







Time Submitted	September 17, 2012 3:41 PM
Project Name: No more than six words	Lake City skatespot
Project Type:	Development
Project Location: Insert address. Please remember that Development Projects must be on public property.	2750 NE 125th St. Seattle, WA 98125
Attach Site Location Map here	 site-map.pdf
Attach Site Photos here (up to 4 photos)	 option1-replace-basketball.jpg  option2-keep-basketball.jpg  IMG_20120917_111335.jpg  IMG_20120917_111453.jpg
Property Owner: If known, name and contact information for private owner, or corporation or business; or public entity of project to be developed/acquired	Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation
Neighborhood:	Lake City Hub Urban Village
Brief Project Description: Please give a brief description of the project in 100 words or less	<p>The Lake City skatespot project is working to add a small skateboard park (skatespot) to Virgil Flaim park, an existing Parks-owned park in the Lake City Hub Urban Village. This site is a recommended location for a skatespot in the Parks' CityWide skatepark plan.</p> <p>The project has strong support of the residents neighboring the park as well as all of the neighborhood and community groups in Lake City. The neighborhood is frustrated about the negative behaviors that have been taking over the park and is enthusiastic about the potential to reactivate this park with a dynamic youth activity.</p>
Anticipated Project Costs:	822875

Other Project Funding: Amount of additional leveraging, grants	90000
Attach Budget here:	 budget.pdf
Proposal Organization:	Parents for Skateparks
Contact Person:	
Mailing Address:	
Zip Code:	
Day/Work Phone:	
Evening/Home Phone:	
Home or Work E-Mail Address:	

Project Goals: In 500 words or less, Describe the project in more detail. What is the intent or goal of the project, e.g., expand an existing park, improve trails or bikeways, habitat restoration or the implementation of sustainable energy practices? How did the idea for the project originate and evolve.

The goal of the project is to design and build a skatespot in the Lake City Hub Urban Village (HUV). The North Neighborhood Plan recommends a skatespot in the Lake City urban core and the Parks department's own City-Wide Skatepark plan has identified the existing, Parks-owned Lake City Playground (recently renamed as Virgil Flaim park) as a recommended site for a skatespot.



The project originated with a small group of Lake City skateboarders and parents who were very excited upon finding the Parks City-wide Skatepark plan and discovering that it recommended a skatespot in Lake City. We then connected with the Parks Skatepark Advisory Committee (SPAC) to get some advice on how to go about advocating and fund raising for a skatespot in our neighborhood. After a bit of research, we realized that the North Neighborhood plan specifically mentions a skatepark for the Lake City urban core. Even though the neighborhood plan is rather old now, after spending some time talking with neighborhood groups and business owners, we discovered that the Lake City community continues to be extremely supportive of a skatepark in the HUV. With that, a project was born to raise more awareness in the neighborhood and raise funding to get a skatespot built.

As mentioned in the North Neighborhood Plan, the Lake City HUV is lacking in youth activities, and the neighborhood has long been lamenting the lack of high-intensity recreational activities for local youth that are safe, legal and fun. Neighborhood and community groups are fully supportive of ways to increase youth activity options in the urban village, and so are fully supportive of this project.

In addition, Lake City parks, and Virgil Flaim park in particular have seen growing criminal and nuisance behavior that is frustrating residents and neighbors and forcing many of the park users to go elsewhere. We believe that a park that is active will help discourage the negative behaviors by increasing positive activity. While skateboarding is primarily a youth sport, it often attracts a multi-generational group of spectators. With the existing walking path around the park, having a skatepark will provide a unique opportunity for multi-generational interaction in our park and will significantly increase the activation of the park space.

If awarded funds from the Opportunity fund, our goal is to use an initial portion of the funds to work with Parks on an skatepark design. With primary funding and a design in place, we will then be able apply for additional grant sources that require primary funding and/or initial design as prerequisites.

<p>Project's Level of Readiness: Is the project in the idea stage or is there a professionally developed scope of work or a developed plan? (Please attach your project's site plan below if available.)</p>	<p>The project is part of an approved Parks plan, but is currently in the idea and fund-raising stage.</p>
<p>Project's Site Plan - Attachment</p>	
<p>a. Does the project demonstrate a high degree of neighborhood support or involvement as demonstrated through a public review process and/or is the project consistent with approved plans, such as a neighborhood, community council or other recent planning documents?</p>	<p>The project is consistent with a Parks Approved Plan or other recent Parks Planning Documents.</p>

<p>Please list out plan(s) and describe in 200 words or less neighborhood support/involvement.</p>	<p>A skatespot in Lake City, and specifically in Virgil Flaim park is recommended by the Parks-approved City-wide Skatepark Plan (2007). In addition, a skatespot in the Lake City core is specifically called out in the North Neighborhood Plan (1999):</p> <p>"North Approval and Adoption Matrix, Element 2E. Human Services, Strategy 3: Provide Youth with Lawful, Constructive Activities," Activity 2E-16: "Develop a family-oriented skateboard park, modeled after the one in Ellensburg, near the (Lake City) Civic Core."</p> <p>In addition to the above mentioned plans, the project has very strong community support. To demonstrate the broad community support, we've included a support letter from the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance (LCNA), which is a coalition of many Lake City neighborhood and community groups. The letterhead of the LCNA support letter from lists all of the groups the make up the alliance.</p> <p>In addition to the LCNA, we have strong support of local businesses through the Lake City Chamber of Commerce as well as enthusiastic support of Lake City area residents. In particular, we have the strong support of the Hiram Place Neighborhood Association which represents the residents adjacent to and near the park and who have provided the second letter of support.</p>
<p>Attachment: Support Letters - A maximum of two letters of support for the project may be attached.</p>	<p> letter-Hiram-signed.pdf</p> <p> letter-LCNA-signed.pdf</p>
<p>e. Does the proposal restore or significantly extend the life of a current park or facility?</p>	<p>Developed Parks: The project repairs, replaces or upgrades aging infrastructure or facilities, extending their life at least 10 years.</p>

<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>The preferred location of the skatespot (NE corner of park) currently contains an aging basketball court. We prefer this location for the skatespot because the surrounding topography has elevation changes that would be favorable for skatepark design. Also, in gathering neighborhood feedback about this project, we often heard complaints about the state of the current basketball court and have repeatedly heard from park users that they would like to see a new basketball court.</p> <p>Therefore, because the current location of the basketball court would be a better fit for the skatepark, and the current basketball court is in need of repair, we would like to see the skatespot built at the location of the current basketball court, and a new basketball court made just to the south of the existing one. The proposed locations of each can be seen in the attached overhead image (option1-replace-basketball.jpg).</p>
<p>f. Does the project provide health benefits or opportunities? (e.g. trails, bike paths, open space)</p>	<p>a. The project increases the amount of open space or high intensity recreational opportunities.</p>
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>Skateboarding is a high-intensity recreational activity and adding a skatepark will significantly increase the amount of high-intensity activity in this park.</p> <p>In addition, this park is currently under utilized due to negative behaviors that have driven many users away. Adding a high-intensity and high-visibility youth activity will also activate the park and encourage improved usage of the existing features of the park like the basketball court, children’s playground, walking path and open space for soccer, etc.</p>
<p>g. Does the project take advantage of an opportunity that will be lost unless action is taken? ACQUISITION ONLY</p>	
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	

5.1 Does the project demonstrate new and/or creative methods to meet the community's need for parks and green spaces (sustainable energy practices, etc...)?

b. The project meets the City's Sustainable Buildings and Sites Challenge.


Please describe in 500 words or less.

While not specifically addressing sustainable building practices, the Scoring Guide also listed "Address issues of crime and safety" as an example under Medium Priority. Lake City neighborhood and community groups strongly believe that activating this park will help address issues of crime and safety.

Virgil Flaim Park has become a known location for crime, including drugs, prostitution and chronic public inebriation. Neighborhood trash walks routinely pick up alcohol containers, used condoms and drug paraphernalia, including needles. This usage pattern has led to decreased usage of the park by Lake City area residents and thus increased criminal and nuisance behavior resulting in a downward spiral. Neighborhood and community groups are desperately seeking for ways to activate the park with positive activities in order to make it a less attractive place for the negative activity that has taken over.

As anyone who has been to a Seattle skatepark knows, our local skateparks are busy. We believe that adding a skatepark to this park will activate the park and dramatically change its usage pattern. Those changes will come first and foremost by attracting active youth to the park, but a skatepark also tends to attract a multi-generational group of spectators. The activity brought by this influx of new park users will then likely have the secondary effect of making the park feel busy, safer and more welcoming.

To help illustrate the importance of this unique opportunity to change the neighborhood, a group of residents that live adjacent or near to Virgil Flaim Park, the Hiram Place Neighborhood Association, have provided the second letter of support included in this application. These are the people who see what goes on in the park every day and are excited for the possibility of increased youth activity and the changes that can bring to their park, their streets and their immediate neighborhood.

<p>i. How does the project leverage or have the potential to leverage other resources through the actions of other public agencies, funding from public, private or philanthropic partners, and/or in-kind contributions of time and energy from citizen volunteers?</p>	<p>c. The project has up to 10% funding or in-kind contributions or a funding plan (plans for applying for funding or in-kind donations.) Please list the amount of funding in hand below.</p>
<p>Attach Funding Plan here.</p>	<p> funding.pdf</p>
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>With primary funding in place from the Opportunity fund, additional funding (> 10%) is available from secondary funding sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - King County Youth Sports Facilities Grant - Tony Hawk Foundation (specifically for skateparks) - Neighborhood businesses, local fund raising <p>Both of the first two grant sources above require primary funding as well as a detailed site plan in order to apply. Funding from the Opportunity Fund, if awarded, would provide the primary funding as well as the funding to create a detailed design and site plan so that we can apply for these additional grants.</p> <p>In addition to the grant sources above, with primary funding in place, I have commitments from several local businesses and residents for smaller contributions. Due to the cost of the project and the economic climate, businesses surveyed are much more likely to help contribute financially to the project if they are helping with the "last mile" and do not feel they are the primary funding sources.</p> <p>There is currently no in-hand funding for this project.</p>
<p>j. What potential effects does the project have on the City's maintenance and operating costs?</p>	<p>d. The project will significantly increase Maintenance and Operating Costs. (Examples: Additional Park Elements or brand new facility.)</p>

Please describe in 200 words or less.

Skatespot will cause a minor impact due to ongoing maintenance, primarily additional garbage pickup and graffiti removal. Ongoing costs are predicted to be similar to other Seattle skatespots added to existing parks (e.g. Dahl Playfield, Delridge, Judkins.)