive Park is a 15 acre park acquired by the City and the State in 1951. It features landscaped areas and a historical locomotive display.



Advantages

- Adjacent parking available
- Size
- No adjacent residential uses
- Convenient access
- Transit availability
- Visible

Disadvantages

- Traffic

Suitability

This site could be considered for a skatedot or spot on the northern portion of the property after it is redeveloped from the George Sellar Bridge Project.

Rainbow Park

1411 N. Wenatchee Avenue

Rainbow Park was acquired in 1999. It is a small grassy area adjacent to Wenatchee Avenue near Maiden Lane.



Advantages

- North Wenatchee location
- Transit stop

Disadvantages

- Size
- No parking
- No shade or water
- Difficult to reach, despite being adjacent to highway

Suitability

This site is not recommended for consideration due to size and access restrictions.

Wenatchee Community Center
504 South Wenatchee Avenue

The Wenatchee Community Center was developed in 2006 and serves as a gathering place for the community.



Advantages

- Existing paving
- Parking
- Transit
- Restrooms available when Center is open

Disadvantages

- Parking lot use heavy at times

Suitability

Skate features could be incorporated into the parking area or on the undeveloped property adjacent to the Head Start building. Use may be limited due to high volume traffic at times. Policy would need to be changed to allow skate use.

Additional Areas

Several sites that are not owned by the City of Wenatchee and that have not undergone a planning process would only be considered as sites for skate features after the City or Community For Wenatchee Valley Skate Parks has reached agreement with the property owner, or after a planning process has taken place and a skate feature is included in the plan. These sites include the Wenatchee Valley College Campus, Chelan County Public Utilities District Walla Walla Point Park, Confluence State Park and Wenatchee School District School sites.

As the properties aren't city owned, the skate community non-profit organization would likely need to manage the area. Use agreements between the City and property owner and also the City and the non-profit or directly between the non-profit and entity would need to be established prior to work commencing. Development and maintenance funding, insurance would need to be provided by to the entity from the non-profit.



FEATURES AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Planning Level Cost Estimates

Planning level cost estimates are in 2010 dollars, unless otherwise noted. Square footage cost estimates include mobilization, temporary erosion sediment control, compaction, excavation, formwork, concrete work and finishing. Estimates do not include landscaping, irrigation, benches, etc.

Size Range	Cost Per Square Foot
Skate Dot 20 square feet but up to 1,500 square feet.	\$6.00
Skatespot Up to 10,000 square feet	\$40.00
District Up to 30,000 square feet	\$40.00
Regional 30,000 square feet or larger	\$45.00

Note: Per square foot construction costs are adjusted to include design, management, sales tax, and other costs to show total development costs.

Maintenance and operations costs utilizing City staff based on existing and proposed facilities for a District level skate park, of approximately 30,000 square feet, could cost an estimated \$12,000 annually. Maintenance costs would vary however depending upon the size and location of the facility, staffed versus non-staffed use and use of volunteers through the development of a facility maintenance agreement or use of the Adopt a Park Program.

Funding Sources

There are several ways in which Wenatchee can attain funding for the skate facilities recommended in the plan. Neighborhood groups can apply for the Neighborhoods Matching Grant Program, assuming that there is money available. Groups can also apply to foundations such as the Tony Hawk Foundation and Charlotte Martin Foundation to acquire funds. If the area is located in a lower income area of the City, Community Development Block Grants may be applied for. The Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) provides grants to communities to construct skate courts. They are highly competitive. The Pioneer Park Regional Skate Park would be a candidate project for this grant source. Local business and service club sponsorship are other sources for which funding may be acquired for development. Local fundraising efforts can also be pursued.

Skaters for Public Skateparks are also a resource for fund raising information. See <http://www.skatersforpublicskateparks.org>.



OPERATIONAL POLICIES

Operational Policies

The following skate area use policies were implemented in 1997 with the development of the Pioneer Park Skate Spot. They were updated in 2007 by Parks and Recreation Department staff and reviewed by the City insurance provider, Attorney and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The policies were adopted on May 8, 2008 by City Council Resolution 2008-23. General Park Rules also apply to city skate areas. They are contained in Wenatchee Municipal Code Section 6A.18. The policies and rules apply to City owned properties only. Policies may be difficult to enforce, but by posting them at the area entrance, guests could be easily reminded.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this is to outline the guidelines and policies for the use of City operated skate courts.

2.0 General Rules

- 2.1 General park rules apply to skate court(s).
- 2.2 The skate court is closed to anyone under the age of 18 during school hours.
- 2.3 Skate area(s) are not supervised. Skating is at your own risk.
- 2.4 Protective equipment including helmets, knee, elbow, and wrist guards is recommended to be worn at all times.
- 2.5 Skating against traffic is not permitted.
- 2.6 Bicycles are not permitted on the court.
- 2.7 Alcoholic beverages, weapons, smoking, drugs, graffiti, and glass containers are not allowed.
- 2.8 Profanity, abusive language, loud music, or negligent behavior is not allowed.

3.0 Procedures

- 3.1 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will review and update the above listed rules as needed.
- 3.2 The Parks and Recreation Department will promote the rules through signage, press releases, education programs and other means.
- 3.3 Skate area designations will be based on the master plan.



IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Implementation Recommendations

The principle recommendations for implementing a skate system are:

1. **Capital Construction Funding**
Currently there is no funding designated for skate area construction. It is recommended that sites be considered that could score high in a grant program. The Recreation and Conservation Office and private foundation grant resources should be reviewed to determine eligibility and application criteria. It is also recommended that a local fundraising campaign be implemented to support a grant match as well as ongoing operational costs.
2. It is recommended that new facilities be dispersed throughout Wenatchee as indicated in the candidate site section.
3. Candidate sites that best meet the Framework Assumptions, Design Criteria and would score highly on grant applications should be considered for future planning, design and construction.
4. Assist the Community for Wenatchee Valley Skate Parks non-profit organization so they can take the lead in fundraising, assist in developing use policies, policing and maintaining the area, and providing support.
5. Post and publish skate area policies.
6. Apply the Developed Framework Assumptions and siting criteria.
7. Incorporate skate areas into the Capital Investment Plan.
8. Consider integrating skateparks in future park acquisition and development design dialogues.
9. Consider integrating Skatedots into the future waterfront planning efforts.
10. **Consider industrial site options**
The site criteria developed in this plan seeks to integrate skateboarding into park settings. There may be sites in industrial areas, however, under bridges, etc., that do not meet the established site criteria, but have potential for a skate facility.
11. Work with Community Center Staff to allow skateboarding, when appropriate, on hardscapes surrounding facilities. Instead of posting "No skateboarding allowed," "Okay to skate here" signs could be posted and skateable furniture (skateboard wear and tear resilient) installed.
12. **Build Partnerships**
Work with the Wenatchee Police Department to educate skaters about legal skate facilities throughout the city.

13. Foster relationships with private developers to educate them about skateboarding and the Skatedot concept. Developers may be open to the idea of incorporating skateable terrain, i.e. Skatedots, into new developments and associated open space if they understand more about the sport and the benefits of skateboarding.
14. Accommodate different skill levels in park design, including street style and transitional elements. When space is available every opportunity should be made to accommodate different skill levels and include street style and transitional elements. This will help attract a broad range of users and make the facilities family-friendly. Older skaters are often good stewards of skateparks and can serve as a good role models for younger skaters.
15. Reputable skate park firms should be hired as part of the team for design and construction of the skate area system.

16. **Cover Some Facilities**
In future park designs consider covering some of the areas to allow for increased use. The Regional Skate Park should be at least partially covered, to maximize the investment by attracting users year round.



17. **Educate the public**
There are common misconceptions about skateboarding and skateboarders. Many often associate skateboarding with vandalism, drug use and other community problems. Work should commence to educate the public about skaters and skaters about proper use and care of skate areas and behavior to help break stereotypes.

