



Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Mount Pleasant Skateboard Facility

April 27, 2015

Visit the Park Board web site at vancouverparks.ca



Recommendation

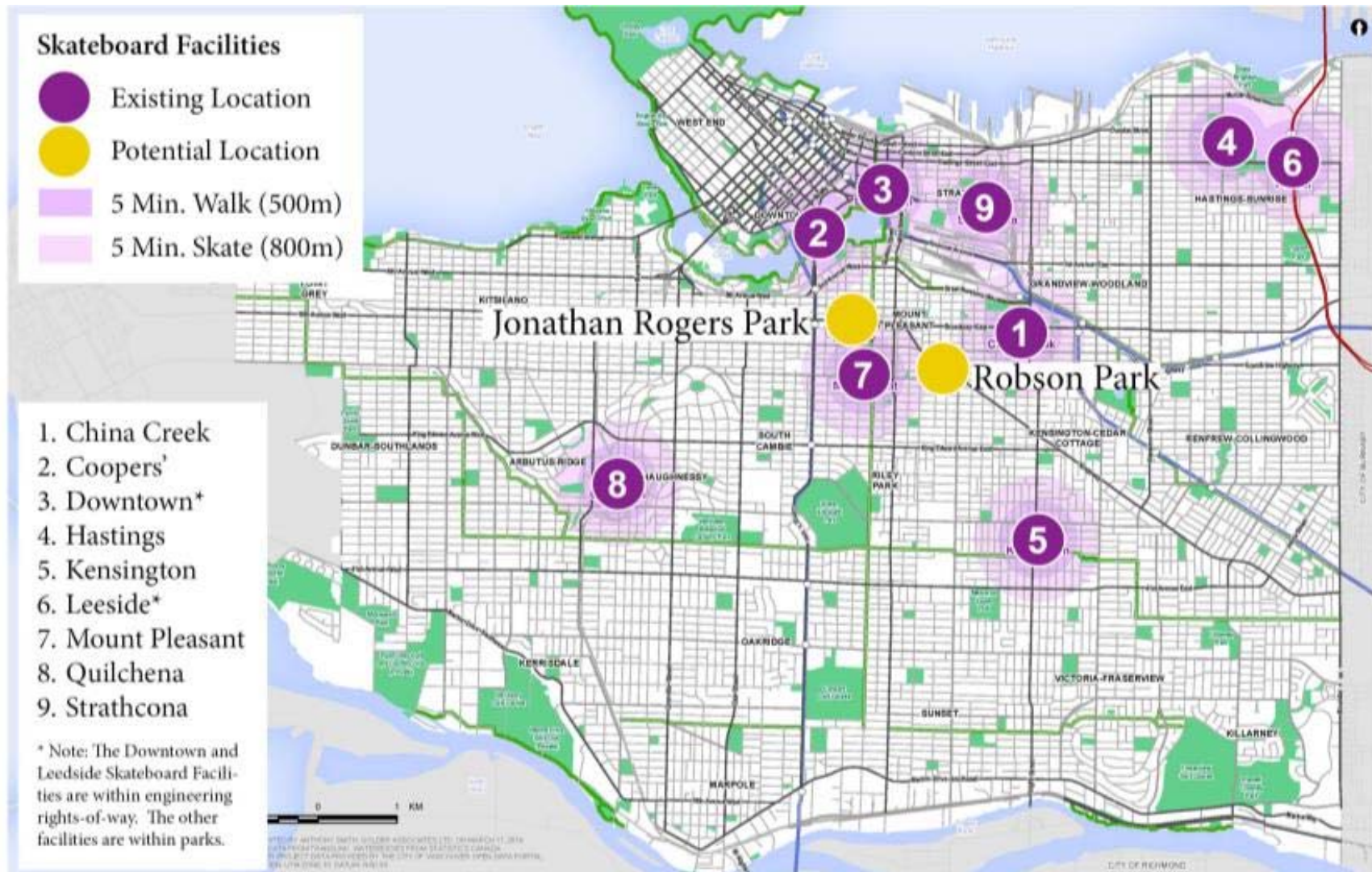
- A. THAT the Board approve locating an intermediate skill level skateboarding facility in Jonathan Rogers Park; and
- B. THAT the Board recommend one of the following options for the Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility:

Option 1 – Convert the Mount Pleasant Park skateboarding facility for beginner skateboarding use;

Option 2 – Remove this facility and convert it to a grass lawn;

Option 3 – Remove this facility and engage with local residents to determine a more appropriate use for the area.

Skateboarding Facilities in Vancouver





Mount Pleasant Park Renewal

- A community supported concept plan for the Mount Pleasant Park upgrade was adopted by the Board in October 2010.
- The park was constructed in 2011-2012, in accordance with the adopted concept plan, including a small skateboarding facility for novices.
- Since opening in 2012, the small skateboard facility is well used by all ages and abilities.
- Staff did not anticipate the need, the high use by adult skateboarders, and the noise resulting from this location.



Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility

- The popularity of skateboarding at Mount Pleasant Park caused unintended noise impacts for nearby residents, especially at night when used by young adults.
- Noise has been the top concern for residents and an independent noise assessment was arranged.
- The results of the study indicate that skateboarding at this facility produces decibel levels that exceed the City's Noise Control Bylaw.



Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility

- Staff retained an independent engagement consultant to dialogue with stakeholders and residents to review the issues at the Mount Pleasant Park skate board facility and to make recommendations for improvements.
- This resulted in an Action Plan to address the noise in June 2012 delivered in the operation of the facility.





Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility Operations 2012-14

- 2 meetings with the skateboarders in the park
- 5 meetings with the neighbours in the park
- Vancouver Skateboard coalition volunteers provide litter receptacles and promote positive use
- 2013 Recreation staff skateboard host was on site
- August/September 2013 fence and gates constructed and signs posted to restrict hours
- Park rangers increased presence May-September 2013-14
- Night security to 1:00 a.m. hired for peak of summer to enforce closure



Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility

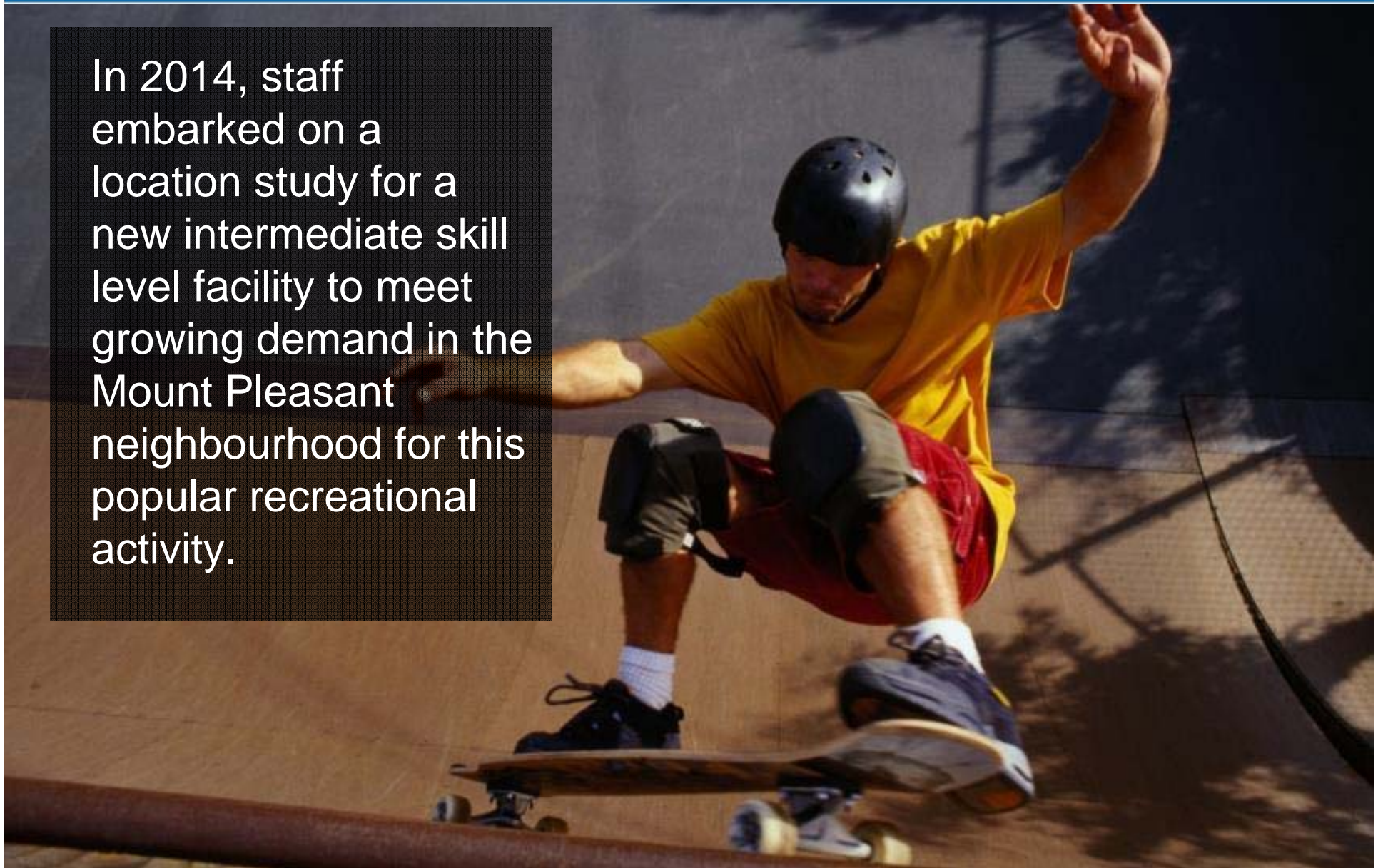
Siting and designing a new and intermediate skill level skateboard facility in the Mount Pleasant neighbourhood was considered integral to the ongoing management of the issues.





Skatepark Location Study

In 2014, staff embarked on a location study for a new intermediate skill level facility to meet growing demand in the Mount Pleasant neighbourhood for this popular recreational activity.





Background

- Applying the 2005 **Skateboard Strategy** location criteria, **Jonathan Rogers Park** and **Robson Park** were identified as potential locations for an intermediate skill level facility
- Interviews were completed with stakeholders near to both parks and no obstacles were identified that excluded either location from further consideration

Skateboard Strategy for Vancouver



Approved by the
Vancouver Park Board
October 31, 2005





The Potential Parks

Jonathan Rogers Park

Manitoba Street & West 7th Avenue



Robson Park

Kingsway & St. George Street



Zoning District:



Light Industrial



Commercial



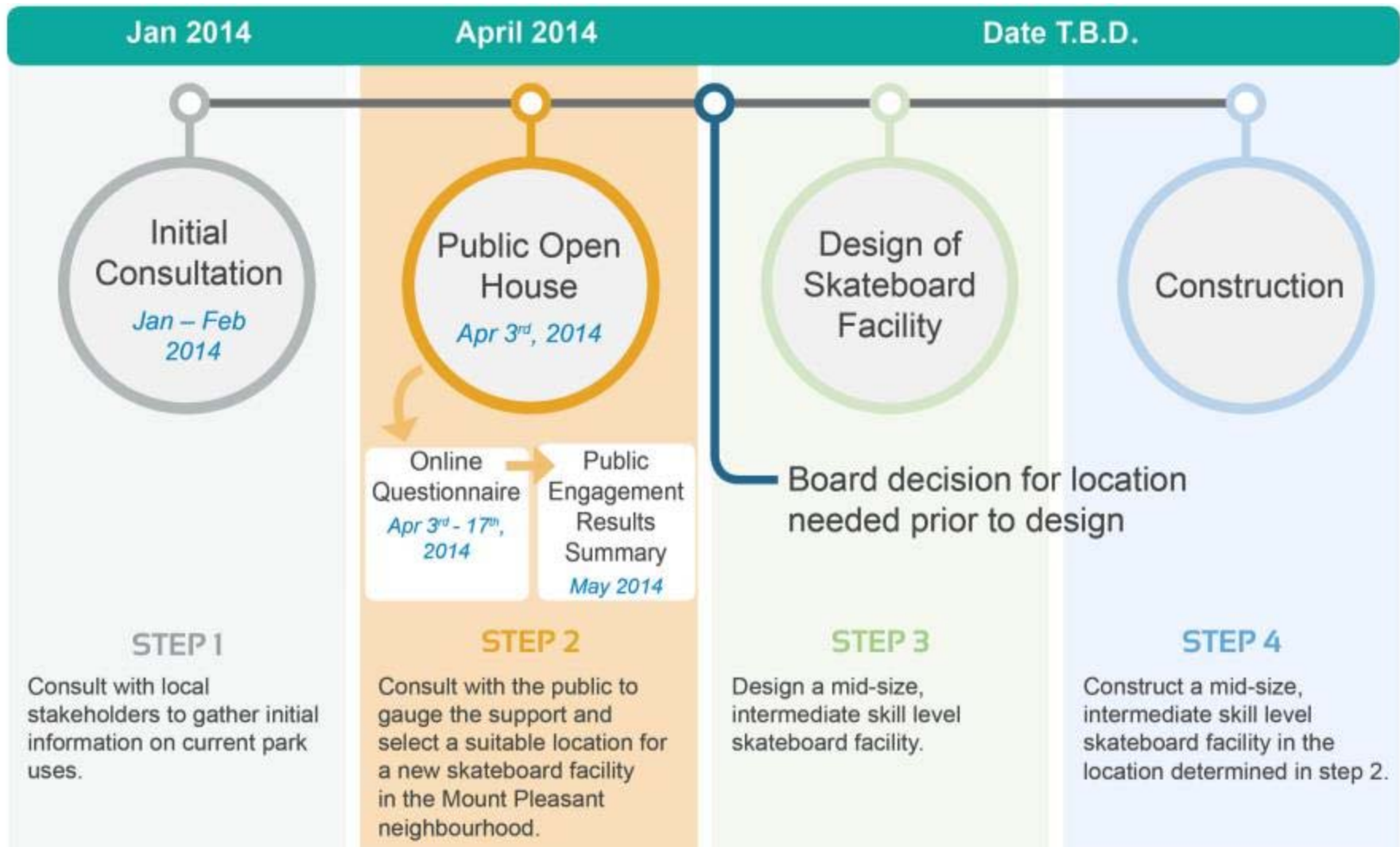
Residential



Commercial with Residential



The Process



Open House

- Thursday, April 3, 2014
- Approximately 140 Participants

Questionnaire

- April 4 - 27, 2014
- 367 Responses

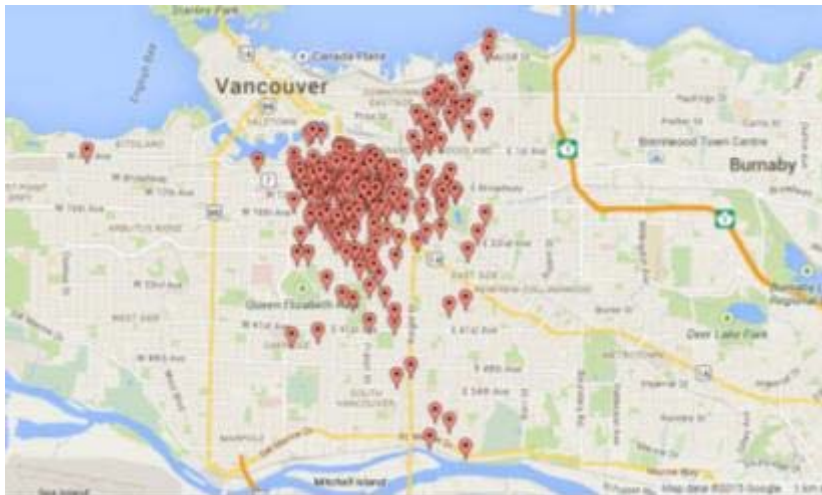




Who Participated?

Where do you live?

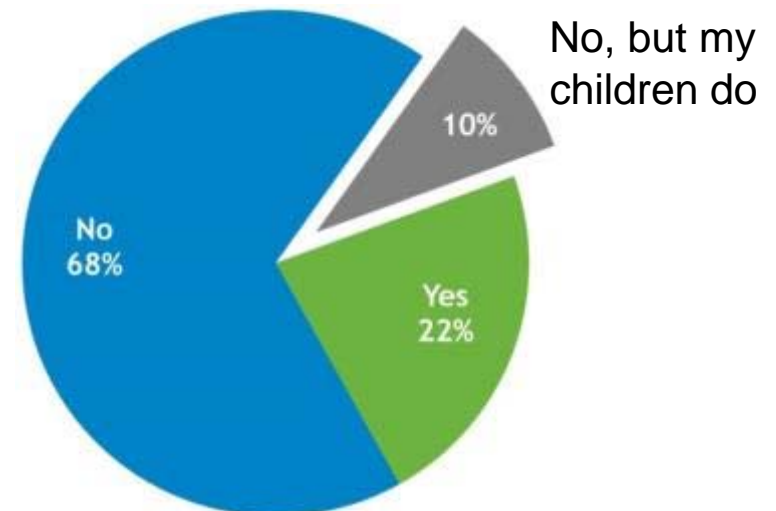
- Majority of participants lived within 3 km of either Jonathan Rogers Park or Robson Park



What's your age?

- 60% = 30 to 49 years
- 20% = 15 to 29 years

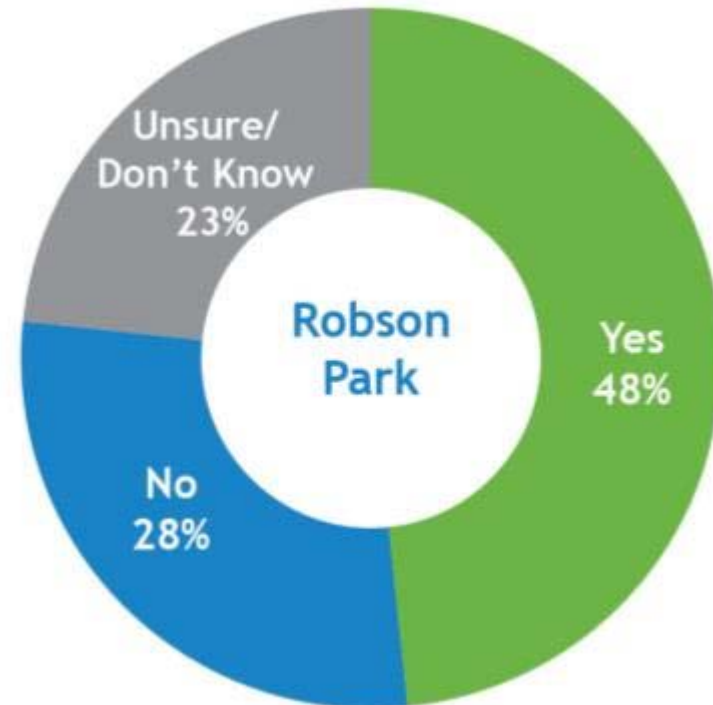
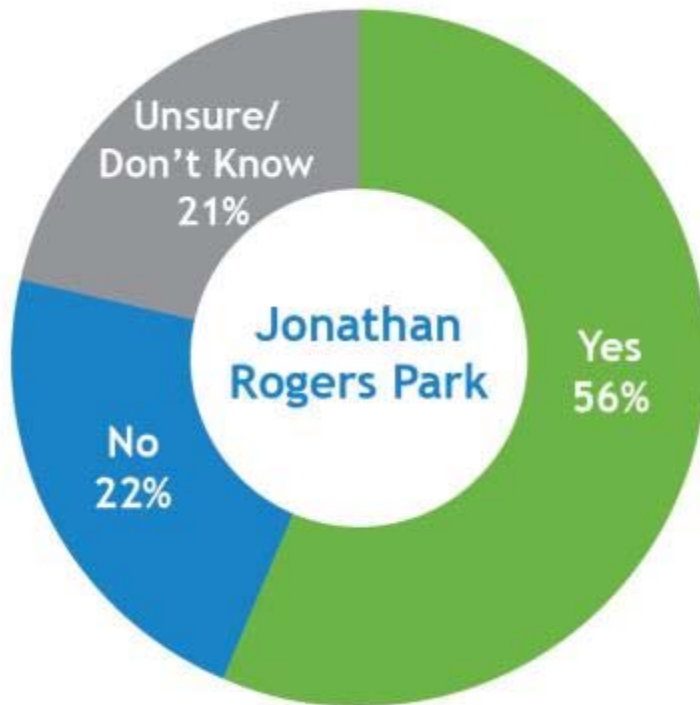
Do you skateboard?





What We Heard

Is the park a suitable location for a skateboarding facility?





What We Heard

Most Important Selection Factors for the Public

- Fit with existing park uses
- Fit with neighbouring land uses

Key Public Concerns

- Noise and hours of use
- Safety
- Impact on other park uses

Skateboard Strategy Location Criteria

- Support services nearby (e.g. washrooms)
- Minimize noise for nearby residents
- Visibility from street or Park Board building
- Other park uses not displaced
- In keeping with the character of the park

Site selection involved:

- considering existing policies, guidelines and strategic directions - including the Vancouver Skateboard Strategy
- public input
- independent professional analysis



Next Steps - Jonathan Rogers Park

If the Board approves locating the skateboarding facility in Jonathan Rogers Park, next steps include:

1. Consult with Vancouver Skateboard Coalition
2. Review existing park uses and upgrades needed
3. Develop concept plan options and cost estimates
4. Consult with residents and stakeholders
5. Refine concepts to a single preferred plan
6. Seek public and stakeholder feedback on preferred concept
7. Final refinement
8. Update the Park Board



Funding

- \$200,000 is earmarked in the current capital plan for a new skateboard facility
- Funding for related park improvements such as playground upgrades, wading pool removal, accessible pathways and design fees is also available
- The features and budgets will be finalized when the project scope is defined.
- Construction start is targeted for 2016



Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility Options and Estimated Costs

- Modified for beginner skateboard use: \$25,000
- Removing and converting it to a grass lawn: \$40,000.
- Removing this facility and engaging with residents to determine another use for the facility, such as a garden or a tricycle run for young children: cost to be determined when use identified.



Recommendation

A. THAT the Board approve locating a intermediate skill level skateboarding facility in Jonathan Rogers Park; and

A wide-angle photograph of Jonathan Rogers Park in Vancouver. The foreground is a large, well-maintained green lawn. In the middle ground, there are several trees, a soccer goal, and a fence. The background shows the Vancouver city skyline with various high-rise buildings, a large white dome structure, and mountains in the distance under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Jonathan Rogers Park



Recommendation

B. THAT the Board recommend one of the following options for the Mount Pleasant Park Skateboard Facility:

- Option 1** – Convert the Mount Pleasant Park skateboarding facility for beginner skateboarding use;
- Option 2** – Remove this facility and convert it to a grass lawn;
- Option 3** – Remove this facility and engage with local residents to determine a more appropriate use for the area.

Questions?

