

From: Shiosaki, Michael <MShiosaki@bellevuewa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 9:32 AM
To: Michael Patterson
Subject: RE: Skatepark petition for downtown Bellevue and South Bellevue

Dear Michael Patterson,

Thank you for your commitment to improving our park system, your enthusiasm, and participation towards supporting skateboarding in our community. We agree skateboarding is a healthy recreational resource for serving our diverse community. It sounds like you are very familiar with our existing skateboarding facilities at Lakemont Community Park, Crossroads Community Park, and the indoor and outdoor facility at Highland Community Park. From a park system perspective, we too would like to see fulfillment of park plans to add skateboard facilities specially to serve the South Bellevue and the Downtown areas.

I appreciate and fully support your goal of cutting through red tape. To be successful, building any new community owned facility takes community engagement and support. Opportunities for adding park facilities (skateboarding, playground, off-leash facilities etc.) to a park typically occurs at the park master planning stage. The City works with the community to hear park development preferences. A preferred park master plan is developed, reviewed by the Park Board and adopted by City Council. Once adopted and funded that park master plan is implemented. Depending on the scope and scale of a planned park development, that can happen in one-fell-swoop or occur in many phases over many years. Changes to existing park master plans require similar public outreach and community support.

The good news is that recent surveys conducted to update the Park & Open Space System Plan show a reasonable amount of community support for Skateboard facilities. Unfortunately, demand for park land and park facilities exceeds available City owned park land. As you can imagine, available properties in downtown are very limited and costly. The Parks & Community Services staff would be glad to work with you to explore ideas you have for funding and locating new skateboard facilities.

The City has recently initiated a park Master Plan update for Bellevue Airfield Park. Your participation in this master planning process would be very appreciated and would be a great opportunity to share your park preferences. Here is the web-site with project information: [Bellevue Airfield Park | City of Bellevue \(bellevuewa.gov\)](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/Departments/Parks%20and%20Community%20Services/Pages/Bellevue-Airfield-Park-Master-Plan-Update.aspx). I would encourage you to sign up for the web-site alert notification as updates including surveys, meeting dates and general project progress will be regularly updated.

We look forward to working with you,
Michael



Michael Shiosaki

Director, Parks & Community Services, City of Bellevue

mshiosaki@bellevuewa.gov | [425-452-5377](tel:425-452-5377) | parks.bellevuewa.gov

The contents of this electronic mail message do not necessarily reflect the official views of the elected officials or citizens of the City of Bellevue.

From: Michael Patterson
Sent: Saturday, August 6, 2022 4:23 PM
To: Shiosaki, Michael <MShiosaki@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Skatepark petition for downtown Bellevue and South Bellevue

[EXTERNAL EMAIL Notice!] Outside communication is important to us. Be cautious of phishing attempts. Do not click or open suspicious links or attachments.

Greetings fellow skateboarders and skateboarding enthusiasts and city leaders. My name is Mike Patterson, skateboarder, local resident of the Pacific Northwest and wannabe community leader and organizer. I am writing in regards to set in motion plans to build a state of the art skatepark or skate plaza in my local area of Bellevue, WA. The area I have grown up in is a gorgeous community with lots of local parks, amenities, class A real estate and thriving businesses. However despite its luxuries it lacks specific resources for the younger generations and slightly older individuals such as myself, namely a state of the art skatepark. I would like to cut through the red tape so I could extend the joy of skateboarding among others in my area and inspire younger generations to enjoy skateboarding at any and all skill levels. Ive been an active participant in organizing our cities first outdoor skatepark on the far side of my town, attending meetings at city counsel. I have also worked and volunteered at BVSP indoor skatepark which has been a staple in the bellevue community since 1994. Though my city already has a couple skateparks there is a void regarding having a skatepark closer to the downtown and south bellevue community and I would like to fill those gaps. Skateboarding and skate parks are an awesome resource for building diversity among citizens of the community as well as providing a safe place for lower income individuals and keeping kids, teens and adults out of trouble. I would like to connect the dots between my community, locals and the skatepark foundation. I will be anticipating your response and as always I am inspired by the pros, hometown heroes, locals and true originals that have molded the landscape that has become skateboarding today.

Cheers and kind regards,
Mike V. Patterson