



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

July 7, 2021

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Receive report from the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) regarding locations for a permanent skate park and defer discussion to a future Council meeting

RECOMMENDATION

Receive report from the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) regarding locations for a permanent skate park.

DISCUSSION

With the approval of the temporary skatepark this year, the Council requested the Parks and Recreation Commission (“PARC”) to evaluate potential sites for a permanent location and report back to the Council in July. Attached is the PARC report. In the report, the PARC Skate Park Subcommittee indicates it reviewed all the potential locations in town for a permanent skate park, including the current location of the temporary skate park in the upper Pavilion parking lot, the town Corporation Yard, the Parkade, Claus Circle Park (aka Frederick Sawyer Park) and Doc Edgar Park.

Based on their review and feedback through their interactions with fellow citizens, the Skate Park Subcommittee unanimously recommends that the existing temporary skate park be made the location of the permanent skate park with the option for expansion in the future pending review and approval from the Town Council. They believe the current skate park location provides the best opportunity for future expansion with the least impact on other town activities and amenities. PARC did not conduct a community-wide questionnaire.

Staff recommends the Council take no action on the PARC report and defer any discussion to a future Council meeting. The PARC report should be incorporated into the Council’s future discussions regarding the temporary skate park which would allow the Council the opportunity to conduct a community-wide questionnaire regarding the skatepark in downtown.

FISCAL IMPACT

n/a

ATTACHMENT

PARC report

Fairfax Park and Recreation Committee
Skate Park Subcommittee
Chris Borjian and Dustin Liebman
June 29, 2021

Evaluation of a Permanent Skate Park Location

Over the past several months, the PARC Skate Park Subcommittee has reviewed all the potential locations in town for a permanent skate park, including the current location of the temporary skate park in the upper Pavilion parking lot, the town Corporation Yard, the Parkade, Claus Circle Park (aka Frederick Sawyer Park) and Doc Edgar Park. Based on our review and feedback we have gained through interactions with our fellow citizens, the Skate Park Subcommittee strongly and unanimously recommends that the existing temporary skate park be made the location of the permanent skate park with the option for expansion in the future pending review and approval from the Town Council.

We firmly believe the current skate park location provides the best opportunity for future expansion with the least impact on other town activities and amenities. We also highly value and feel it is very important to respect all the work and community funded resources that have been put into the creation of the existing skate park setup. Given all this, we feel the existing park should be given permanent status.

In contrast, the other town owned sites we reviewed would not be suitable for a skate park without significant cost and disruption to current town activities and functions (i.e. turning a portion of the parkade into a skate park.) It would be highly inefficient to start over with creating a skate park in a new location when the success of the temporary skate park has clearly been proven.

Going forward, we would like the opportunity to review with the Town Council the potential for expanding the skate park in the existing location.

We sincerely thank the Town Council for their support of the project and are happy to address any questions or comments the Council or Town staff have regarding our recommendations.

Respectfully,

Chris Borjian and Dustin Liebman
Fairfax Park and Recreation Commission
Skate Park Subcommittee