



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF
PARKS AND
RECREATION

July 24, 2019

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Malcolm Bromley
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Downtown Skateboard Park – Safety Issues & RFP**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to inform you about safety issues at the Downtown Skateboard Park and the Request for Proposals (RFP) recently issued to implement the repairs needed to address these concerns.

The Downtown Skateboard Park (also known as the Skate Plaza), is the most heavily used skate park in the City of Vancouver. The Skate Plaza was last refurbished in 2011, and as a result of its popularity, it is now due for repairs in order to address some safety issues.

These safety issues, which were first identified by the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition and then further detailed in a consultant report commissioned by staff, include broken and loose granite slabs, cracked concrete, damaged asphalt, and uneven surfaces and joints. In addition, many of the granite features are no longer useable due to their deterioration from heavy usage.

Although the Skate Plaza will be decommissioned in conjunction with the removal of the viaducts and replaced with a new skate park as part of the NEFC Park, these projects are still subject to funding and are not expected to proceed until 2021 at the earliest. In the interim, the consultant report also identified potential improvements to ensure the existing Skate Plaza is able to continue to meet the needs of downtown skateboarders in the short to mid-term.

To address these safety concerns and user needs, Park Development staff have issued a [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) for design-build services to implement the required repairs and improvements at the Skate Plaza. Further updates will be provided as this project progresses.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Malcolm Bromley'.

Malcolm Bromley
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/amb/clc

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
Park Development Team
PB Communications