



SKATEBOARD AMENITIES STRATEGY- INITIAL FINDINGS

Phase 1 Engagement Update

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, July 19, 2021



- To provide an overview and progress update for: **Vancouver CitySkate**, the Park Board Skateboard Amenities Strategy
 - Share results of the 1st Phase of engagement
 - Outline objectives and steps for the 2nd Phase of engagement
 - Share next steps for the project

- July 24, 2017: Park Board unanimously passed the Skateboard Strategy motion “to create a framework for achieving an effective city-wide network of skateboarding amenities that will accommodate current and future recreation needs of all residents”
- In addition, the Strategy will expand on the groundwork and direction provided through VanPlay under Action Sports Asset Targets
 - Vanplay identified asset targets to increase the quantity, quality and diversity of skate parks
 - 1 new skate park + two new skate features per capital plan and a year-round skate park

- Understand the public's current use of and access to skateboard amenities
- Articulate and define service levels
- Provide a long-term vision for skateboarding in Vancouver
- Increase participation in skateboarding and other related action sports
- Provide a flexible “design tool kit” to support the growth of designated and safe skateable spaces across the City
- Develop recommendations for implementation which would one new skatepark in the near future

SCHEDULE

LAUNCH

WINTER 2021



Research

Developing
Working
Groups

LISTEN

SPRING 2021



Engagement

Inventory and Analysis



EXPLORE

SUMMER 2021



Prepare Phase 2
Engagement

Strategy Development

SYNTHESIZE

AUTUMN 2021



Develop
Recommendations

Public Engagement

Draft Strategy

FINALIZE

Winter 2021/2022



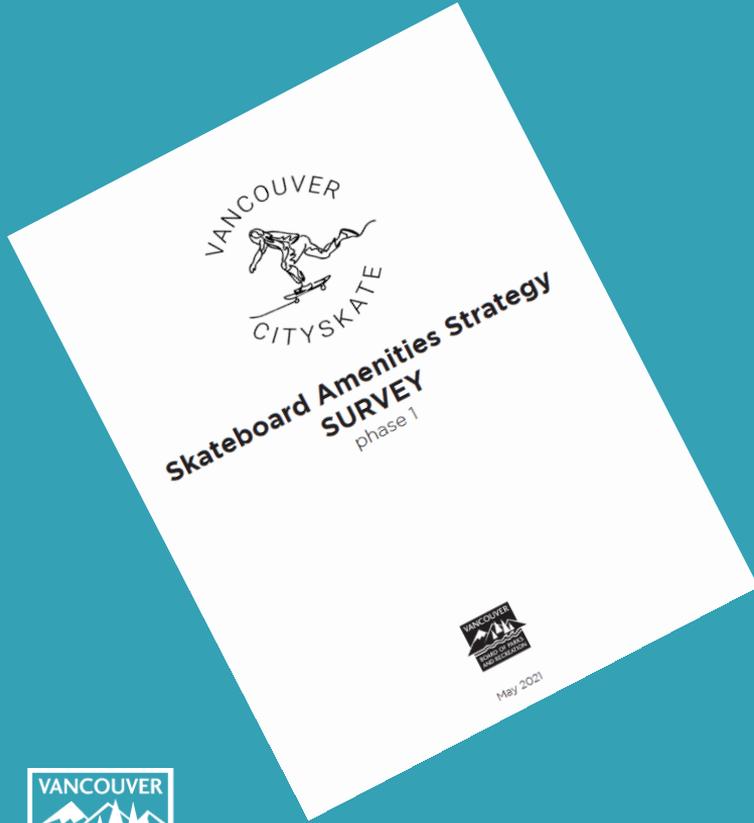
Final Report

Park Board Decision

Phase 1 Engagement



How did we Engage?



ON-LINE SURVEY May 13 – June 13, 2021

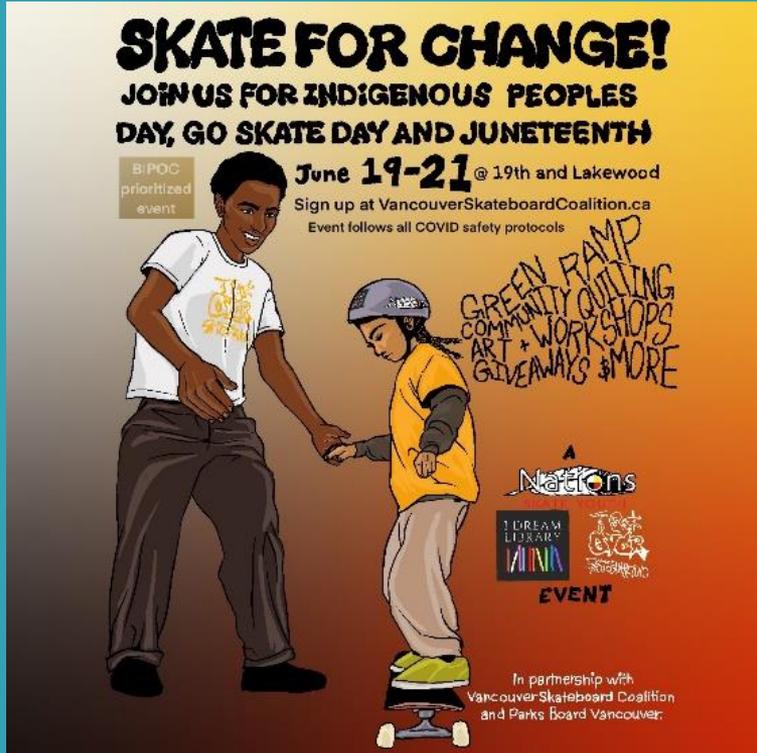
2167 respondents

94% were themselves or a child in their care use skate amenities

71% male, 21.5% female, 7% non-binary or prefer not to say

17% were under 15 years old

How did we Engage?



SKATE FOR CHANGE!
JOIN US FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY, GO SKATE DAY AND JUNETEENTH

B/POC prioritized event

June 19-21 @ 19th and Lakewood
Sign up at VancouverSkateboardCoalition.ca
Event follows all COVID safety protocols

GREEN RAMP
COMMUNITY QUILTING
ART + WORKSHOPS
GIVEAWAYS & MORE

Nations
TUBRAM LIBRARY
JUNETEENTH
EVENT

In partnership with
Vancouver Skateboard Coalition
and Parks Board Vancouver.



POP-UPS – Reduced due to COVID-19

105 attendees total

Date	Location
June 3	Britannia Secondary Courts
June 5	Quilchena Skate Park
June 19 -21	John Hendry Park – Indigenous People’s Day and International Skateboard Day Event “skate for change”



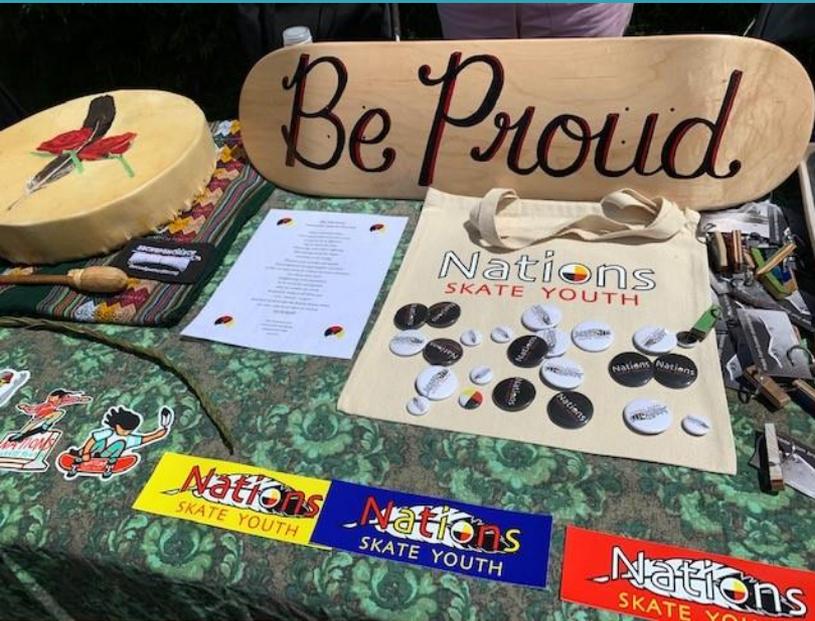
How did we Engage?



OUTREACH AND PROMOTION

- Project Website = 4264 visits
- Posts and video on PB Instagram, Facebook, Twitter
- Flyers and posters distributed around the city
- Stickers and paper surveys distributed at skate shops, pop-ups, park interceptions
- Park signage in all skate parks

How did we Engage?



S.A.G.E. MEETINGS

Skateboard Advisory Group for Engagement

- Vancouver Skateboard Coalition
- Nations Skate
- BMX Community
- Rollerskating Community
- Vancouver Queer/LGBTQ+
- East Van Skate Club
- Undertoe Skateboard Lessons
- Late Bloomers / Takeover + Adult Skate Club

How did we Engage?



Adanac Bikeway

S.P.O.T. MEETINGS

Skate Plan Oversight Team

- Park Board Planning & Park Development
- Park Board Operations
- Park Board Recreation
- Engineering Street Activities
- Engineering Transportation
- Planning
- Real Estate and Facilities Management

Who did we hear from?

Geographic Distribution

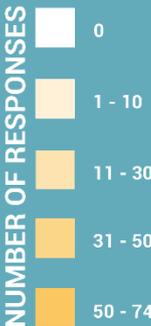
74
MOUNT PLEASANT
(MAIN STREET AREA)

58
MOUNT PLEASANT
(COMMERCIAL / BROADWAY)

42
HASTINGS EAST
(COMMERCIAL DRIVE)

41
HASTINGS EAST
(HASTINGS PARK AREA)

36
KITSILANO
(KIST BEACH TO ALMA)



899
TOTAL RESPONSES
WITH POSTAL CODES

616 (68.5%)
TOTAL RESPONSES
FROM VANCOUVERITES

20 (2.2%)
SEA TO SKY AND
SUNSHINE COAST

60 (6.7%)
NORTH SHORE

36 (4.0%)

74 (8.2%)

42 (4.7%)

41 (4.6%)

58 (6.5%)

82 (9.1%)
BURNABY / PORT MOODY
COQUITLAM / NEW WEST

33 (3.8%)
FRASER VALLEY

52 (5.8%)
SOUTH OF THE RIVER





What did we learn?

Why Skate?

- To enjoy the outdoors (87%)
- To stay active (86%)
- To relieve stress (86%)
- To hang out/meet friends (85%)
- To learn new skills (85%)
- Transportation (50%)
- Other (9%)

“Skateboarding is like nothing else, it is our escape from the world around us”



“Because it’s fun and there’s an amazing community around it”



Where do you skate?

- Park Board skateparks (44%)
- Public areas (44%)
- DIY spaces (43%)
- Streets, sidewalks, paths (43%)*

*Indicates skateboarding as a form of active transportation



© Evgeniy Davydov, 2014



Where are your favourite locations to skate?

- Vancouver Skate Plaza (under viaducts)
- Variety of Street spots
- The rest were quite evenly distributed in skate parks around the city



Britannia Courts



“Sometimes the parks are too busy for beginners so I will often go with my daughter to a less crowded area to roll around, she’s 4 and has been skateboarding for a year”



How are we doing with our skate parks?

Negative: (rated poor to very poor)

- Availability of amenities - 51%
- Distribution across the City of Vancouver – 36%
- Existing condition of surfaces – 26%

Positive (rated good to excellent)

- Overall enjoyment – 67%
- Accessibility (ie. ease of getting to a skatepark) – 48%



How can we improve our skate parks?

- More **covered** skateable spaces (35%)
- More **new spaces** to permit/encourage skateboarding and related sports (33%)
- More **features** (14%)
- **Renovate/repair** current parks



Leeside DIY Skatepark



China Creek Skatepark

If you don't skate, why not?



How can we change negative perceptions?

- Intentionally & safely include in urban spaces (33%)
- More green space around skate areas (32%)
- Locate at community centres and schools (22%)
- Situate far from homes and businesses (6%)
- Can't be integrated (1%)



Temporary Skate Spot
Granville Island (by
VSBC)

Benefits of skateboarding

- Social & community benefits (50%)
- Outdoor recreation (37%)
- Dedicated space for youth (23%)
- Safety of the neighbourhood (15%)

“The skate community is one of the most supportive communities I’ve been exposed to”

“A place for both children and adults to come together for social connection and gathering; to pursue a sport. To me, they support the same end as parks and recreation centres”



Are there drawbacks to skateboarding?

- No drawbacks (44%)
- Concern for noise in residential areas (12%)
- Concern for behavioural issues, such as substance use and disrespect to neighbours (8%)



Summary of what we heard



- Requests for more skate amenities to meet the growing demand
- Requests for more specific skate features
- Requests for covered spaces to promote year-round activity
- Requests for repairs and upgrades to existing amenities, as well as regular maintenance
- Requests for skate amenities more evenly distributed around the city



Next Steps



Next steps

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WINTER 2021



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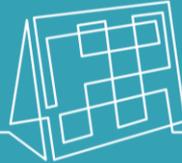
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VIDEO



