

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM NO. 97-02

DATE: January 8, 1997
TO: Council Members
FROM: Kaye Sloan, Parks Assistant
RE: Ordinance Serial No. 96-76

Following is a breakdown of the \$14,000 requested in Ordinance No. 96-76 for the Wasilla Skateboard Park.

Total Architect's Fee	\$16,000.00
Actual expenses incurred during last two visits by Ken Wormhoudt	1,403.86
Expenses for Ken Wormhoudt to visit site 3 times during construction	1,070.00
Publicity, advertising, signs, long distance phone expenses anticipated	<u>526.14</u>
Total Needed	\$19,000.00
Paid from FY97 Budget	<u>- 5,000.00</u>
Balance Requested	<u>\$14,000.00</u>

Attached is a summation from the Skateboard Park Committee which explains what has been done to date for fundraising and donations. Thank you for your consideration of our request.



Skate Park Proposal

Submitted by

Mae Good, Chairperson
Fundraising Committee

Motivation Behind our Mission

You don't have to look far in this area to find a skateboarder, if you have driven through the City of Wasilla, you've seen them in action. They are scattered around, near traffic, near pedestrians, near the typical hustle and bustle of most cities that fit the demographics and psychographics of our City, Wasilla.

Skateboarders are very serious about their sport. They are people in our community that are strong, self driven individuals with a tremendous amount of self discipline. They challenge themselves to become accomplished skateboarders, they consider every chunk of cement from an athletes point of view. How high can I get? How far can I go? How many times can I do this? One day, when you spot a skateboarder, take a moment to analyze their actions, their grace and their concentration. Talk to one. They are just young people with a sport, with a passion.

If you could take the idea of a Skate Park, and break it down into pieces, or reasons, we could easily come up with three. The first and most important is safety, these are our children, as children, they have a right be nourished and nurtured, they have every right in the world to expect us (the adults that surround them) to care enough about them to make sure they are safe. If you want the teenagers in this community to act in a loving considerate manner, lets treat them that way. Lets show them that we care, lets not let another youth get hit by a motorcycle, like the skate boarder that spent the entire summer in Valley Hospital. Second, we accommodate other interest groups and ages in the community, we should also be able to accommodate skateboarders. Third, the merchants in this community do not want skateboarders on their property.

We cannot afford to wait for one of these merchants to become hostile over the skateboarders attempts to practice their sport.

The alternatives to taking action are obvious. Not supplying the youth in our community (skate boarders range in age from 10 to 20 years) with a safe place to skate board or a multi-use park area would be a decision to not protect them from harm. No different than making an effort to put toddlers in a car seat, making them wear a helmet on a snowmobile, or putting a life jacket on them in a boat.

Goals

- *To build a safe multi-use skate park at the Old Wasilla Airport**
- *To hire an experienced architect to complete the construction design (see attached)**
- *To Acknowledge that skateboarding is a sport, and design a skateboard park that will meet the needs of local skateboarders.**
- *To Use as many local resources, including volunteers and donations as possible.**
- *To have the Project completed by June.**
- *To expand the project the following year by adding a cover so it may be used during the winter as well as summer.**

From Start To Finish (How we formed a group, what we have accomplished and who are we!)

On April 9th 1996 a group of people interested in the youth in our community and their desire to skateboard, along with a group of youth from the Wasilla area, approached the Wasilla Parks and Recreation Commission with a request for land and assistance in creating a safe place to skateboard. The group known as the "skateboarders" continued attending meetings, making phone calls and recruiting other skaters to come to both City Council Meetings and Parks and Rec. Meetings throughout the year. A number of adults, from full time parents, to school teachers , and business owners makeup this diverse group of staunch supporters and volunteers.

The following information outlines the phases the group has been through:

Planning and Design.

- 1 Implementing the general idea, and deciding to follow through with it.**
- 2 Researching and calling places across the U.S. that have skateboard parks, to obtain general information and ideas.**
- 3 Approaching the Wasilla Parks and Recreation Commission. Requesting a portion of the Old Airport Site for the skateboard park location.**
- 4 Approaching the City of Wasilla, requesting funds for the completion of the project.**
- 5 Hiring an architect (Ken Wormhoudt) that specializes in skateparks.**

Required steps that have been completed and commitments that have been made:

- 1 A portion of land was dedicated to the skateboard park.**
- 2 The City has paid \$ 5,600.00 for contract architectural services resulting in the clay model design. (with the assistance of local skateboarders)**
- 3 The International Association of Bridge, Structural & Ornamental Iron Workers has agreed to complete the iron bending, projected cost of \$ 9600.00 they requests that the job be done in April or May.**
- 4 A local Excavator has offered to do the necessary excavating for \$5,000.00, which is cost.**
- 5 A Suzuki 4 wheeler has been donated at cost, for raffle. BandWagon (local skate shop)Has donated Skateboarding gear to raffle also.**
- 6 The Resource Conservation and Development Corporation, a non-profit corporation has agreed to handle all funds and distributions for the project.**
- 7 Mr. Dominic Carney has donated \$ 1,000.00 to the skateboard park, an outstanding citizenship award he received.**

Because of the nature of this project primarily skilled labor must be used. The Park itself just requires; excavating, iron and iron bending, cement and cement work! The Architect will ensure that the track is safe, thus carrying a portion of the liability, many cities refer to these parks as multi-use areas.

Estimated Costs Involved

Skateboard Park Total Cost \$ 100,000.00

Required Expenditures to date.

Architects Fee 16 %	\$ 16,000.00
Iron for Project (48,000 feet 1/2 inch)	8,760.00
Iron Bending	9,600.00
Excavating	5,000.00
Concrete Costs	7,200.00
Concrete Mason Fees	<u>7,000.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 53,560.00</u>

Donated-

Iron Bending, by the Iron Workers.

Value	\$ 9,600.00
Ken Wormhoudts fee for preliminary design	<u>5,000.00</u>
Deduct From Total	<u>- 14,600.00</u>
Total Amount required	<u>\$ 38,960.00</u>

(Please Note the Concrete Mason Fees May be waived ,7,000.00)

The skateboard park measures 12,000 square feet. From start to finish the park will be excavated, 48,000 feet of 1/2 inch rebar will be laid out in 1 foot square increments. Eight inches of cement, will be poured over the rebar to make the track.

The End Result

The Wasilla Skateboard Park will be an excellent example for other cities in this area. We can decide to sink thousands of dollars into all types of projects, we could build juvenile correction centers or rehab centers. From a sociological perspective teenagers have too many rules now, we can tighten the reigns and really get down on skateboarders and create more animosity than already exists, or we can decide to create a loving considerate attitude by showing them that we do care and that we are listening. After all, skateboarding isn't a crime.