



March 25, 2022

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Donnie Rosa - General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Skateboard Amenities Strategy Engagement Results – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the Skateboard Amenities Strategy, and specifically the Round Two Engagement results, research and analysis. This includes an overview of key themes, the priorities that emerged, and how these priorities will be considered in the Skateboard Amenities Strategy and Implementation Plan. For more details, refer to the Round #2 Engagement Summary attached to this memo. Staff anticipate presenting the final proposed strategy to the Board for decision this spring.

Background

The Skateboard Amenities Strategy (“CitySkate”) aims to identify the potential to meet the growing demand of skateboarding and small-wheeled sports in the community. The Strategy will articulate a long term vision for skateboarding, identify and define service levels, and develop recommendations for implementation. Based on collaborations with the City of Vancouver, CitySkate will also include a flexible and easy-to-use “design tool kit” to more readily adapt to opportunities to meet the demand for skate-able surfaces across the city.

Comprehensive engagement was conducted to better understand changing perceptions, needs, and perspectives on current conditions. Both rounds of city-wide public engagement are now complete.

Round #1 - The first round was completed in the early summer of 2021 and was focused on understanding how the public views skateboarding, how people use our current spaces, and what the needs and views of the various user groups are.

Round #2 - The second round was held between October 12 and November 8, 2021, and focused on the city’s specific gaps, shared ideas for future opportunities, and asked the public to prioritize locations and needs. This round of engagement also included pop-up skateboard events, youth workshops, meetings with the Skateboard and Small-wheeled Sport Advisory Group for Engagement (S.A.G.E.) and meetings with the internal multi-departmental staff team from Engineering, Planning, Real Estate & Facilities Management, and Parks & Recreation.

Round #2 Engagement Results – Online Survey

Skateboarders, skateboard organizations, alternate wheeled-sports groups (roller skaters, inline skaters, BMX, scooters, and long-boarders), as well as residents and business responded to the opportunity to take a second online survey as part of Round #2 Engagement. There were 2069 respondents, compared with 2146 on the survey from Round #1. After examining overall survey results, staff estimates we have heard from 3303 unique respondents so far.

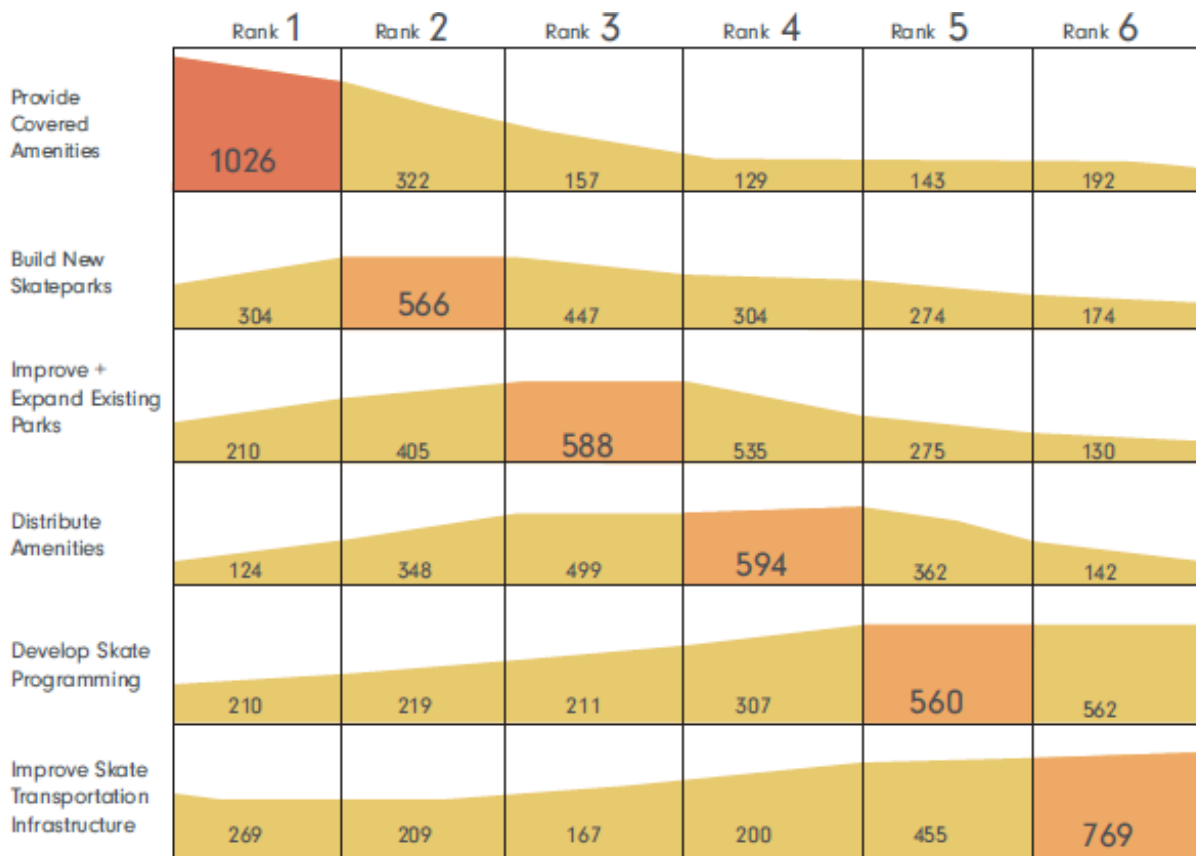
Key data on who we heard from in the Round #2 survey are:

- survey saw a 7.0% increase of female and non-binary respondents from the last survey, with 538 identifying as women and 104 attending as non-binary;
- 14% of respondents were non-skateboard users (residents & business owners) and 13% of respondents were parents/caregivers of youth who participate in the sport;
- 65% of skate amenity users exclusively skateboard, while 30% participate in other small-wheeled sports;
- top reasons that amenity users go to a skate park are to skateboard, socialize with their friends, watch/spectate or to supervise kids;
- key takeaways about how they use the spaces were that they value highly community activities like teaching or helping beginner skaters.

Key Themes & Findings

Following is a summary of key findings and themes from the survey results. For more details please refer to the Engagement Summary for Round #2 attached to this memo.

Priorities for Skate Amenities: When asked to prioritize different elements of skateboard amenities, “Provide Covered Amenities” was ranked as highest number one choice (at over 50% of respondents). Next highest priorities were to “build new skate parks” and “improve existing skate parks”. The below graph depicts how all amenities were ranked in order of priority.



Skateboarding as Transportation: When asked about skateboarding as transportation, 78% of respondents stated they use skateboarding as a means of transportation:

- 40% stated they use skateboarding for transportation over 3km;
- 38% stated that, while skateboarding may not be considered a main mode of transportation for long distances, they frequently use their boards (combined with transit) to get around the city for short distances.

Many comments on this question reflected a strong need for streets and path networks to be considered when planning for skate amenities but managed carefully so as to not conflict with pedestrians/cyclists.

Location Matters: When looking at future locations for skate amenities around the city, a number of gap areas and location priorities were identified. The city was divided into quadrants in the survey - Stanley District, North District, South District and West District - and locations were ranked based on public input. This information will be incorporated as part of the proposed CitySkate strategy.

Covered Skate Amenity: In addition to the Round #2 survey, the majority of comments and requests that staff received through in-person engagement events was for dry spaces to skateboard during inclement weather. Respondents not only identified covered facilities as a priority in the long range strategy, but requested some temporary interim solutions to bridge the long term timeframe.

An overwhelming number of requests were to seek temporary indoor or covered areas where modular skateboard features can be easily set up for the community to use and taken down. Emerging analysis combined with feedback suggest that future upgrades to existing parks, and increased temporary or permanent parks, should prioritize covered space and lighting. This supports work conducted through VanPlay, which had identified a dry skate park as a priority and was considered the top asset target for this sport. Staff are continuing to explore different approaches to how these needs could be met.

Round #2 Engagement - Youth workshop

Staff conducted a youth engagement workshop and pop-up event on October 2 at Strathcona Park. The purpose was to hear from the younger sector on what the barriers are to skateboarding and how they can be better supported through Park Board amenities.

Over 45 kids in total attended the event. The gathering yielded some useful data, including requests for:

- more programming through community centres;
- lessons;





- skate host programs at the skate parks;
- meet-ups and one-day events where youth and like-minded skaters can forge connections;
- more opportunities to skate and watch skaters in local parks due to inability to travel;
- new amenities (large or small interventions) to be near community centres or schools for easier access;
- provision of a small skate feature close to a school or community centre combined with beginner lessons and loaner skateboards would go a long way to reduce barriers.

Vancouver CitySkate Video

In conjunction with the start of engagement, staff in partnership with Uytay Lee (videographer and curator for About Here) launched a [video](#) that describes the history of skateboarding in Vancouver and how the need for a skateboard amenities strategy originated. This video received over 38,000 views, was shared 545 times, and was featured broadly by Vancouver media channels.

Next Steps

The project team is currently incorporating Round Two feedback, detailed mapping and analysis, feedback from stakeholder meetings, and research into best practices into the proposed CitySkate strategy to bring to the Board for decision this spring.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Donnie Rosa", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Donnie Rosa (*they/she*)
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

ml/ed/ds/clc

Copy to: PB Leadership Team
Planning, Policy & Environment Project Team
PB Communications



SURVEY 2

ENGAGEMENT

SUMMARY

January 2022



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Engagement Summary

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) are developing a long-range strategy for skateboard amenities in Vancouver. This Report is the summary of findings from the second phase of Engagement for the Vancouver Skateboard Amenity Strategy.

What is a Skate Amenity

A Skate amenity is a feature, space or obstacle that is used by a skateboarder (including skateparks) but is open to a variety of users such as scooters, BMX and roller skaters. Skateboard amenities can vary in size and scale ranging from a single skateable element like a bench, ledge or ramp, to several elements clustered together, to large scale destination skate parks.

Media and Participation

Phase 2 engagement included:

- 2 Public engagement events combined with pop-up skate events hosted by the VSBC [Vancouver Skateboard Coalition]
- Panel on Skateboarders relationship to the physical and social landscape of Vancouver
- City of Vancouver's Social Media - Tweets, YouTube, Instagram
- Video Documentary on the history of skateboarding in Vancouver in partnership with Uytac Lee (AboutHere)
- Online survey through Shape Your City
- Consultation meetings and workshops with members of the user group (SAGE)
- Consultation meetings and workshops with members of other city departments (SPOT)

Outcomes from Survey 1

Based on round one of the public engagement process, the Vancouver Skateboard Strategy established four goals for developing skate amenities in our city:

1. Skateboarding should receive the same support traditional sports receive. Amenities should be placed in prominent locations that highlight the Vancouver skate scene and Vancouver's itself.
2. The strategy should thoughtfully integrate skate amenities into parks and city streets in a way that balances user enjoyment and respects the neighbouring community
3. Recognizing the challenges of our wet, coastal climate, the strategy should provide opportunities to skate year-round by providing covered spaces
4. The strategy should outline opportunities for skateboard related programming and events for diverse user groups with various skill levels.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **How we got to Round Two**

Survey 1 results demonstrated there is a vibrant skateboarding culture in the City of Vancouver that consists of a diversity of skate spaces - both formal and informal - that are well-used by a wide range of participants in wheeled sports.

Survey 2 focused on identifying the Skate communities' priorities with regards to skate infrastructure. These questions were chosen to build on information from Survey 1, from feedback heard at public engagement events, and heard from the skate community through stakeholder group engagement (SAGE) and online activity.

Sites for potential skate amenities were vetted through city consultation, input from consultation workshops with a focused group of skate amenity users, and information gathered at public engagement events. Further criteria for potential sites and implementation will be covered in the final report and are beyond the scope of this document

Survey 1 had not previously touched on the topic of skate related transportation. The transportation section of Survey 2 explored what skate related transportation occurred in Vancouver, what the barriers are, and community aspirations for the future of skate transportation.

Key Takeaways

1. Need for Covered and Indoor Skate Spaces

Covered space was noted as the number 1 priority of respondents. While discussing sites identified with potential for skate amenities - respondents identified Vancouver's dark and rainy winters as a large barrier to skating. Upgrades to existing parks to increase temporary or permanent covered space and lighting should be considered. The implementation of new amenities and parks should hold covered space as a high priority.

Respondents also voiced that an indoor space would be preferred. In recent years members of the skate community have opened their own facilities to try to meet this need. RDS Indoor Skate Park in Richmond used to service a portion of Vancouver Skaters prior to its closure. Current indoor skateparks nearby include West49 Indoor Skatepark (Tswwassen), and One Love Indoor Skateboard Park (North Surrey).

2. Need for More Skateable Terrain

In survey 1 less than 1/3 of respondents rated the amount of skateable space in Vancouver as being good or excellent. Only 2 in 10 skaters were satisfied with the distribution of skate amenities in the city and more than half of respondents felt that skate amenities were not easy to get to.

In Survey 2 many respondents expanded on this and mentioned need for renovations in existing skateparks, and lack of beginner accessible spaces. Concern was also raised over the loss of DIY space and historical skate spots around the city leading to further stress on skateparks with the future implementation of new amenities unclear.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. Need for Sanctioned Skate Space

Survey 2 provided community insight into the use of public space for skate and skate related activities. Many respondents noted push back when skating in public spaces.

While transportation may not be the primary activity skaters consider when discussing skate amenities, 78% of respondents do skate as some form of transportation. Whether it be for transportation or practicing, skaters are on the streets, sidewalks and paths of Vancouver.

By considering skaters as an active user group of these spaces potential conflict can be minimized and accessibility of these areas can be improved. Clearly permitted skate spaces are needed to help address negative cultural perceptions towards skating to improve the experience for young and mature skaters.

4. Need for Distributed Skate Amenities

Survey 1 revealed only 2 in 10 were satisfied with the distribution of skate amenities across the city and more than half felt amenities were not easy to get to. The North East of the city currently has most of the skate facilities in Vancouver, however many are in need of renovation. The South, West, Stanley District (downtown), and South East of Vancouver are currently underserved. This poses accessibility challenges for existing and future potential skate amenity users. Efforts should be made to establish amenities in these neighbourhoods. Amenities in high density areas that are accessible by transit would be beneficial to those local areas and those in the broader city.

5. Value of DIY Skate Space

As an answer to lack of amenity space, the skate community in under-serviced areas has historically set up its own pop-up skateparks in underutilized space. While recommending potential sites for amenities, many respondents mentioned existing or past DIY skate locations. Pop-up skate spaces offer community members access to needed skate amenities and opportunities for creativity through being more involved in the implementation of obstacles.

Partnering with local residents and skate community members regarding DIY initiatives and Pop-up skate spots would allow these spaces further security, build off existing community efforts, and minimize conflict with other user groups.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Additional Calls for Indoor Skate Space



Change.org Petition
3,870+ Signatures

Near the conclusion of Survey 2's response period the Vancouver skate community began a petition calling for the creation of an indoor skateboard facility in Vancouver. This was echoed in several responses throughout Survey 2, meetings with SAGE, and in conversations with VSBC representatives.

50% of respondents to Survey 2 stated covered space was the number 1 priority for skate infrastructure. Indoor space was not specifically inquired about in this survey, however based on 3,870+ petition signatures it is clear that indoor space is in high demand.

The skate community has noted that many of the few covered spaces in Vancouver are not adequately covered. The Plaza for example, is only partially covered by the Dunsmuir and Georgia viaducts making portions of the park unskatable during poor weather. Leaside, though completely covered, has large openings at the north and south ends allowing rain on skate surfaces. While the park is covered, the water collects inside the old tunnel creating skatability issues for the park.

Safety concerns in skate amenities were noted by a broad range of survey respondents, but disproportionately affect and discourage female, BIPOC, LGBTQIA2S+ and youth skaters. A supervised indoor facility would help create the necessary safe space to allay these concerns.

The skate community would greatly benefit from better integration into new and existing community centres, and dedicated professional level facilities. This is needed to match the growing demand and trajectory of the sport, meet increased need for covered space due to more extreme weather in Vancouver, and expected population

”

I love to skateboard and atmospheric rivers got me down. Living in Vancouver it's plain to see a covered area for skateboarding is needed. I really hope the community is listened to on this front and the next project to break ground has plans for covered areas. Vancouver is a hub for the Canadian skateboard scene and recognized as such around the world.

“

”

I'm signing this because we need an indoor skateboard facility. Residents of Vancouver and the skateboard community deserve this. Every Olympic sport/performance art has an indoor training facility in the lower mainland, it's time to add skateboarding to that list.

“

”

At the very least we need a dry and indoor space to skate but the city should think about making a world class facility that will not only support the many skaters in the city but also bring people to Vancouver to skate.

“

Quotes From Comment Section of Online Petition.
Petition: "Vancouver Needs and Indoor Skateboard Park"

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Additional Comments from Small Wheeled Sports:

A lack of indoor space and inclusion in community centres also significantly limits access for other small wheeled sports. Junior roller derby is another underserved yet vibrant sport that serves a unique demographic of youth ages 6-18 years. The sport has notable, socially important aspects like body/size positivity, and has a reputation for inter-skater mentorship and instilling grit and physical confidence in female and non-binary-identified athletes in a safe environment.

Vancouver Junior Roller Derby (VJRD) is Metro Vancouver's only team. The team has never had access to sufficient space from September to March to be able to play actual games, and currently only has access to adequate space to accommodate 27 skaters. As of November 2021, there were over 60 families on the team's waiting list.

VSBC Indoor Skate Space Initiatives:

The VSBC was originally founded as the Vancouver Indoor Skateboard Coalition and access to indoor space for skaters has been maintained as an important priority and need for the community since its creation in the mid 90s (20+ years). During this time access to indoor and covered spaces in Vancouver has not improved.

Proposed facilities that may have supported their efforts, like Plaza 2.0 - a covered skate space under the Cambie Street Bridge to address the potential construction period of the NE False Creek Park, did not come to fruition increasing community frustration. Simultaneously, calls for cover, lights, surface improvements, and other improvements to existing parks have not yet been addressed.

Through to January 2022 the VSBC has been able to run a pilot project for the Green mini-ramp on Granville Island. Members of SAGE from the VSBC reported this site was in extremely high demand and there has not been enough room to accommodate skateboarders and other small wheel sports. Despite being a covered space it is susceptible to wet conditions when rain is heavy or constant.

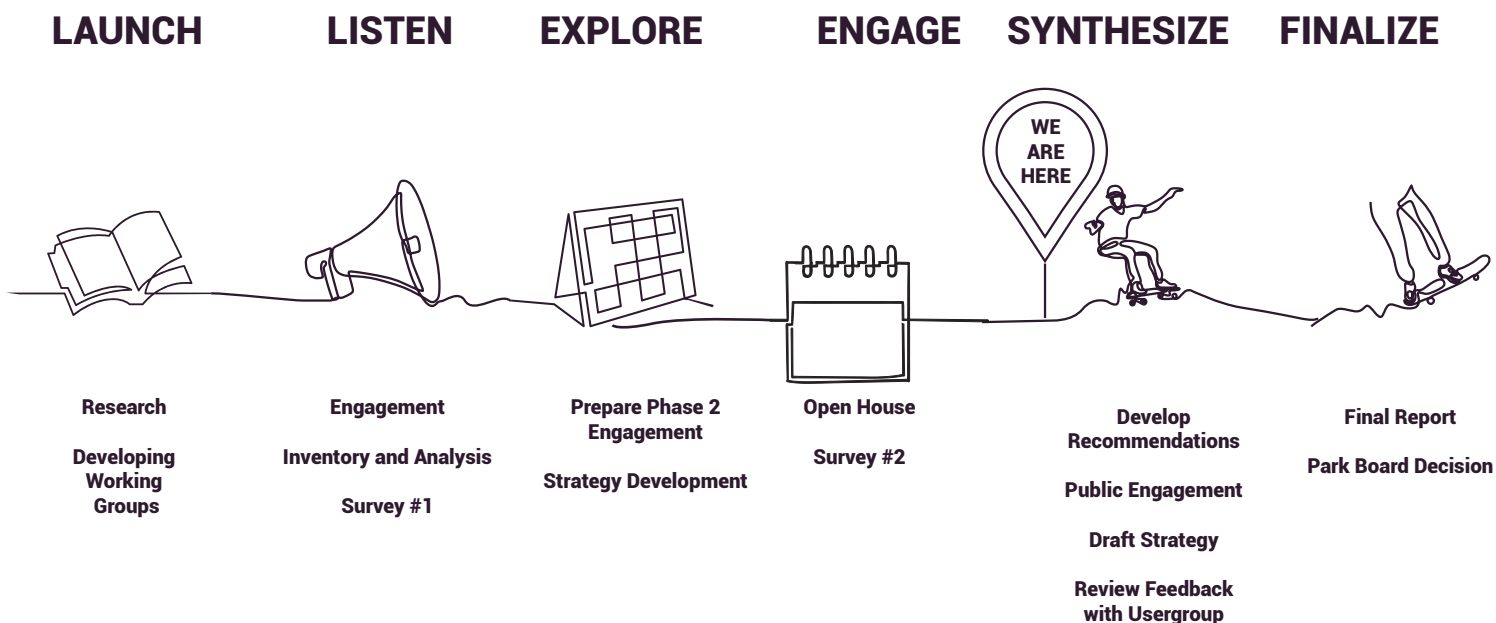
PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) are developing a long-range strategy for skateboard facilities in Vancouver. The strategy aims to increase participation in skateboarding and other related action sports by recreational users and athletes in skateboard venues and expand Vancouver’s conception of where and how skateboarding and other wheeled sports occur in the city.

The new Skateboard Amenities Strategy will provide a long-term vision for skateboarding and other wheeled sports in Vancouver, articulate and define optimum service levels, provide a flexible “design tool kit” to support the growth of skateable surfaces and spaces across the City and develop recommendations for implementation.

This document provides an overview of how we engaged skateboarders, skateboard organizations and other groups participating in alternate wheeled-sports in skateboard venues, who participated and what we have heard thus far in the process.

Please note that throughout this document, the term “user group” is used to refer to skateboarders and the other aforementioned wheeled-sport participants that use skate facilities. (Scooters, BMX, inline, skaters, roller skaters, longboarders, etc.)



WHAT WE DID

- **Engagement Activities**

This section documents the engagement activities, and promotional tactics utilized to gather broad feedback in Phase 2.

The purpose of this engagement was to discover who skateboards and where. What do skateboarders like or dislike about current amenities? What can be done to improve these experiences? [Update for survey 2]



- **Online Survey**

Between October 12 - November 8, 2021, skateboarders and skateboard organizations, other groups participating in alternate wheeled-sports in skateboard venues such as, but are not limited to, roller skaters, inline skaters, BMX, scooters, and longboarders, as well as residents, business owners and other members of Vancouver's diverse community were provided an opportunity to take an online survey.

The survey included a set of questions for skate amenity user groups to gather their perspectives on specifying potential locations for new skate amenities, improving our existing ones, and other creative ways to incorporate skateboarding in the city.

- **Strathcona Youth Survey**

In October of 2021 a targeted workshop was run with youth in the Strathcona area. Attendees participated in a workshop, discussion group, and beginner pop-up skateboard event to explore the topic of accessibility of skateboarding for youth in general as well as for youth in high barrier neighbourhoods such as Strathcona. This survey was extremely valuable not only because the Shape Your City survey targets adults, but because it provided excellent insight to how youth use the skate parks and how the Park board can support them through amenities and programming.

WHAT WE DID

- **Pop-Ups and Panels, In Person Engagement**

During the late summer and fall two in person outdoor events were hosted in partnership with the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition (VSBC) to raise awareness for the strategy, gather broader community and public interest, and to continue to foster a relationship with the local skate community

- **Sunset Beach Pop-Up Skate and Panel**



August 28-29th a Pop-Up skate event and panel discussion occurred at Sunset Beach.

Attendees were able to place pins on a large map of Vancouver to communicate where they currently skate and where they would like to skate in the city.

The event was well attended with over 50+ people present for the panel and over a hundred people often present for the skate pop-up event throughout the day.

The panel discussed skateboarder's relationship to the physical and social landscape of Vancouver and was lead by Kristen Ebeling, and included Rose Archie, Norman Ibarra, and Mikey Ray - all notable members of the local skateboard community.

- **Cambie Street Bridge Open House**



On October 23rd, an open house and temporary pop-up took place in collaboration with the Vancouver Skate Coalition under the Cambie Street Bridge.

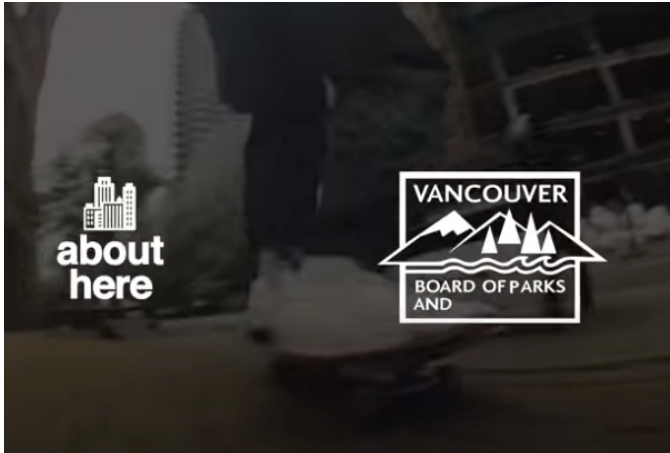
This pop-up served as a trial run for more long-term pop-up skate spots.

Participation in Survey 2 was promoted and attendees placed "dots" on Open House boards to show their support for suggested locations.

The event was highly popular with hundreds of participants over the course of the day. At peak times during the Grom-Go-Getter Kids Contest and live music performance there were 75+ people in attendance.

WHAT WE DID

- Video Collaboration with Uytay Lee



In collaboration with Uytay Lee (About Here) we made a video to promote the CitySkate Strategy and create a long-term resource / mini documentary to explain skateboarding and it's history in Vancouver.

On About Here's channel the video has 38 000+ views and counting!

Watch "Why Vancouver Changed its Mind About Skateboards" on YouTube.

- Skateboard Planning Oversight Team (S.P.O.T) Input (City of Vancouver)

Representatives from a variety of city departments, including Engineering Street Activities and Transportation, Real Estate Facilities Management , and Planning and Recreation, have met regularly to consider ways skateboarding can be integrated into the city fabric and how to make the strategy a useful and accepted resource for other departments.

- Skate Advisory Group for Engagement (S.A.G.E)

The SAGE meets regularly to review presentation materials, contribute comments to analysis, provide feedback and insight on next steps, and share information with their constituent community groups.

The SAGE committee is made up of representatives from:

- Vancouver Skateboard Coalition (VSBC)
- Nations Skate
- BMX
- Roller Skating
- Vancouver Queer Skate / LGBTQ+ Community
- Longboarding/Skate as Transportation
- East Van Skate Club
- Under Toe Skate
- Late bloomers/Takeover + Adult Skate Club

- VSBC (Vancouver Skateboard Coalition) - Stakeholder Consultation

Park Board and representatives from the Consultant team are in regular communication with the board of the VSBC regarding the progress of the strategy. Members from the team have attended numerous VSBC meetings to ensure there is opportunity for input and feedback from the larger skate community. Members of the VSBC also sit on the SAGE committee to provide more focused input.

SURVEY 2

- **Online Survey**

The intention of Survey 2 was to gather information on user group participation in skateboarding and other wheeled sports (who, what, where, when), user group perspectives on existing skate amenities, user group priorities for future skate amenities, and resident/business owner/public perceptions on skate amenities.

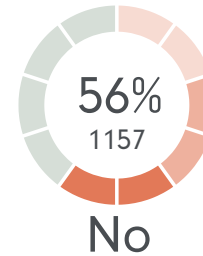
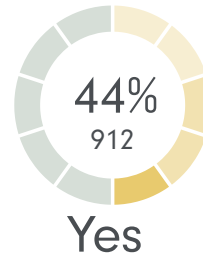
Note: Some totals may not add up to 100% because some questions allowed respondents to select more than one response or as a result of rounding. The number of mentions for open-ended questions may exceed the total number of respondents as participants may have commented on more than one topics.

WHO WE HEARD FROM

Did you participate in Survey 1?

Key Takeaway:

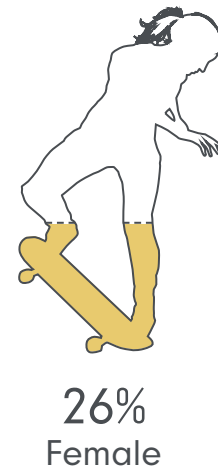
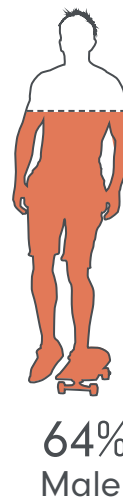
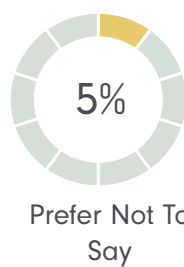
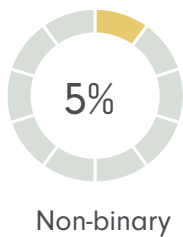
44% of respondents had not previously been engaged in calls for public input regarding this strategy.



Gender

Key Takeaway:

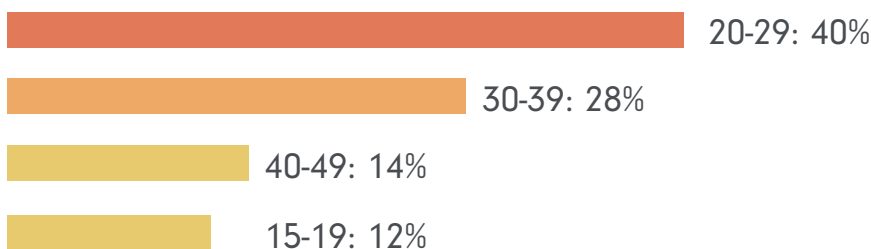
Survey 2 saw a 4% increase in female respondents and a 3% increase in non-binary respondents.



Age

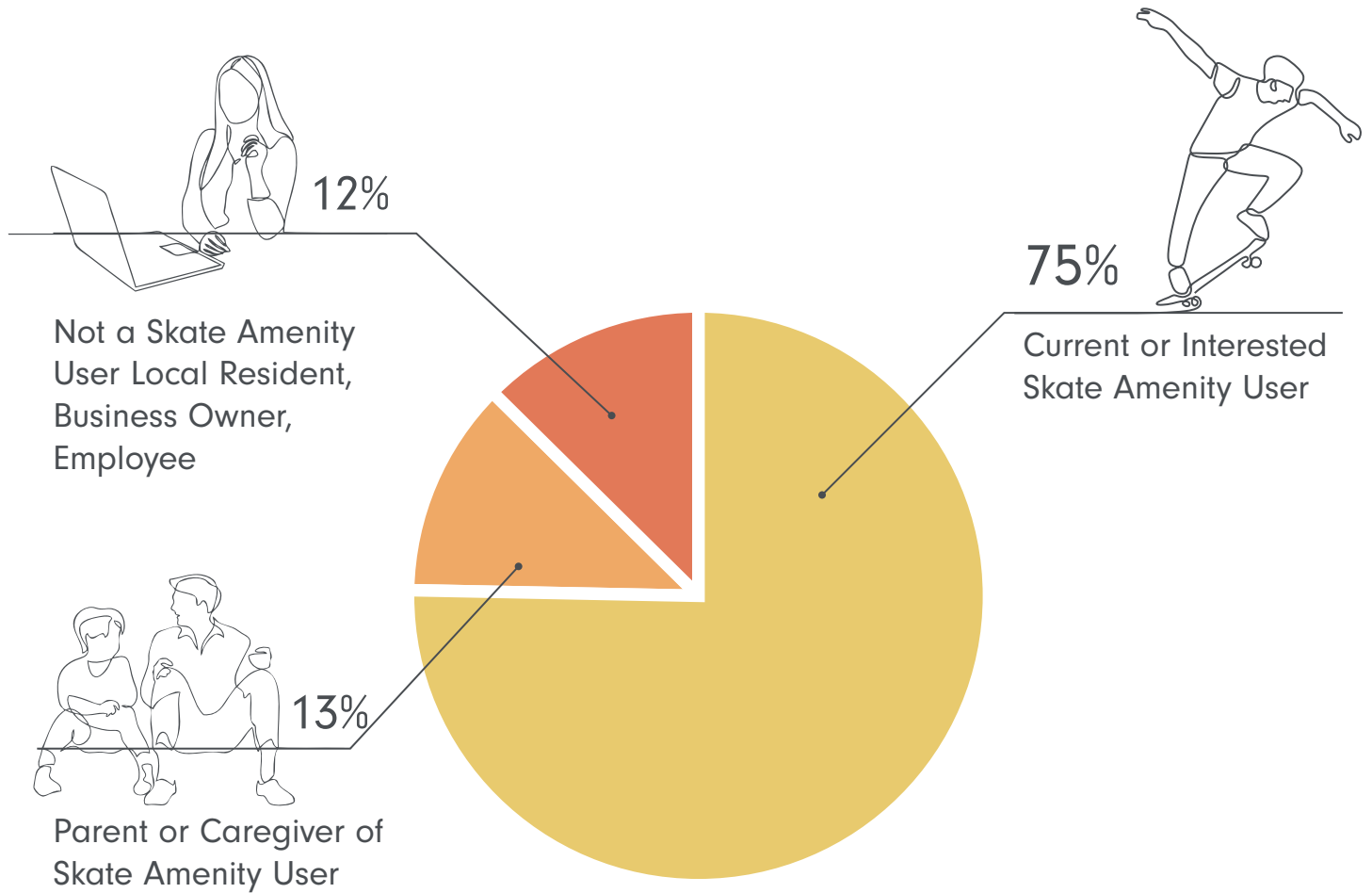
Key Takeaway:

Age demographics from survey 2 are similar to those from survey 1. 70+: 0% (3 - negligible) Prefer not to say: 1% 50-59: 4%



WHAT WE HEARD

1. What is your interest in the project?



Key Takeaways

12% of respondents identified as non-amenity users, this is double Survey 1 (5.9%)

Non-Amenity Users were generally supportive of skate spaces and associated with the community in some manner identifying as former skaters, skate shop owners, or friends of skaters.

Breakdown of Non-Amenity Users:

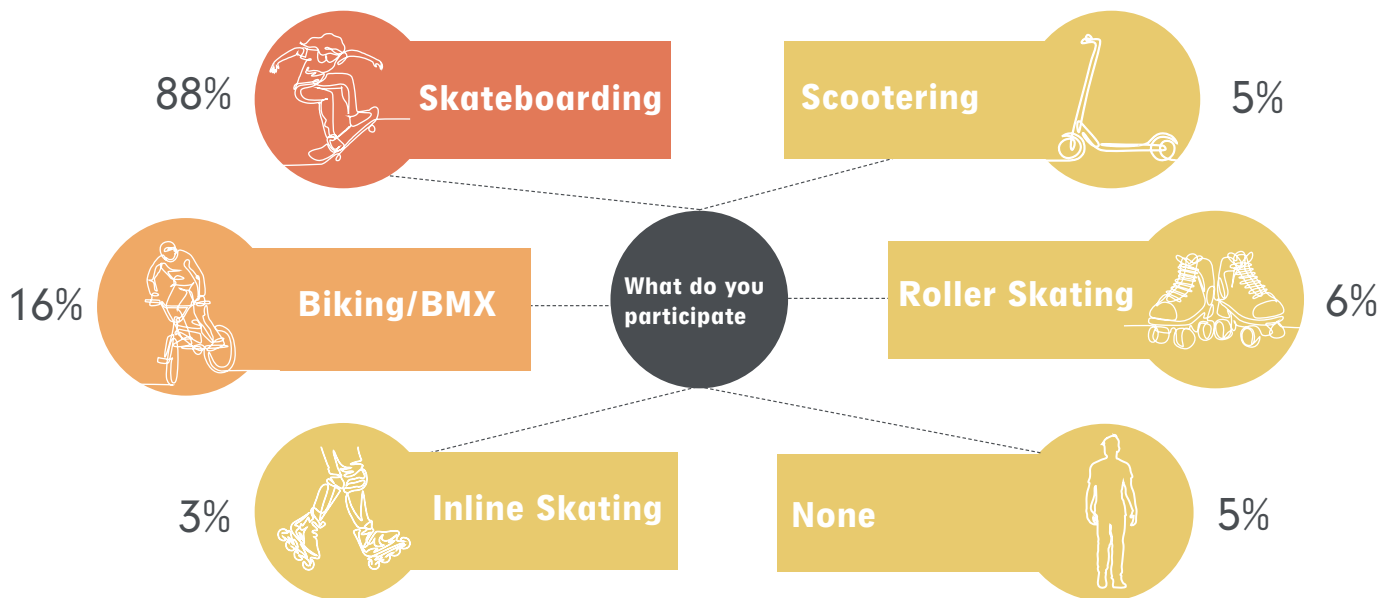
247 Non-Amenity Users

29% did not use skate amenities at all

71% of Non-Amenity Users participated in spectating, supervising, and/or socializing at the skatepark.

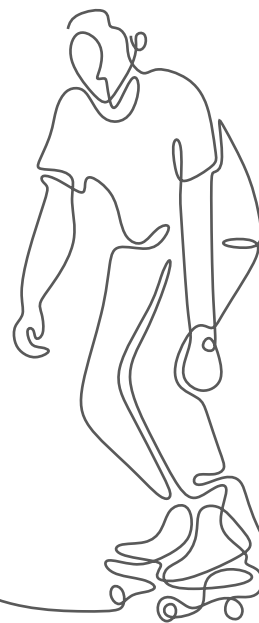
WHAT WE HEARD

2. What activity/activities do you or your family participate in?
[Check all that apply]



Key Takeaways

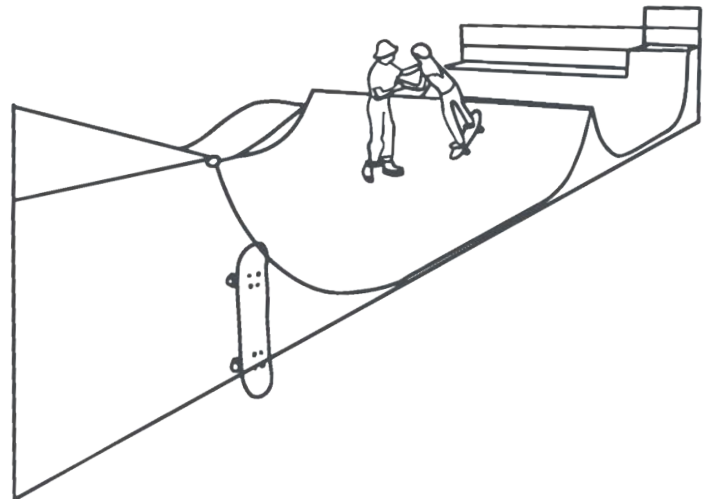
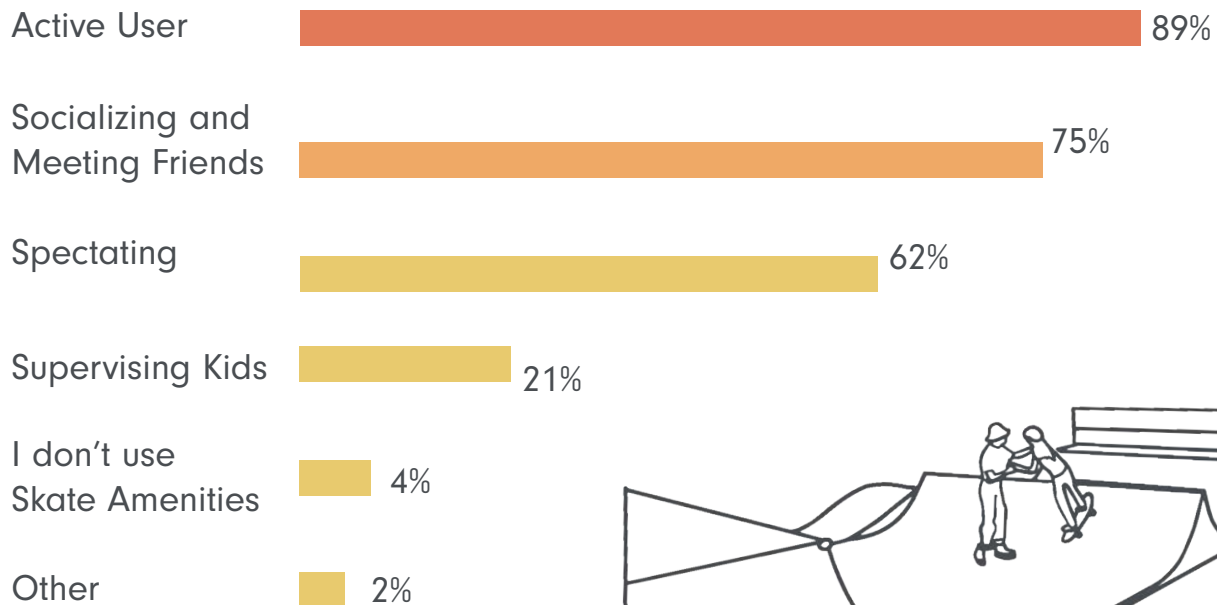
- 65% of respondents exclusively skateboard
- 23% Skateboard and participate in other small wheeled sports
- 7% are exclusively other small wheeled sports users
- 5% of respondents do not participate in any wheeled sports.
- Longboarding was the top open ended response.



WHAT WE HEARD

3. While at a skate amenity, what activities do you or your family participate in? [Check all that apply]

“ Avoiding other skateboarders because the spaces are overwhelmed with participants ”



Key Takeaways

Other activities noted:

- Photography/filming
- Teaching and Building Community
- Art
- Longboarding
- Practicing Alone

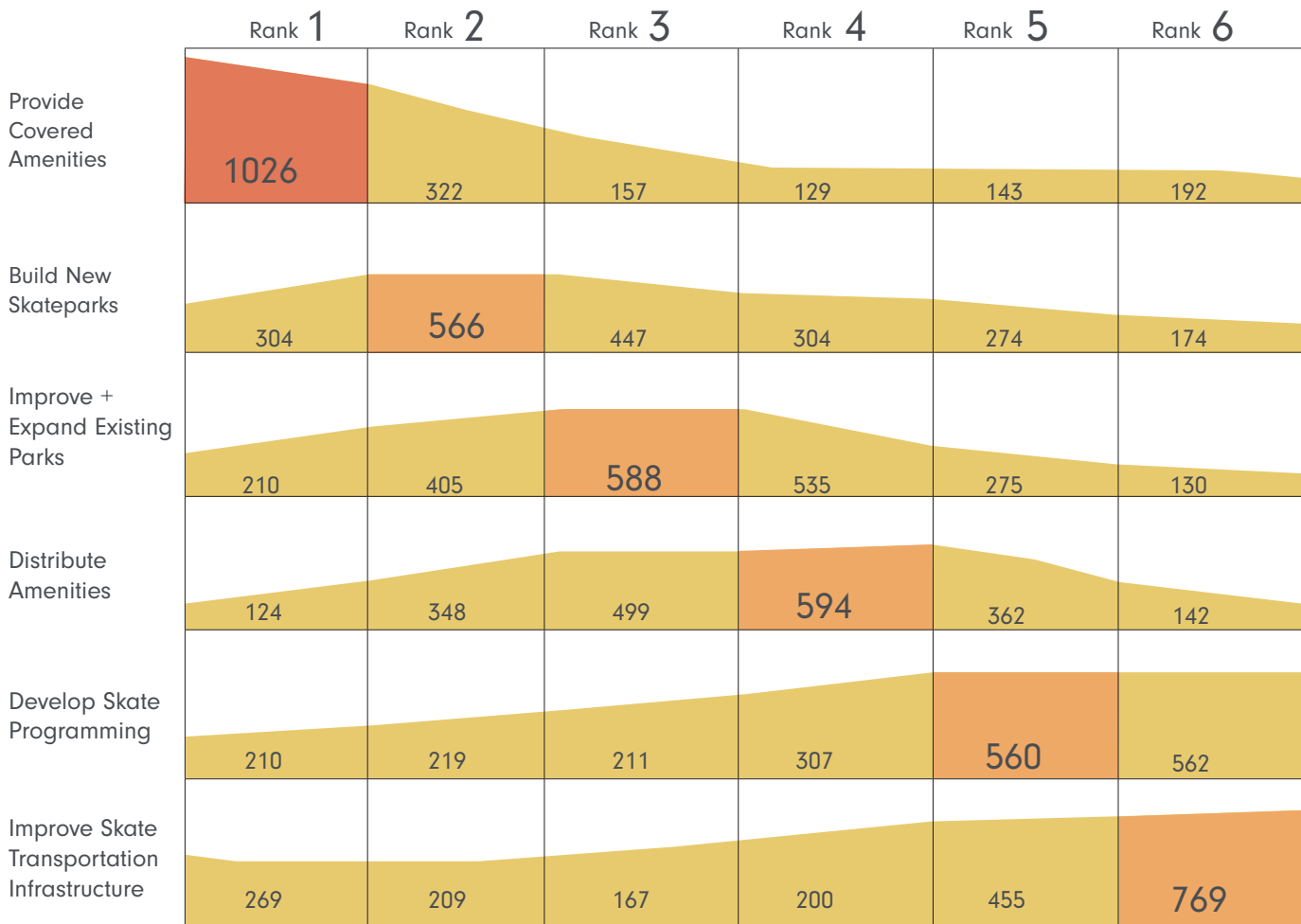
Community activities, like teaching or helping beginner skaters, were important to many respondents.

Several open-ended responses noted a lack of beginner friendly space and that overall stress on available skate space also impacts accessibility for youth and new skaters.

“ We also hold space for those who are uncomfortable to be at the park alone due to how some folks treat them for their sexual/gender identity and younger youth ”

WHAT WE HEARD

4. Which are the most important elements of the skateboard strategy to you? [1 - most important to 6 - least important]:



Key Takeaways

The above chart shows respondent votes with regards to ranking the six options. Over 50% of respondents selected “Provide Covered Amenities” as their number one choice. It is clear this is in high demand. Ranking is not representative of a lack of desire for these amenities, however it does showcase immediate need.

Respondents have identified covered space as their most immediate need. This is followed by the construction of new parks, the expansion and improvement of existing parks, further distribution of skate amenities throughout the city, developed programming for skateboarding, and finally improved skate transportation infrastructure.

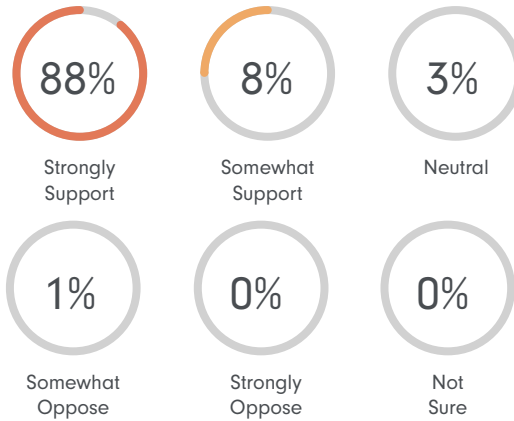
WHAT WE HEARD

5. The Vancouver Skate Strategy is exploring opportunities for incorporating skate amenities into the city in various locations.

Do you support the following locations for skate amenities?



Existing and New Parks

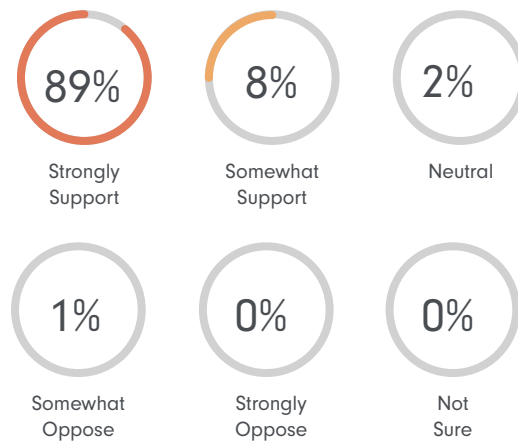


Key Takeaways

- 88% of respondents strongly supported new skate amenities in new and existing parks and suggested numerous existing parks that could use improvements later in the survey.
- This finding supports data from survey 1 that noted 28% of respondents used these spaces 4-7x a week and 44% of respondents used them 1-3x a week.



Public spaces outside of parks (Plazas and Squares)



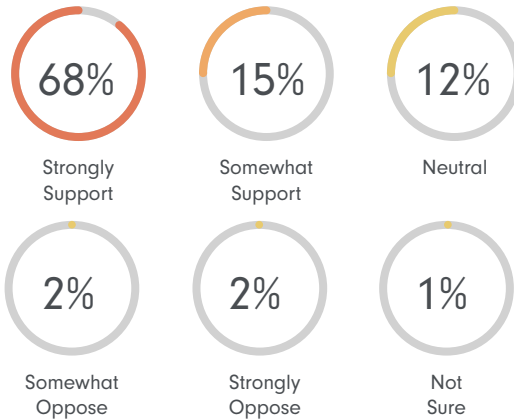
- 89% of respondents strongly supported skate spaces in public areas but did note potential public resistance as a concern if the space is not clearly noted as skate space.
- This finding supports data from survey 1 that noted skaters skate in public areas just as often as existing parks.

WHAT WE HEARD

5. Continued



Incorporated into streets, bikeways and greenway networks

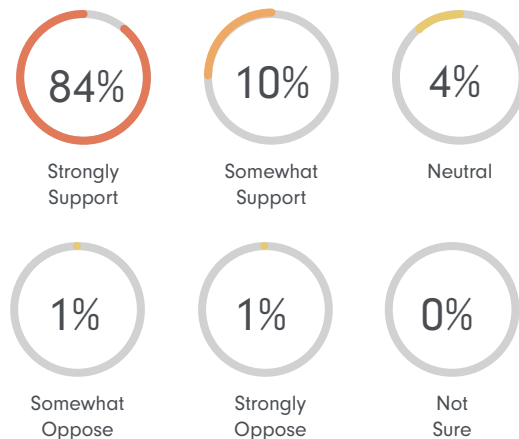


Key Takeaways

- Respondents were generally supportive with some concern with regards to cultural acceptance and design implementation.
- This finding supports data noted from survey 1 that noted 42% of respondents skates on streets, sidewalks and paths 4-7x a week, and 40% skated them 1-3x a week.



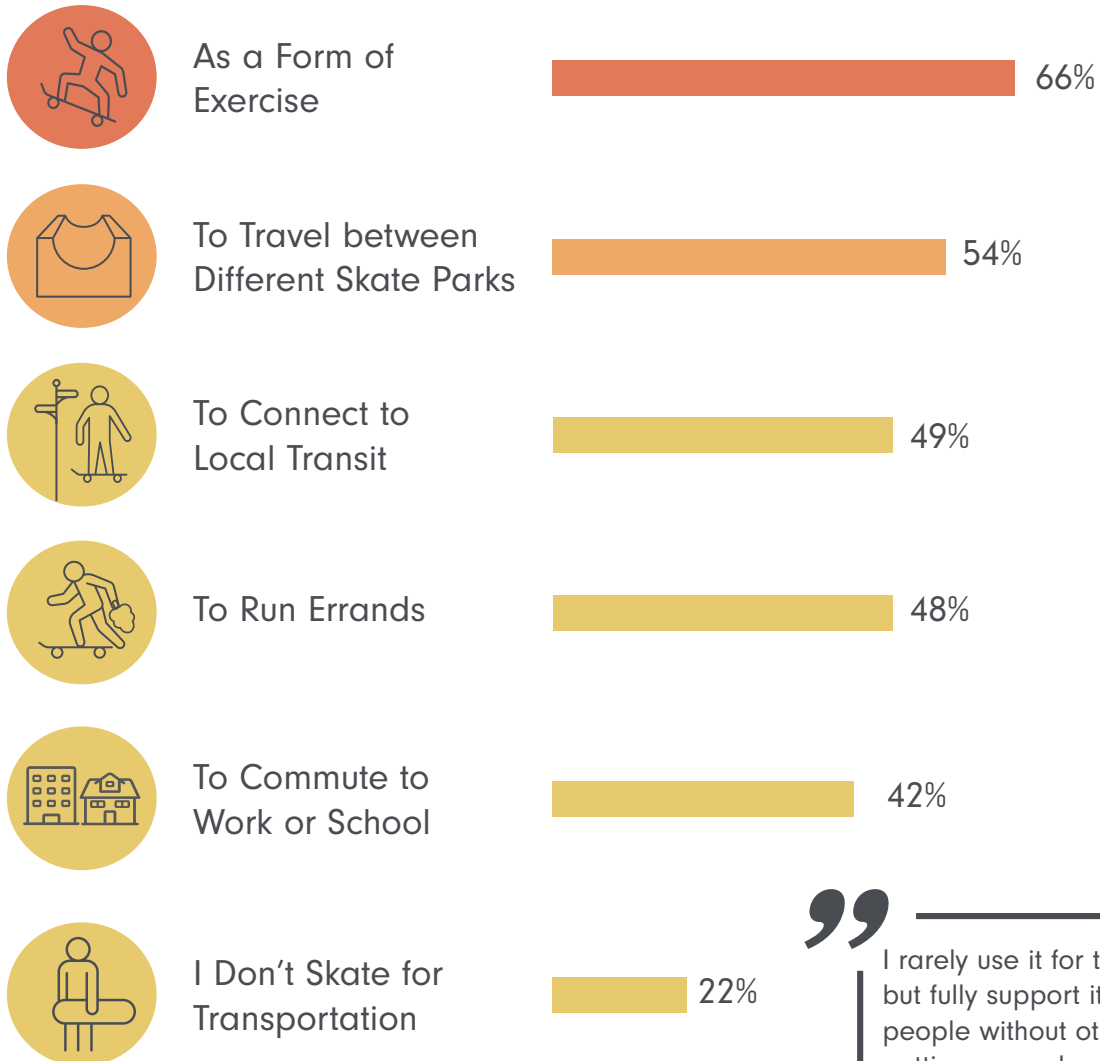
On Private land that is accessible to the public (parking lots future development sites)



- 84% of respondents strongly support skate amenities on private land
- Respondents noted elsewhere in the survey that there is an overall lack of skate amenity space, especially in the winter due to a lack of covered space.

WHAT WE HEARD

6. When do you skate for transportation? [Check all that apply]



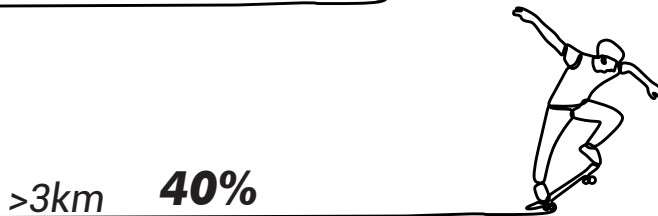
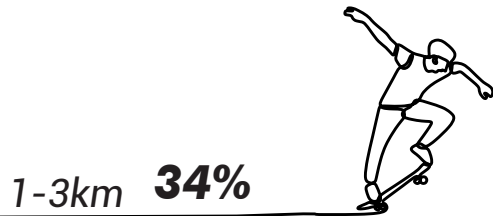
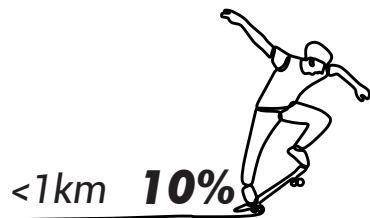
“ I rarely use it for transportation but fully support it for other people without other means of getting around ”

Key Takeaways

Top write in answers included “for fun” and “travel with friends”. Similar to skating at the park, skating for transportation is also a social activity, and as an enjoyable way to experience the city. Some respondents noted they would use their skateboard as transportation if paths and streets were more accommodating.

WHAT WE HEARD

7. What is the maximum distance you would skateboard for transportation?



” Perfect for short trips. Depends on quality of concrete & amount of hills “



8%
I wouldn't skate for transportation



8%
Not Sure

” If I don't feel like driving I'd go skateboarding “

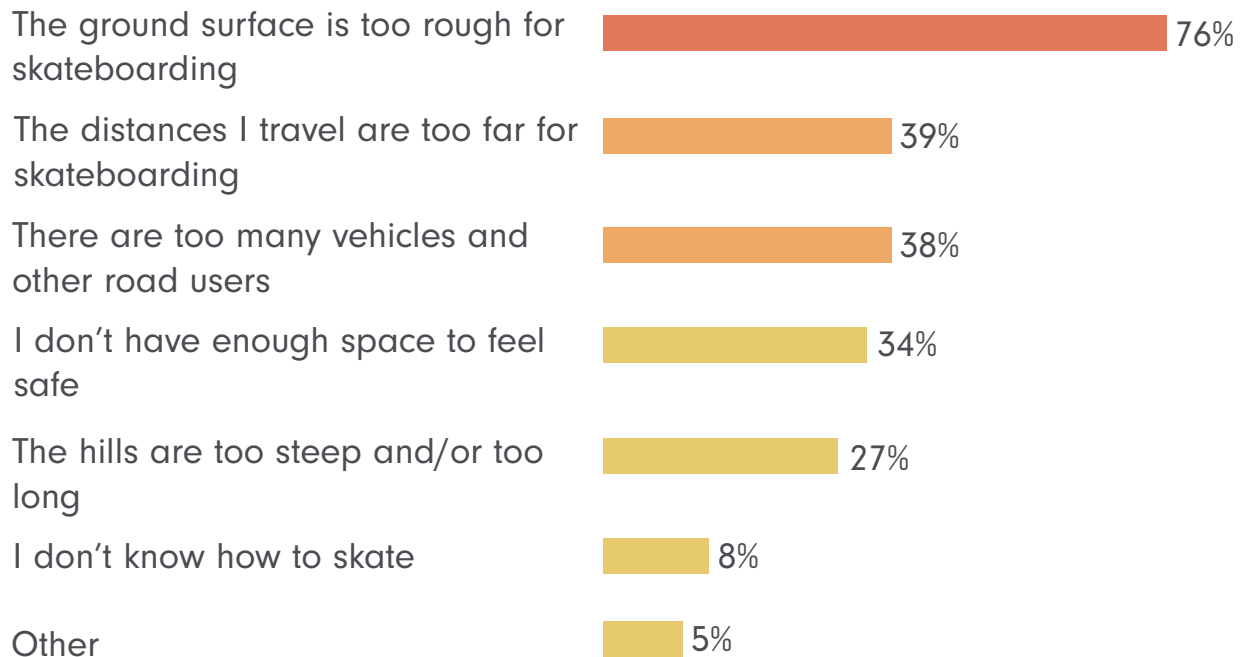
” To commute and mainly to practice my skills and improve my mental wellness “

Key Takeaways

- 40% of respondents stated they would use a skateboard for transportation for over 3km showing while skateboarding may not be thought of as the main mode of transportation for long distances, skaters do frequently use their boards to get around the city for short distances and with transit.
- While some skateboarders may not identify skateboarding as a primary mode of transportation, skateboarders do frequent streets, sidewalks and paths and should be considered as a user of these spaces for future planning.

WHAT WE HEARD

8. What are challenges to skating for transportation? [Check all that apply]



“ People treating me like I am an intruder on the road or the sidewalk. There is no signage to let people know it is legal and acceptable to ride. ”

“ People seem to react negatively to seeing skateboarders. When I skated I got a ticket for skateboarding on a bike path. ”

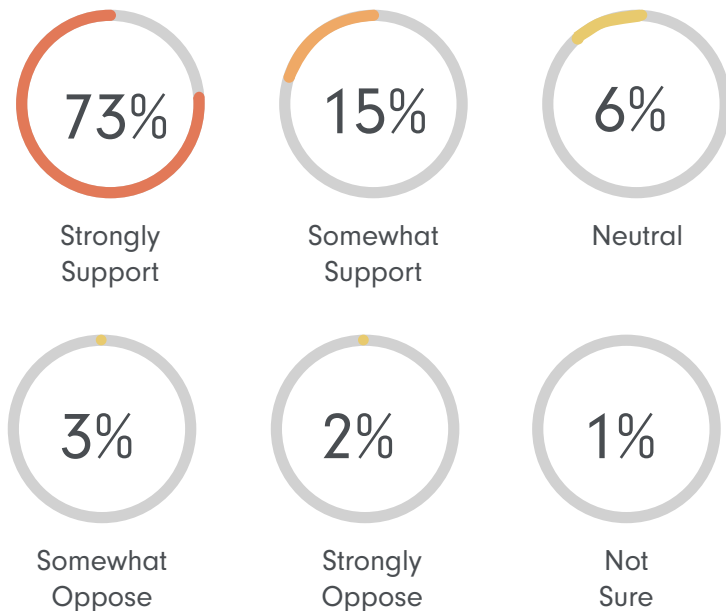
“ Sometimes I feel that allowing my child to skate in public spaces is frowned upon by others. ”

Key Takeaways

76% of respondents stated ground condition was the main barrier to skating for transportation. In written responses respondents also noted weather as a strong barrier, and cultural barriers such as conflicts with other road users. The need for more physical space on paths or bikeways in order to feel safe on shared routes was stressed.

WHAT WE HEARD

9. A skate amenity can be as simple as a single ledge, platform, or combination of a few features. How supportive are you of locating these smaller skate amenities alongside bikeways and greenways?



“ I would rather have them all in one spot, that is meant for skateboarding. But as long as it’s not taking obstacles away - I’m all for it. ”

“ I would support this if done in a safe way so features are spaced far away from others on the sidewalks / greenways otherwise accidents and injuries will happen often. ”

“ This is a fantastic idea, however the skateboard amenities should be separate from the path as to not disrupt cyclers and other commuters. I’m an avid cyclist myself and I think this is good but I know that cyclists will be worried and/or complain if we are “in their way”. ”

Key Takeaways

Respondents were strongly supportive of skate amenities along bikeways but generally noted further information and design detail was needed for them to properly respond. Concerns of public backlash to skaters in these spaces were raised, as well as conflict with other users.

The need for clearly designated space was noted. Small skate spots along greenways and bikeways do not replace the need for improvements to current parks, new parks, and covered or indoor skate space.

WHAT WE HEARD

10 - 14. Rate your preference for the following options based on their suitability and suggest other areas you feel should be explored.

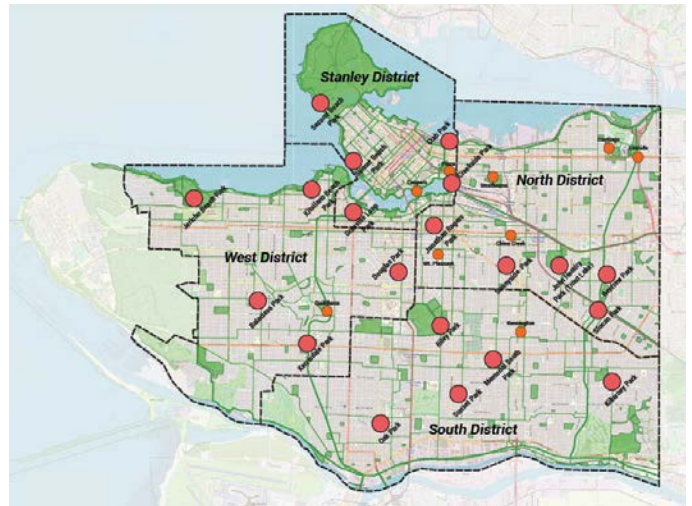
- **Skate Amenity Exploration**

The Vancouver Park Board manages Vancouver's Parks using 4 districts (right)

Stanley District, North District, South District and West District.

Within each district several parks have been identified as having potential to support a new community or neighbourhood level skate park.

Respondents offered thoughtful consideration of potential sites, DIY sites that could become sanctioned spaces, and existing parks in need of renovation. For further responses see Appendix F.

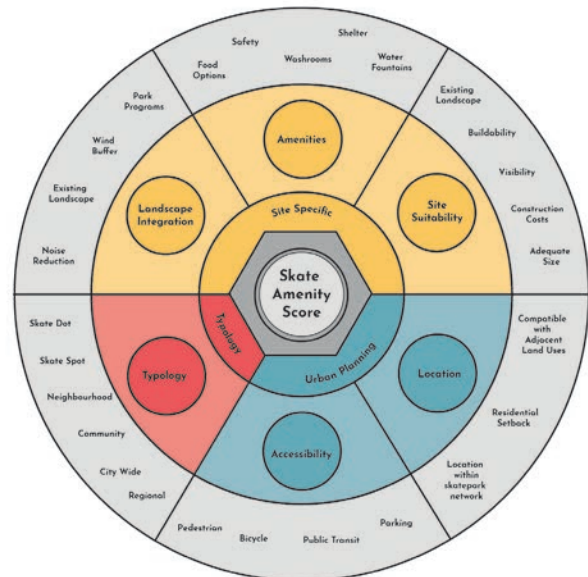


- **Potential Site Rational**

The Diagram to the left showcases some of the factors taken into consideration when identifying potential sites.

Locations were vetted by Park Board Staff, a consultation user group [SAGE], and through preliminary analysis by consultants.

Respondents were invited to rank the options based on if they thought the site was suitable, and comment on each district to suggest alternate locations, positive factors, or negative factors of suggested locals.



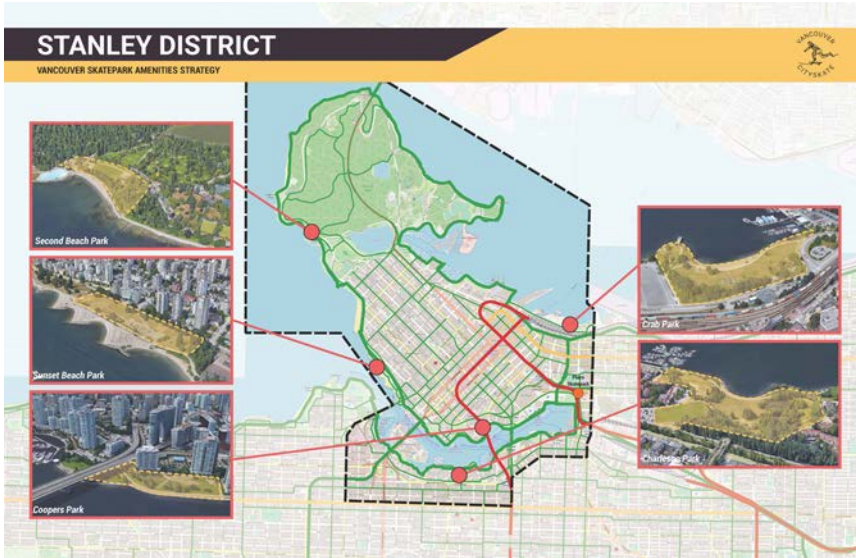
WHAT WE HEARD

The Geospatial analysis of comments overlaid on a map of Vancouver.



WHAT WE HEARD

Key Takeaways



Safe Skate Spaces:

Respondents noted the Plaza was not very youth friendly creating further gaps in skate amenities in the downtown area despite high density.

Skate Spots: Areas covered by bridges like Coopers' Park were beneficial for all year skating.

Sunset Beach (73.3%) is the most preferred location in the Stanley District and the second most preferred location in the city.

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against	Not Sure
Charleston Park	1283 (62%)	361 (17.4%)	282 (13.6%)	28 (1.4%)	22 (1.1%)	93 (4.5%)
Coopers Park	1304 (63%)	395 (19%)	250 (12.1%)	20 (9.6%)	15 (0.7%)	85 (4.1%)
Crab Park	1252 (60.5%)	365 (17.6%)	267 (12.9%)	66 (3.2%)	33 (1.6%)	86 (4.1%)
Second Beach Park	1362 (65.8%)	366 (17.7%)	213 (10.3%)	45 (2.2%)	24 (1.2%)	59 (2.8%)
Sunset Beach Park	1524 (73.7%)	297 (14.3%)	149 (7.2%)	22 (1.1%)	16 (0.7%)	61 (2.9%)

”

Why does it have to be restricted to parks? I wish more plazas could be created as well around the hustle and bustle of a city

”

I think that Sunset Beach would be perfect for a new park. During the green ramp pop-up this summer - we had many community members come out and express their support for a park in this location.

“

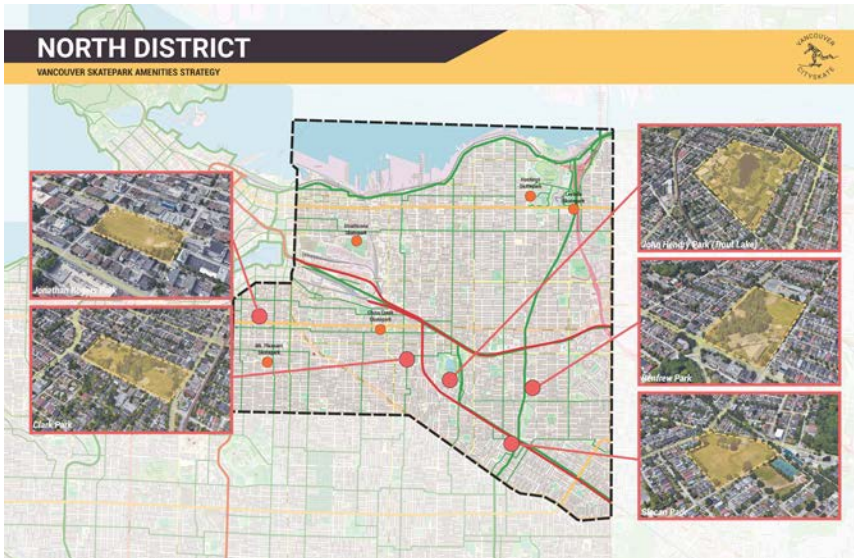
”

...Nothing has been built to address the needs of skateboarders in Vancouver for 10 years. No covered spaces that are safe and inclusive to all skateboarders exist anywhere in Vancouver...The skateboarders in Vancouver deserve the same respect and considerations as more "traditional sports"

“

WHAT WE HEARD

Key Takeaways



Renovation Station:

Respondents noted most parks needed improvement or could be improved upon to better meet current needs. Stress on space, lack of cover, lack of lighting and high difficulty were noted as barriers.

South East: While they may not be as widely used - respondents supported neighbourhood parks in underserved areas.

John Hendry Park (68.3%) is the preferred North District Location

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against	Not Sure
Clark Park	1304 (63%)	387 (18.7%)	249 (12%)	13 (0,6%)	10 (0.4%)	106 (5.1%)
John Hendry Park-Trout Lake	1414 (68.3%)	336 (16.2%)	212 (10.2%)	12 (0.6%)	16 (0.7%)	79 (3.5%)
Jonathan Rogers Park	1293 (62.5%)	370 (17.9%)	262 (12.6%)	27 (1.3%)	12 (0.6%)	105 (5%)
Renfrew Park	1260 (60.9%)	406 (19.6%)	266 (12.9%)	28 (1.3%)	10 (0.5%)	99 (4.8%)
Slocan Park	1256 (60.7%)	396 (19.1%)	279 (13.5%)	19 (0,9%)	12 (0.6%)	107 (5.2%)

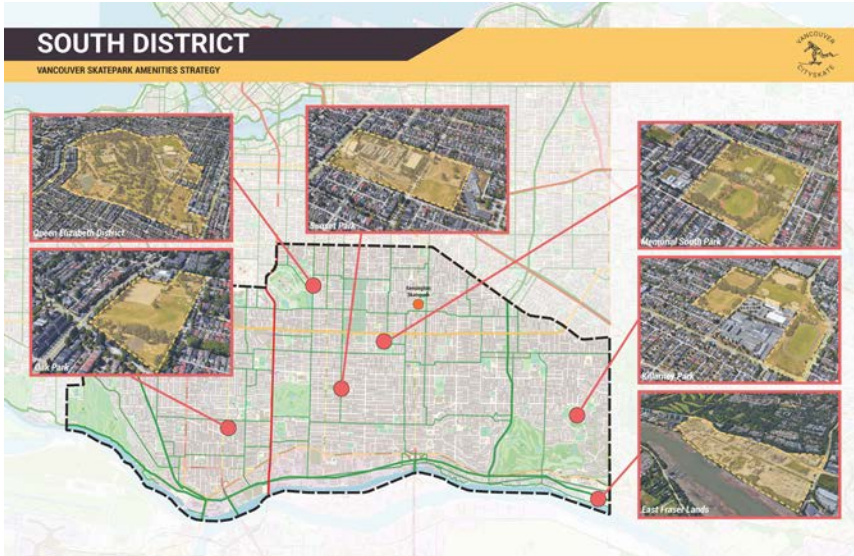
“ Strathcona park has a very old skatepark, but there is so much room for extension in this location. It’s quite central, easy to commute to, and far enough from residents so noise isn’t an issue. I dream of a big skatepark, partially covered with night lights here!

” I think as far south east as possible. Let’s get skateparks in neighbourhoods where the youth don’t already have options

” Jonathan Rogers Park would be perfect for a new skatepark. It is easy to access, and could be used by many different types of people in the community. Britannia courts is currently the most popular skatepark in the North District, and the city should seriously consider supporting the addition of a new skate space in the area in its absence.

WHAT WE HEARD

Key Takeaways



Neighbourhood Parks: Many users identified the parks in the south as neighbourhood parks to serve the local community currently lacking in skate amenities.

Queen Elizabeth District (67.1%) received the highest support in the northern part of the South.

Sunset Park (61.3%) is the most centrally located was the second most supported in the South.

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against	Not Sure
East Fraser Lands	1134 (54.8%)	398 (19.2%)	352 (17%)	28 (1.4%)	16 (0.7%)	141 (6.8%)
Killarney Park	1177 (56.9%)	418 (20.2%)	314 (15.2%)	25 (1.2%)	14 (0.7%)	121 (5.8%)
Memorial South Park	1157 (55.9%)	405 (19.6%)	344 (16.6%)	19 (0.9%)	10 (0.5%)	134 (6.5%)
Oak Park	1157 (55.9%)	416 (20.1%)	322 (15.6%)	25 (1.2%)	14 (0.7%)	135 (6.5%)
Queen Elizabeth District	1389 (67.1%)	354 (17.2%)	210 (10.1%)	17 (0.8%)	16 (0.8%)	83 (4%)
Sunset Park	1269 (61.3%)	398 (19.2%)	259 (12.5%)	15 (0.7%)	12 (0.6%)	116 (5.6%)

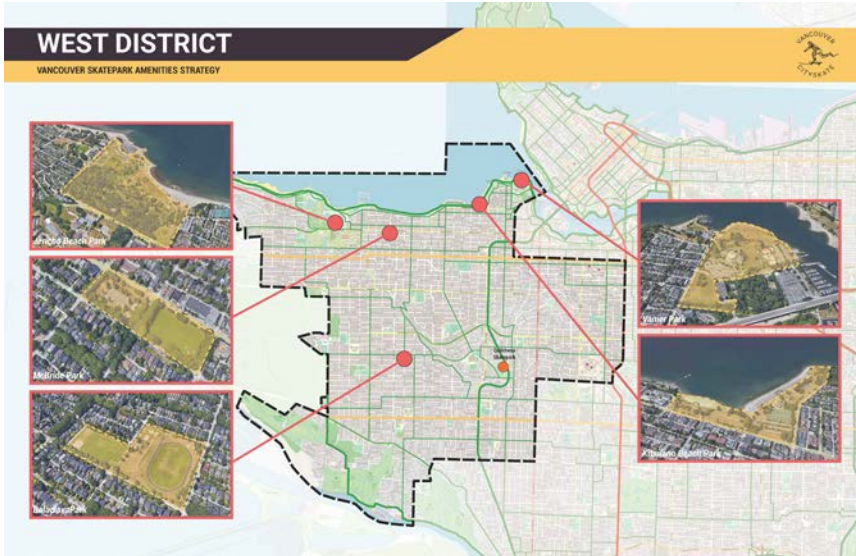
“ These are good locations for more localized skateparks. Locals in the neighbourhood would probably use them the most, but that’s good. ”

“ Couple of the parks are near elementary schools. could be great for introductory terrain / beginner style parks or skate spot style. East Lands have potential for a major park! Big competition style / advances / expert terrain ”

“ I think there is potential to upgrade Kensington park to have room for more younger skateboarders. Current Park is very high level. ”

WHAT WE HEARD

Key Takeaways



Lack of Amenities: Despite high density in the Kitsilano area and a large number of young families, only one skatepark is present in the West District

Lack of Cover: Quilchena (the only skatepark) provides no cover and existing lighting is poor making it difficult to use in the winter.

Location: Respondents were generally supportive of all sites. Kitsilano is the most supported location in the city (73.4%)

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against	Not Sure
Balaclava Park	1192 (57.6%)	401 (19.4%)	318 (15.3%)	25 (1.2%)	14 (0.7%)	119 (5.7%)
Kitsilano Beach Park	1518 (73.4%)	277 (13.4%)	171 (8.3%)	30 (1.4%)	20 (1%)	53 (2.6%)
Jericho Beach Park	1432 (69.2%)	320 (15.5%)	197 (9.5%)	34 (1.6%)	25 (1.2%)	61 (2.9%)
McBride Park	1191 (57.6%)	385 (18.6%)	334 (16.1%)	26 (1.3%)	14 (0.7%)	119 (5.7%)
Vanier Park	1293 (62.5%)	355 (17.2%)	279 (13.5%)	31 (1.5%)	21 (1%)	90 (4.3%)

“ This portion of the city has the least amount of parks/spots dedicated to skateboarding despite strong youth participation in the area. We need a park in the North West area (Kits)

“ Definetly need more on the west side, ideally in Kitsilano where density and families live. A covered space in Kits would be amazing. Like under a bridge or covered facility.

“ Quilchena skatepark, we should either be able to have lights to be able to skate past 6pm, or have a section, or most of the park undercover. We have almost nothing to skate when it's raining.

WHAT WE HEARD

Summary of District Needs

Conclusions from survey questions 10-14

- **Stanley District**

Respondents in the Stanley District demonstrated diverse user group needs. Some respondents identified more as street skaters, preferring spots, urban areas, and small covered spaces throughout the city. Other respondents noted a lack of beginner and youth friendly spaces in the city and lack of formal parks and sanctioned skate spaces.

While beginner level space and lack of space is a key issue throughout the city, Stanley District responses also noted need for indoor space and olympic/professional level spaces to keep Vancouver competitive as skateboarding grows as a sport.

- **North District**

The North District hosts most of the current skateparks in the city. In written responses many respondents noted renovation and improvement for all season use (addition of cover and lights) as the preferred priority action for this area. The North District also has underserved areas, most notably the South East of the district

- **South District**

The South District was noted in responses as largely underserved. Respondents noted potential for improvement in the existing parks, and need for local parks distributed throughout the south. Many in this district noted they currently travel to Richmond due to lack of amenities.

- **West District**

Responses in the West District strongly supported a park in Kitsilano and many noted the area seemed to have many amenities and a strong skate community but no skateparks. Further distribution to towards the South West and UBC was also mentioned as a need.

APPENDICES

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Appendix C - Suggested Renovations (All Comments)	41 - 42
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Appendix E - Skate Amenities on Greenways/Bikeways	46
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APPENDIX A

Strathcona Youth Survey

Survey Summary:

As part of the larger public engagement, the Skate Strategy team reached out to local youth and kids in the Strathcona neighbourhood to hear their thoughts on what the barriers were to skateboarding and how they can be better supported through Park Board amenities and programming.

It is estimated approximately 8% of youth skateboard. This survey provides a sample of data from youth interested in skateboarding in the Vancouver area.

10 Years old
Average Age



1. Do you Participate in any of the following activities?

*Multiple Options Could be selected. Percentage is from total number of participants who selected said option.

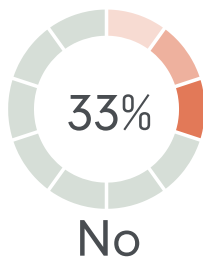
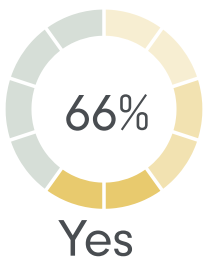
79%



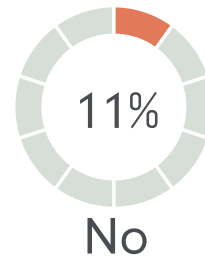
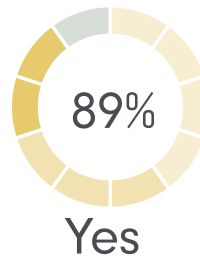
48%



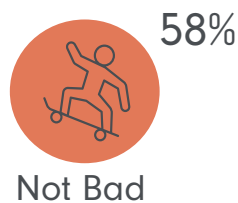
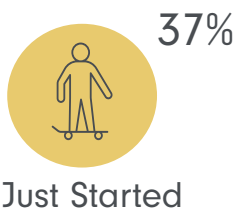
2. Do you have your own equipment for these activities?



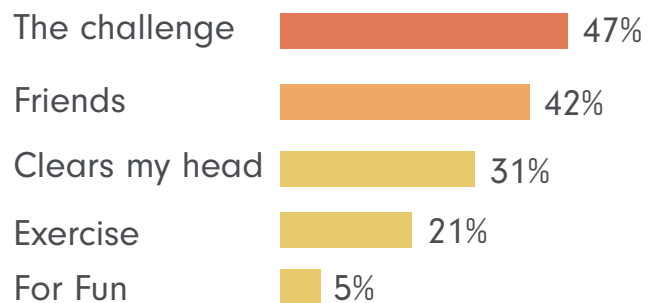
3. Do your friends skateboard or participate in related sports?



4. How would you rate your skill level?



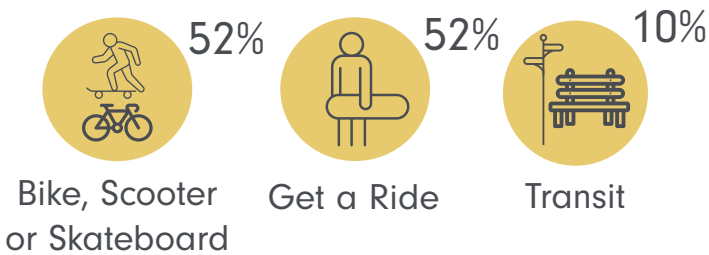
5. Why do you ride?



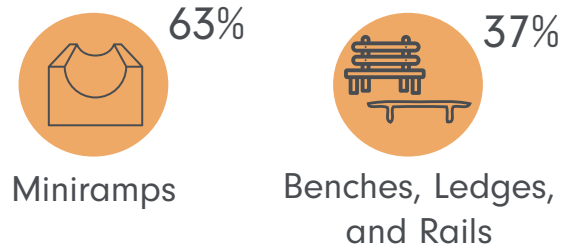
APPENDIX A

6. How do you get to the skatepark?

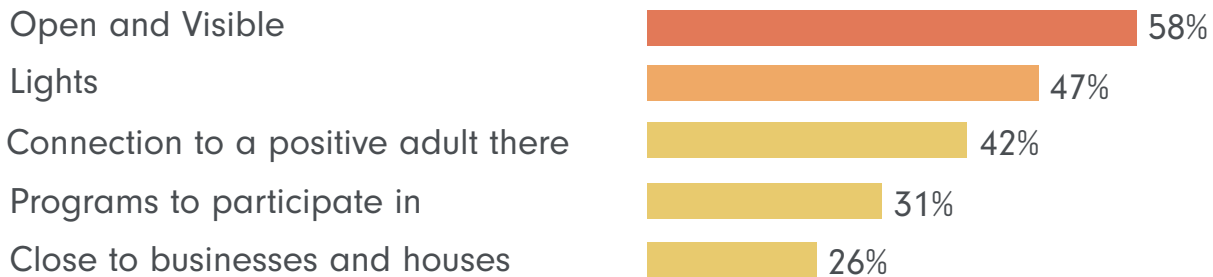
*Multiple Options Could be selected. Percentage is from total number of participants who selected said option.



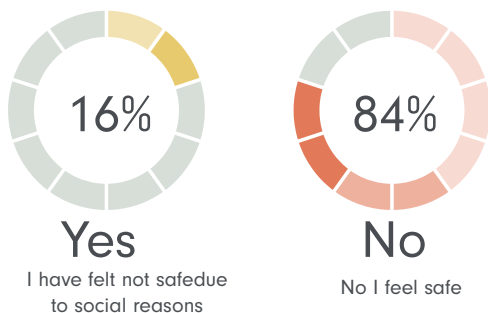
7. What are your favourite features at the skatepark?



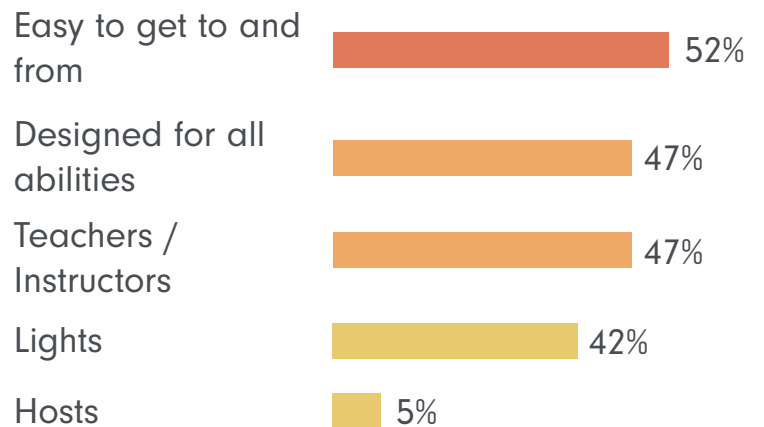
8. What makes you feel safe at the Skatepark?



9. Have you not felt safe at a skatepark?

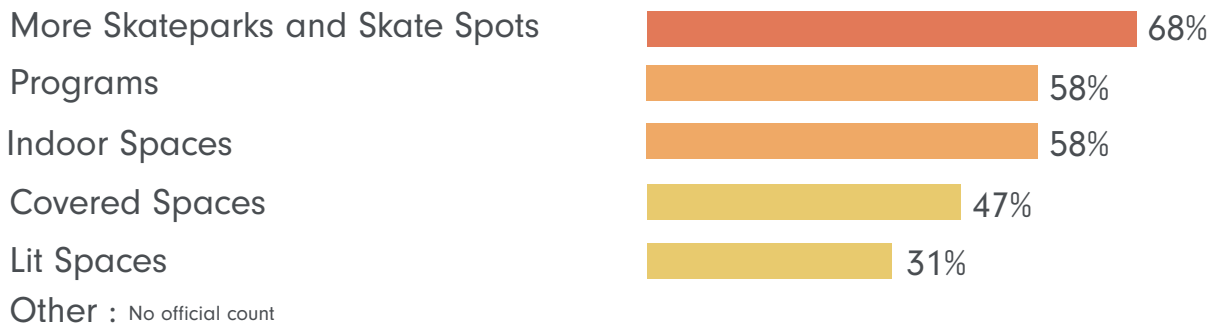


10. What can be done to make skate-parks and skate spaces more welcoming?



APPENDIX A

11. What would you like to see more of in Vancouver that would make skateboarding/riding better for you?



- Features (ie: Bowls, Spine, Pump Tracks, Ramps Artwork, Skate/Blade Paths)
- Teachers

Key Takeaways

While this is a small sample of youth skaters in Vancouver, the feedback illustrates the barriers to youth and provides some solutions to help reduce challenges.

- **Proximity and number of skate spaces:** Both youth and adult respondents support more spaces and better proximity to skate spaces but more mature skaters are able to travel to current existing amenities, while younger skaters are limited and not able to travel as far.
- **Programming:** The Park Board skate host program is valued by both adult and youth respondents, however this group felt strongly that more programming at the skateparks, either with hosts or lessons would benefit the youth tremendously. They also suggested combining programs with community centres, schools and recreation services would be beneficial.
- **Skate Environments:** Youth skaters can benefit and generally support safer and more usable skate spaces through covered space, lighting, and access to facilities (bathrooms etc) - female, non-binary, and youth skaters were more likely to note lack of lighting and location/visibility as a barrier.

Youth skaters also suggested that an actual skatepark was not necessary for beginners but even a flat covered dry area with a couple of features next to a school or park could serve this group.

APPENDIX B

Survey 2 : Indoor and Covered Space Summary (All Responses)

- Please please please please put these amenities in indoor public spaces!
- undercover space to skate
- Under Burrard bridge
- How about under the Cambie Bridge or other underused areas that are covered?
- any place that is able to provide rain cover, and dry/safe ground
- Under bridges
- Between Crab Park and the convention centre behind the railroad tracks. Where the old Indy track is by Science World. A downtown indoor park similar to the old RDS indoor park
- Under Cambie bridge southside
- Under the south side of Cambie Bridge
- We need an indoor facility
- Having an indoor park in the mall would be awesome
- Indoor spot is needed
- Under Cambie bridge south or somewhere along the train tracks from Olympic Village to Granville Island
- Underneath Cambie Bridge on the Southside of False Creek is the ideal location for skateable objects. It is an underused, covered, dry and well lit space with good transport connections. Its location underneath a busy road crossing also mitigates noise associated with skateboarding.
- Under the bridge, Harbour Green
- The location isn't as important as the ability to have it indoor or covered.
- I love the new features under Cambie Bridge. Basic skatable spots like that go a long way in the growth of skateboarding, and authentic feel of street skateboarding.
- Covered skatepark! Plaza doesn't count!
- Anywhere undercover!
- Covered area near convention centre
- Under Cambie bridge (keep the benches)
- As you know the Vancouver skateboard community really needs more options for places to go when it's raining. Could any of these locations- like Coopers Park for example- be possible to locate the skate space in a covered area like under a bridge?
- All great, easily accessible but needs cover (117 days of rain in 2020)
- Please build an indoor park or one sheltered from the rain

APPENDIX B

- Under Burrard bridge
- Undercover spots is big issue
- Please keep the granite benches under Cambie Street Bridge!
- Please leave the current benches under Cambie Bridge in place. They are a key, safe resource for all ages right now and very necessary for the upcoming winter and rainy days
- Under Cambie Bridge!
- Under cambie st bridge. South side. Real shame that community didn't want the skateboarders around.
- A smaller modular facilities or ramp could be a great thing to implement at a spot like Crab park. This area has also had homeless communities pushed out and something unifying could add to the sense of community rather than make people feel unwelcome and displaced. Any and all beaches would benefit heavily from having seasonal (covered) areas for people to use during wet weather conditions for people to share and enjoy, especially for families, children and youth!
- The areas need to be covered.
- under burrard bridge southwest end
- Something covered and dry only please. Very important. Please make a place just for skating not walking or green space or chilling. Just skating. Most pedestrians get mad when they have to share the space with skaters. Too loud and we are too chaotic.
- We need covered areas to skate.
- Covered spot under south side of Cambie bridge.
- There needs to be a dry spot to skate.
- Covered spots
- Covered/dry spots to skate.
- Make sure there are coverings to allow gatherings and skating in the rain
- Please put the granite ledges back under the Cambie st bridge, that was a perfect skate spot for the winter season. The people complaining about the sound of skateboarding who live near by, already live beside a loud bridge with tons of traffic and large trucks driving at all hours of the day/night, so to remove a skate spot due to people complaining about sound is completely unreasonable and unfair to the people who were utilizing the beautiful spot the city created for skateboarding.
- Under the Cambie bridge seems like a great spot. It's already covered, paved and not very close to residences that could be affected by noise.
- Make a covered park or allocate a covered place for us to build an you would satisfy all skateboarders!

APPENDIX B

- Under Lions Gate Bridge
- South side of 4th street under the granville bridge.
- Anywhere that could be indoor or covered is best for skateboarding
- I skate a lot at Coopers park under the bridge as it is a good rainy day spot. It gets a bit crowded with basketball players, maybe even having another basketball area to create more space would be good. That and upgrading and installing some new features at the existing coopers park skatepark, like some low flatbars.
- coopers is tough because its so close to plaza and they are both almost undercover. would be better to just properly enclose plaza if any money is going to be spent on that side of the district.
- Britannia skatepark could be turned into a covered spot with skylights in the ceiling for summer with a smooth big area to practice for beginners and lessons or event hosts to set up outside of the skateboarding area There's also the old Granville island train bridge its just rotting away it could be made into a covered boat ocean themed skatepark also would then be a tourist attraction just a safe place skaters and people to skate out of the weather and away from the roads Thanks
- Coopers park is a great space but the ground is decaying. It requires repaving under the bridge.
- Coopers park already has skateboard amenities. The trouble is it's so cold by the water during the rainy season when the spot should be most used
- Safety is a big concern. I (a female skateboarder) and other skateboarders/BMXers (men and women) won't go to a park if we feel that the potential for crime / violence / theft is there. Please build well lit covered bowls / covered half pipes for all ability levels, with washroom facilities! Second Beach is not easily accessible via Public Transit. In as much as it'd be awesome to have a skatepark at Crab Park, you'd really need to make the area safe first. You really need to put covered skateparks with bowls closer to Waterfront Station. Many of the new locations you're suggesting are in areas that are not easy to get to via public transit (Kits, Jericho Beach, Cornwall).
- Make them covered
- Anything with a covered area to keep us skating through the rainy winter!!!! Please!
- The best way to improve exsisting parks is to add rain coverings and add lights for more night/winter use. Winters are mild but rainy and dark, lights allow for a park to be used in many more hours and seasons in a year. We live in a very rainy city and it is atonishing that we do not have more rain infrastructure. Public washrooms are also very useful near skateparks
- Add to the existing skate parks and cover them so we can use them more than 3 months of the year. Build parks under bridges and other dry places so its money well spent.

APPENDIX B

- Skateboarders will literally take any space made available to us. Any and all opportunities to provide Vancouver with more amenities would be “strongly supported. ” Nothing has been built to address the needs of skateboarders in Vancouver for 10 years. No covered, spaces that are safe and inclusive to all skateboarders exist anywhere in Vancouver. The last skateboard strategy ended 10 years ago and at that time it was clearly stated “there are not enough spaces for the user group”, now 10 years have passed, the Olympics have showcased skateboarding to the world, popularity is exploding at an all time high, and the facilities are now being used for “all wheel activities ” when they were overwhelmed with just skateboarders when they were built.
- the molson plant by the Burrard bridge is not scheduled to be torn down to make condos until at least 2025. in the mean time, we should put some mini ramps and whatnot in there so there is somewhere to skate in the rainy season. the city needs indoor mini ramps!
- Definitely need more on the west side, ideally in Kitsilano where density and families live. A covered space in Kits would be amazing, like under a bridge or in a covered facility. There is nowhere for kids to skateboard through the rainy months
- Quilchena expansion/fixup or rain cover!
- On the map it looks like one park that is being considered is Granville Loop Park on the south side of the Granville bridge. Again if there was unused park space under a bridge it would be great to have a skate spot that is protected from the rain.
- Please consider a dry spot.
- Indoor or covered park is needed with lights!
- We need covered areas to skate.
- Under Cambie bridge! The ledges were just taken out! That area was perfect and it sucks that people from the city didn't realize how much just a spot with three ledges can do for our community in the seasons of fall and winter. Having that spot also helps the younger generation of coming up skaters to have a fun and dry place to learn and meet new people
- Under Burrard bridge near Vanier park. It's already undercover. Just put some concrete down at the very least. There's no pedestrian traffic so people can't complain. It would be perfect.. use existing infrastructure to provide the cover
- Pave under Burrard bridge. It's perfect use of existing cover, and it is the way of pedestrians. Be smart about this! We need covered areas and this would allow for a big skate park suited to all levels
- Quilchena skatepark, we should either be able to have lights to be able to skate past 6pm, or have a section, or most of the park undercover. We have almost nothing to skate when it's raining.
- Under Burrard bridge. There is already noise from the bridge traffic and there are no residential buildings, so no one would be bothered by the skatepark .

APPENDIX B

- Hillcrest Park already has a community centre located in it with many public amenities and community related events and classes. There are 4 baseball diamonds which I believe is already too many. Making at least one of those into an extension of the community centre into a mix indoor/outdoor skate park would be perfect. It even easier to access than Queen Elizabeth Park which requires a trek uphill to its peak.
- Just need something covered and dry. Anyplace will do.
- Indoor park or some sort of covered park should be a priority.
- Dry spot please.
- Queen Elizabeth park is a perfect place for a covered skate park it would fit in with all the other field and sports spaces around the community center.
- Anything with a roof and able to skate through the winter without annoying the neighbours in the area
- Hastings Park has the potential to include a more open facility, instead of just the big bowl. That could include remodeling the existing 'street pit' around the bowl. It is also a good area to look at indoor options in partnership with the PNE.
- Spots with cover from rain
- Something covered and dry. Not waking path or bike path please. Doesn't matter where it is we just need something
- There needs to be a dry spot
- Britannia courts skatepark! Build a roof for courts please and don't tear it down it is a very important park of the East Van community! So important I can't stress that enough
- There is lots of potential in Renfrew or P.N.E area. The problem now is the bowl is uncovered and only caters to one style of skating. There needs to be more street boarder obstacle style park added and covered. So many kids are doing this style now. Also it rains so much that covered parks are needed. They have one in Cloverdale I believe that is great but so far to go to get there. Also indoor would be great as well. Some building at the P.N.E could be used for this. Especially in the winter. Temporary structures could easily be used in these places.
- Under an overpass, under a bridge, under a skytrain line
- Save Britannia courts!!! It is the only space that is truly open to all levels and abilities. Make it a covered area for the winter!
- Make them covered

APPENDIX C

Survey 2 : Renovation Summary

- Norquay Park on kingsway features a long ledge that has been used by the skateboarding community for a few years now. it could be benefitted by a similar angle iron upgrade like Brewers Park just received!
- Grandview park would be a cool place to build something. Also Strathcona skatepark has infinite potential for expansion/growth!
- Add new features and upgrade/update China Creek skatepark.
- Renovate China Creek Park
- Hastings Park has the potential to include a more open facility, instead of just the big bowl. That could include remodeling the existing 'street pit' around the bowl. It is also a good area to look at indoor options in partnership with the PNE.
- Please re surface Strathcona Skatepark. Do not change the park, just make it all concrete instead of asphalt to concrete. Please!
- Strathcona park has a very old skatepark, but there is so much room for extension in this location. It's quite central, easy to commute to, and far enough from residents so noise isn't an issue. I dream of a big skatepark, partially covered with night lights here!
- Leaside would hugely benefit from new amenities, ledges etc
- Strathcona Park has a lot of potential for a major extension / rebuild. The park itself doesn't get a ton of use as is, and the location is great given its proximity to the Adanac bike path.
- East Vancouver has lots of skateboarders and parks are very spread out. Especially without car or bike. Mount pleasant park is amazing and non intimidating size but gets busy very quickly due to location and accessibility of features. Hastings is world class but too scary for majority or a lot of skaters. Having smaller bowl or mini ramp would really help next generation and other less confident skaters. Kensington very good but also quite scary for lots of skaters.
- Expand china creek skatepark
- Norquay Park has a significant amount of space and could benefit from a skatepark as I've seen people skate the ledges at the basketball court there.
- Leaside.. I strongly support the expansion of this park because it is under covered and protected from the rain and has lights and can be used at night
- Kensington, rebuild and expand, that park is terrible and a death trap
- The best way to improve existing parks is to add rain coverings and add lights for more night/winter use. Winters are mild but rainy and dark, lights allow for a park to be used in many more hours and seasons in a year. We live in a very rainy city and it is astonishing that we do not have more rain infrastructure. Public washrooms are also very useful near skateparks
- Quilchena skatepark, we should either be able to have lights to be able to skate past 6pm, or have a section, or most of the park undercover. We have almost nothing to skate when it's raining.
- Expand Quilchena

APPENDIX C

- Strathcona desperately needs to be rebuilt and expanded. If we cut into the hillside between the road and skatepark we could design a park in a large 0 shape that could be skated like a continuous track
- As you know the Vancouver skateboard community really needs more options for places to go when it's raining. Could any of these locations- like Coopers Park for example- be possible to locate the skate space in a covered area like under a bridge?
- Apart from plaza and coopers park nothing else legal to skate in downtown island. Both of those parks are very street focused style of skating and not very welcoming to beginners as they are quite challenging and complex.
- I have a lot of roller skate/in-line skating people who meet at sunset beach! Lights and a smoother/ possibly covered area near there would be amazing and so needed in our community.
- I skate a lot at Coopers park under the bridge as it is a good rainy day spot. It gets a bit crowded with basketball players, maybe even having another basketball area to create more space would be good. That and upgrading and installing some new features at the existing coopers park skatepark, like some low flatbars.
- coopers is tough because its so close to plaza and they are both almost undercover. would be better to just properly enclose plaza if any money is going to be spent on that side of the district.
- Turn Cooper's Park into a better skate spot, it's already so perfect! Moveable temporary skate sculptures at VAG too

APPENDIX D

Survey 2 : DIY Spaces, Skate Spots and Britannia

- I would rather have them all in one spot, that is meant for skateboarding. But as long as it's not taking obstacles AWAY from Britannia & the like, then I'm all for it.
- Yes without skate stoppers and having hand rails too skate would be so cool. A simple skate spot can be located any where doesn't have to be on a green way or bike way whatever than means. A skate spot look at the art Gallery famous skate spot that got messed up by barriers or cibc rail before the skate stoppers.
- Lot 19 (known as New Spot in the skateboarding community) is a cultural heritage site that honestly sparked the birth of modern street skateboarding as we know it today. I think something could be done in terms of scheduling certain hours that it is legally skateable. A similar project had a lot of success in Bordeaux, France and could be a very easy model to follow!
- Remove skate stops from all parks in the lower mainland
- Something in or near Olympic village would be cool. Easy access from seawall (which is a pleasant route to travel by skateboard or bike)
Whole area around where the giant birds are is already used and fun in many places"
- I love the new features under cambie bridge. Basic skatable spots like that go a long way in the growth of skateboarding, and authentic feel of street skateboarding.
- Please keep the granite benches under Cambie bridge! They are so meaningful to the skateboard community.
- Please keep the granite benches under Cambie Street Bridge!
- Please leave the current benches under Cambie Bridge in place. They are a key, safe resource for all ages right now and very necessary for the upcoming winter and rainy days
- Under cambie st bridge. South side. Real shame that community didn't want the skateboarders around.
- Put the benches back under the Cambie bridge. I don't skateboard anymore, but this is the sort of thing that give cities character.
- Leave the benches under the south side of the Cambie bridge in place.
- The art gallery stairs have always been a great location for skater, however I was disappointed to see that they have introduced elements (large pots, rails etc.) to deter people from skating there recently. You already had a great spot for people but it got taken away.
- Leave the benches under cambie bridge. Seriously..There's so much space for everyone
- Please put the granite ledges back under the Cambie st bridge, that was a perfect skate spot for the winter season. The people complaining about the sound of skateboarding who live near by, already live beside a loud bridge with tons of traffic and large trucks driving at all hours of the day/night, so to remove a skate spot due to people complaining about sound is completely unreasonable and unfair to the people who were utilizing the beautiful spot the city created for skateboarding.
- Make Britannia Courts permanent!!!
- Britannia courts, keep it for skateboarding, skateboarders have done tremendous work to keep the place colorful and full of life

APPENDIX D

- I have a lot of roller skate/in-line skating people who meet at sunset beach! Lights and a smoother/ possibly covered area near there would be amazing and so needed in our community.
- Britannia skatepark could be turned into a covered spot with skylights in the ceiling for summer with a smooth big area to practice for beginners and lessons or event hosts to set up outside of the skateboarding area There's also the old Granville island train bridge its just rotting away it could be made into a covered boat ocean themed skatepark also would then be a tourist attraction just a safe place skaters and people to skate out of the weather and away from the roads Thanks
- Opening up office building courtyards and grounds to skating. Remove all the anti-skateboarding features.
- Leave the granite benches under cambie bridge
- Dunno what it is called but it is close to Roger's arena on the seawall. People already skate the curbs there. Fix them! Add signs that inform people skating is allowed, and maybe a water fountain or bathroom
- Again all great locations consider under cover. A DIY spot was created in the summer under the Burrard bridge by granville island not being used until skaters did then it became "valuable land" could be even more valuable to the community than a price tag.
- Under Cambie bridge! The ledges were just taken out! That area was perfect and it sucks that people from the city didn't realize how much just a spot with three ledges can do for our community in the seasons of fall and winter. Having that spot also helps the younger generation of coming up skaters to have a fun and dry place to learn and meet new people
- Vanier park had an covered DIY spot that was torn down this year. I think that location would be great for an skatepark under the bridge.
- Benches under the south side of Cambie bridge were great. Douglas Park where the cement pool would work too.
- Grays Park-many local kids need an outlet for biking and skating. They've been ripping up the joint and making launchpad. Voting with their shovels. A designated space for them would be great.
- Norquay Park on kingsway features a long ledge that has been used by the skateboarding community for a few years now. it could be benefitted by a similar angle iron upgrade like Brewers Park just received!
- Britannia Park #SaveBritannaCourts
- Britannia
- britannia tennis courts
- The Britannia sport court is a great current location - the green Granville Island ramp should be permanently relocated there. It is fenced in and can be easily locked everyday and would be an easy place to build a roof to keep it dry and safe from the elements.
- Make Britannia's park official
- Pandora park already has skaters using the courts. We could highly benefit from one there. Before the redevelopment it had a skateable bank. We were all devastated there's nothing for us anymore there.

APPENDIX D

- I know that Britannia is being considered. I own properties nearby that have been affected by the current DIY skatepark in the tennis court. I'm not against it becoming a skatepark but I'm not in favour of the graffiti and vandalism in and around the area. It's become a mess and it's bringing more damage and graffiti to surrounding private property. The graffiti in and around the tennis courts is being cleaned too infrequently or not at all.
- Britannia Courts!
- Britannia Community Center area (Close to schools, community center and transit) ,New Brighton Park, Templeton Park,
- Britannia courts is a great skatepark! The mural bike path by the school could be paved!
- Keep Britannia courts!
- Keep brittania courts
- Pandora park would benefit greatly from some skate infrastructure.
- Grandview Park ? I guess there is already one by Britannia... Anywhere where there are at-risk youth. Skate park locations should be prioritized in low income neighbourhoods, where youth are the most vulnerable.
- The courts at Britannia should remain open and accessible.
- Britannia Courts Park
- Britannia!!!
- Britannia courts skatepark! Build a roof for courts please and don't tear it down it is a very important park of the East Van community! So important I can't stress that enough

APPENDIX E

Survey 2 Skate Amenities Along Greenways / Bikeways:

- While I do strongly support this it is only in specific instances. For example some bike ways are always very busy and I could see a lot of accidents or confrontations happening between cyclists and skaters. So yes to features on greenways and also on bikeways but smart bikeways.
- They could be designed to not interfere with a bike route by having it built as a short lateral extension from a bike path or greenway. That way, skaters won't get in the way of bikers, while allowing both users to share part of that hardscape terrain.
- Support as long as it's to the side. Skateboarding near bikers can be dangerous if was on an actual bike way. But right off to the side would work
- This will most likely be met with conflict between pedestrians and skaters. Pedestrian and bike pathways are usually one direction, skateboarding is all directions and can be unpredictable. There is to many risks of boards shooting out and hitting passersby. A better option would be dedicated space for the skateboard activities.
- Yes without skate stoppers and having hand rails too skate would be so cool. A simple skate spot can be located any where doesn't have to been on a green way or bike way whatever than means. A skate spot look at the art Gallery famous skate spot that got messed up by barriers or cibc rail before the skate stoppers,
- The answer is complex. Skateboarding on a shared pathway with cyclists is dangerous, unless there is a good barrier/divide between cyclists and skateboarders. Otherwise I strongly support small skateboard features being built around the city's greenways and paths.
- I think this would be cool tho I would put big bright bold signs prior to the location, that are so obvious no one can claim not seeing the warnings for a skate spot and oncoming traffic. Getting hit by a bike sucks. Hitting someone on a bike sucks. Otherwise the further away from the bike lane the better.
- This is very specific question with tons of variation. I would need to see specific locations to comment accurately, some places are obviously way better than others.
- These might work if they are along greenways adjacent to bikeways, but not right next to the bikeway asphalt. I'm imagining something like the bikeway between Victoria & Nanaimo along Grandview highway. Something that would face away from the bikeway with grass in between so an errant skateboard won't fly into the path of a cyclist or other users.
- When putting a skate amenity along a bikeway there will be almost immediate backlash from bikers and foot traffic saying that they skaters hanging out at the ledge or spot along a transportation route are a hazard. If there is ample buffer room between the other bike and foot traffic and the obstacle there will be more success at making everyone using the space happy. The most important and positive amenity would be a covered skate amenity or group in a plaza like setting where skaters and community members can use the space with priority going to skateboarders.

APPENDIX F

Sample of Answers: Stanley District

- I have a lot of roller skate/in-line skating people who meet at sunset beach! Lights and a smoother/ possibly covered area near there would be amazing and so needed in our community.
- Please consider park proximity to transit as most skateboarders use public transit when the distance is too far to travel on a skateboard. This being said building parks in hard to reach neighborhoods is also important for those in said community.
- The best way to improve existing parks is to add rain coverings and add lights for more night/winter use. Winters are mild but rainy and dark, lights allow for a park to be used in many more hours and seasons in a year. We live in a very rainy city and it is astonishing that we do not have more rain infrastructure. Public washrooms are also very useful near skateparks
- All options with seawall access seem like a great choice - in addition to being able to skate along the seawall to a park, many skateboarders I know bicycle to skateparks and the seawall makes that very accessible.
- I skate a lot at Coopers park under the bridge as it is a good rainy day spot. It gets a bit crowded with basketball players, maybe even having another basketball area to create more space would be good. That and upgrading and installing some new features at the existing coopers park skatepark, like some low flat bars.
- South side of 4th street under the Granville bridge. We desperately need covered spots in this wet west coast.
- I think that Sunset Beach would be perfect for a new park. During the green ramp pop-up this summer - we had many community members come out and express their support for a park in this location. I've lived near Sunset Beach for a few years now, and believe this would be an excellent space for new skate amenities. Second Beach and Charleston Park are too far for people to access easily, and Crab Park is occupied heavily by Vancouver's homeless population which makes it unsafe - it is also hard to access.
- I have lived in the west end for over 15 years. The parking lot at Sunset beach would be ideal for a small mini ramp or a few ledges/ramps. Anything larger than that may take away from the peaceful relaxed environment and neighborhood.
- We desperately need a skateboard park/amenity for the West End so we don't have to drive anywhere! As it is now there's only the Plaza (which is still a long way), and it's basically unskate-able for kids at most hours of the day, given either homeless/needles in morning or expert skaters rest of day. We currently drive to Ambleside, but would be amazing to have something local. Lots of kids grow up in the West End too but rarely have amenities built for them.
- As a family who uses skateparks regularly we feel they should be everywhere. The growing numbers of young kids and familys using them is growing daily, they are a postive space for everyone!
- Any park that is more centralized in relation to the surrounding community would be a good place if it is at the centre of an area it offers the most ease of access for those within the community.

APPENDIX F

Sample of Answers: North District

- Norquay Park on Kingsway features a long ledge that has been used by the skateboarding community for a few years now. It could be benefitted by a similar angle iron upgrade like Brewers Park just received!
- Hastings Park has the potential to include a more open facility, instead of just the big bowl. That could include remodeling the existing 'street pit' around the bowl. It is also a good area to look at indoor options in partnership with the PNE.
- Jonathan Rogers seems to be a prime location! Slocan would be a good spot near transit too.
- More in the Hastings-Sunrise area. Hastings and Leaside are cool, but very limited in scope and unfriendly to beginners and street skaters
- Pandora park already has skaters using the courts. We could highly benefit from one there. Before the redevelopment it had a skateable bank. We were all devastated there's nothing for us anymore there.
- Trout Lake is the perfect space for a new park. Close to amenities, existing sports facilities.
- As a property owner as well as home owner and resident of east Vancouver I see a lot of the parks have cement "kiddie" pools that no longer get filled. Wouldn't almost any of those be a good place for skate obstacles? They'd definitely get more use that way and not just be a waste of public park space. Also what about Bates park under the second narrows bridge?
- A lot of people skate around the Emily Carr campus and the plazas surrounding it. Since there is so much development going on in the South Flats area, it would be a great opportunity to introduce more skate friendly plazas and architecture.
- East Vancouver has lots of skateboarders and parks are very spread out. Especially without car or bike, Mount Pleasant Park is amazing and non intimidating size but gets busy very quickly due to location and accessibility of features. Hastings is world class but too scary for majority or a lot of skaters. Having smaller bowl or mini ramp would really help next generation and other less confident skaters. Kensington very good but also quite scary for lots of skaters.
- All these locations are good. I like the idea of trout lake and especially Jonathan Rogers park as it's very accessible to skate/bike to for me and all my friends.
- Plenty of room for skate amenities in one of the 4 giant parking lots in this park. I would support it in a parking lot. I would be against paving any more of the park over for skating or any other purpose though.
- Templeton Community centre. East Vancouver needs more options, feels ignored by planners.
- I'm strongly supporting all locations because we need it more than ever! With how popular skateboarding has gotten over the last few years. We need new stuff as soon as possible.
- The old DIY spot at cedar cottage park in the old unused tennis court was great. Would be nice to see something back there.

APPENDIX F

Sample of Answers: South District

- Hillcrest Park already has a community centre located in it with many public amenities and community related events and classes. There are 4 baseball diamonds which I believe is already too many. Making at least one of those into an extension of the community centre into a mix indoor/outdoor skate park would be perfect. It even easier to access than Queen Elizabeth Park which requires a trek uphill to its peak.
- These parks are not central enough to attract users - transportation is lacking, as is parking. Smaller skate amenities, sure, but the main attractions ought to be closer to the city core.
- Kensington, rebuild and expand, that park is terrible and a death trap
- Lots of active/sports facilities at Memorial South already could be a good option
- Sunset is perfect, lots of space waiting to be filled in the district with the fewest parks (counting UBC as West). Depending what all the redevelopments on 49th look like Langara Park could host something too. It doesn't serve much of a purpose currently, aside from the YMCA using it
- Queen Elizabeth Park needs a paved path with hairpin corners on the big grass hill by the duck pond for longboarders/downhill skateboarders!
- The location isn't as important as having it indoor or covered.
- The South District area has been lacking in proper facilities and amenities for skateboarding for a long while, the integration of smaller, movable features and covered spaces for community initiatives to take place would add to the overall engagement of these spaces and help address the need for the even distribution of these spaces! The spaces in between municipalities (Van/Richmond border) often get overlooked and are sparse in meeting spots/ parks.
- Again, think these south locations are a great idea. Let's bring skateparks to those kids living on the outer sections of Vancouver.
- I think there is potential to upgrade Kensington park to have more room for younger skateboards. Current park is very high level.
- Basically anywhere you see a tennis court, could be turned into a skate park. I see 100 times more skateboarders than people playing tennis.
- Queen Elizabeth park is a perfect place for a covered skate park it would fit in with all the other field and sports spaces around the community center.
- Queen Elizabeth or Hillcrest would be fantastic. Both a destination and centrally located
- Memorial South has ample space, close to transit. Queen Elizabeth is a good option but maybe Hillcrest or Riley Park are more suitable as they are more flat.
- Grays Park-many local kids need an outlet for biking and skating. They've been ripping up the joint and making launchpad. Voting with their shovels. A designated space for them would be great.
- William Mackie Park!! Give Marpole a skatepark! We deserve some sweet amenities, I live blocks from here and would be there all the time. Oak Park is another brilliant location(strongly agree!!!), That old batting cage between the gravel pitch and Parkhouse could easily be replaced with a similar skatepark to Mt Pleasant.

APPENDIX F

Sample of Answers: West District

- I think Vanier or either of the beaches have lots of space and the right vibe for a skatepark. Decent access. Beach parks could be great for the city's culture like Ambleside is in West van
- Add to the existing skate parks and cover them so we can use them more than 3 months of the year. Build parks under bridges and other dry places so its money well spent.
- Maybe they could include skate amenities if the McBride Park street closure becomes permanent?
- "Kid-oriented amenities at Granville Park? It would be nice to have somewhere where they can be a little wobbly and don't need to compete with older skaters. The west side needs to accommodate their fair share of skate amenities and support this activity.
- Somewhere along the Arbutus Greenway
- Kits Beach park is a great place for a skatepark since there is nothing between Downtown Plaza and UBC. Also it is a great park. I think kits area is best suited for a skatepark
- Vanier Park would be super cool to see a park in, or any of the beach parks would also be amazing!
- Beach front skateparks at Jericho/ Kitsilano would be perfect for the area/ community
- Quilchena expansion/fixup or rain cover!
- On the map it looks like one park that is being considered is Granville Loop Park on the south side of the Granville bridge. Again if there was unused park space under a bridge it would be great to have a skate spot that is protected from the rain.
- Again all great locations consider under cover. A DIY spot was created in the summer under the Burrard bridge by granville island not being used until skaters did then it became "valuable land" could be even more valuable to the community than a price tag.
- this portion of the city has the least amount of parks/spots dedicated to skateboarding despite strong youth participation in the area. we need a park on the northern portion of this (kits, vanier preferred)
- Literally anywhere in this area that isn't too close to Quilchena or UBC skatepark. So many youth in the West District and very few parks. Again, skateparks close to the water and other popular public spaces are a great idea.
- Under burrard bridge near vanier park. It's already undercover. Just put some concrete down at the very least. There's no pedestrian traffic so people can't complain. It would be perfect..use existing infrastructure to provide the cover
- Vanier park had an covered DIY spot that was torn down this year. I think that location would be great for an skatepark under the bridge.
- in the West keep any future skate amenities near the future Broadway line or Cambie line for accessibility. Also get VSB at the table as many schools are also great locations for skateboard amenities.