

# Skateboard Park Proposal

City of Cumberland  
 November 4, 2003  
<http://www.AdventureGovernment.com>

## Organization of Presentation

- Timeline
- Evidence of need
- Design of facility (concrete or modular)
- Location (Constitution or Mason)
- Capital Funding
- Operations (Revenues and costs estimates from Public Works)
- Recommendations



## Timeline

- May meeting and e-mail poll – Rec. Board approval for deactivating tennis courts.
- July 23, 2003 – preliminary meeting to establish issues and timeline for study.
- August 13, 2003 – planning meeting with skaters.
- August 27, 2003 – design meeting with skaters.
- September Meeting – Rec. Board approval of project options
- First Week of November – Submit to M&CC at work session for approval.
- Mid November – schematics available
- Last Week of November. Begin private fundraising campaign to obtain pledges with mail merged letter from Rec. Board.
- February 2004 – submit Tony Hawk Foundation grant and possibly other foundation grants.
- February 2004 – submit for POS FY 2005 funding.
- May 2004 – submit for CDBG funding.
- August 1, 2004 – submit RFP to design/build/equip facility
- April/May 2005. Skatepark opening

## Evidence of Need

- Previous committee survey (September 15, 1998 report)
- Rec. Comprehensive Plan lists as FY 2004 funding goal
- Survey of Washington Middle School students
- National/regional data
- FCCI (Frostburg) data
- Local demographic data



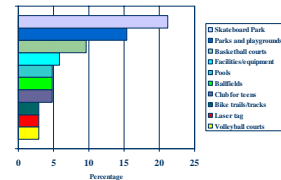
## Previous Committee Survey

- Study Report September 15, 1998
- Petition and middle school/high school surveys.
- Over 300 area residents “expressed immediate interest” in using “freestyle” facility.



## Washington Middle School Survey

- Survey was conducted as parts of Comprehensive P&R Plan in 2002
- 100 Washington Middle School students and 5 parents
  - 21% identified need for skating/skateboard facility—largest category in open-ended survey



## National Data

- SGMA International
  - In 2002, 12,977,000 six and over went skateboarding at least once. Of this number, 3,442,000 were frequent participants who rode on 52 or more occasions.
  - 66 percent growth rate since 1998.
- American Sports Data Inc. (2001)
  - Typical skateboarder is male between ages of 7 and 15 with an average age of 13.2
  - Roughly 5% of children are "frequent participants" (52 days or more per year)



## Frostburg Facility Data

- Approximately 240 users and 120 members
- Approximately 25% of members were from Cumberland or the immediate surrounding areas.
- Poorly managed and maintained facility that is closed until further notice



## Local Demographic Data

- Assumption: All regular skateboard will come from <10 miles.
- Therefore, 538 skateboarders, 338+200=538
- This figure does not include freestyle skaters and BMX.

Age Group	<5 miles	5-10 miles	11-20 miles
6-11	3,269	2,019	3,606
12-17	3,485	2,006	3,948
Total	6,754	4,025	7,554

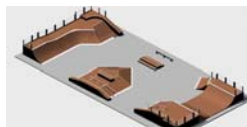
## Design: Concrete

- This option (with bowls) was selected by area skaters (15-20) in two meetings.
- More durable (low/no maintenance costs)
- Better skating surface
- Estimated build costs (e.g., \$20 sqft construction—10k park would cost \$200k)



## Design: Modular

- Less expensive (e.g., \$10 sq. ft – 10k sq. ft. park would cost \$100k)
- More flexible
- More maintenance needed



## Mason Complex

- Advantages
  - Site (tennis courts) availability
  - Parking availability
  - Bathrooms/water fountain/concessions stand nearby
  - Bowers fund availability (\$15k per year)
  - Adjacent action sports facilities (i.e., Canal Tow path and BMX track under construction)
- Disadvantages
  - Not central location
  - No adjacent shade trees
  - Flood Plain



## Constitution Park

- Advantages
  - Central location
  - Parking availability, bathrooms
  - Well used facility with multiple activity areas
  - Would add another activity for summer camp use
  - Good security
- Disadvantages
  - Site development (i.e., grading) costs



## Potential Funding Sources

- Program Open Space (\$50k-\$75k)
- Community Development Block Grant
- Bowers Fund (\$11.5k FY 04, \$15k FY 05=\$26.5k)
- Tony Hawk Foundation Grant
- Private \$ Donations/Private Fund (Nov. 1, 2003 Kickoff with \$10k goal)/ Donations with billboards/sign advertising
- In Kind donations (e.g., supplies, excavation, etc.)
- General Fund
- Bond Issue



## Estimated Revenues

- Estimated revenues (\$16,740)
  - Assumes summer operation 12 noon-8pm closing
  - Assumes \$3 per day charge (same as pool)
  - Assumes 20 average weekday users during summer and 40 average weekend users during non-summer months.



## Estimated Costs

- Estimated Costs (\$29,100)
  - Labor (\$10 per hour X 2310 hours = \$23,100)
  - Insurance -- \$4k
  - Maintenance -- \$2k



## How to fund gap?

- Possible Options
  - Deactivate one low attendance summer playground program
  - Increase other recreation fees to achieve higher self-funding rate (skatepark is 60%, pool is only 35% in comparison, baseball/softball/football/soccer are probably even lower)
  - Bowers fund is available for maintenance if located at Mason Complex



## Recommendations

- Plan A
  - Concrete/Hybrid Facility at Constitution park
- Plan B
  - Modular Facility on deactivated tennis courts at Mason Complex
- Choice between Plan A and Plan B depends on fund availability. Plan B requires significant fundraising/grantswriting component.
- Recommendation: Authorize fundraising to begin with decision in June 2004 regarding two options based on ability to generate outside funds, in kind contributions
  - Commit to funding of FY 2005 allotment + Bowers funds to fund modular park (up to \$100k)
  - City agrees to match in-kind contributions, private foundation grants, and private donations dollar-for-dollar with funding source in addition to POS/Bowers
  - Cumberland YMCA has agreed to collect private funds