



February 14, 2018

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners
FROM : Tiina Mack, Manager of Park Development
SUBJECT : Downtown Skateboard Park - Interim Relocation Engagement Process

Dear Commissioners,

The intent of this memo is to provide you with an update on the status of the interim skate plaza design project prior to issuing public notification for the first round of engagement.

In May of 2017, the Board [approved the engagement process](#) for the location and design of an interim street-style skateboard park to serve the community during the construction of the new street network and parks and open space in Northeast False Creek. Since last May, a candidate site has been identified, a multi-faceted consultant team has been selected, and the engagement strategy has been developed.

Staff conducted a city-wide search and reviewed over twenty locations in order to identify a candidate site for the construction of an interim skate park to serve the 5-7 years during which the Downtown Skateboard Park (Skate Plaza) will be decommissioned during construction in Northeast False Creek. A new skate park will part of the program in the new and renewed parks in Northeast False Creek. Site selection criteria included proximity to downtown, accessible by transit, highly visible, in a safe location, away from residences, and the potential inclusion of cover. After an extensive search, a site was identified beneath the Cambie Street Bridge adjacent the Olympic Village Skytrain Station. The site is currently a gravel field but shows great promise to be a unique skate location partially protected from the elements.

A consultant team was selected which includes van der Zalm and Associates (landscape architects) and New Line Skateparks (skate park designers). Both were involved in the design and implementation of the original Skate Plaza in 2004 and its subsequent upgrades in 2011. In addition to the local firms, Daniel Yabar, an innovative landscape architect and skatepark designer and skateboarder from Spain, will be providing design support.

The engagement strategy includes two public open houses, two skate design workshops, a staff skateboard advisory group and various stakeholder groups including the Vancouver Skateboard Coalition. The first public open house is currently scheduled for March 8th and will be held on site under the Cambie Street Bridge adjacent the Olympic Village Skytrain station. A subsequent design workshop will be held on April 7th to work with a select group of skateboarders to focus on design details. Other engagement events currently planned include a meet and greet with Daniel Yabar which will include a slide presentation on public space and skateboarding in Spain, and an opportunity to skate The Plaza with Daniel and other local skateboard celebrities.



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF
PARKS AND
RECREATION

Mailouts, emails, posters, and social media posts will be sent out over the coming weeks inviting the public and various stakeholders to the first round of engagement events.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tiina Mack".



Tiina Mack, Landscape Architect | Manager of Park Development
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation | 2099 Beach Avenue
t. 604.257.8471 tiina.mack@vancouver.ca

/AMB/TM

Copy to: PB Senior Management Team
PB Communications