



**ALEXANDER PARK SKATEPARK – WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES:**

**Date:** October 14th, 2021      **NLS Project File No.:** CAN2021-019E  
**Date of Meeting:** October 4th, 2021      **Project Name:** Alexander Park Skatepark

**ATTENDEES:**

Name	Firm	Contact:
Ken Wheaton	City of Hamilton (COH)	ken.wheaton@hamilton.ca
Jana Joyce	The MBTW Group (MBTW)	jana@mbtw.com
Bill Gurney	New Line Skateparks Inc. (NLS)	bill@newlineskateparks.com
Stefan Ouellet	New Line Skateparks Inc. (NLS)	stefan@newlineskateparks.com
approx.. 22 members	Working Group (WG)	

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

Item #	Description
<b>1.0</b>	<p><b>General:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The meeting was held online over WebEx Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> from 7pm-8:30pm</li> <li>The meeting was facilitated by Ken, Jana, Bill &amp; Stefan</li> <li>Approx.. 22 members of the Working Group attended</li> </ul>
<b>2.0</b>	<p><b>Agenda: (see attached presentation)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WebEx Tutorial - Guidelines for Participation</li> <li>Land Acknowledgement</li> <li>Introduction – Why Are We Here?</li> <li>Skatepark Background Study - Precedent Parks</li> <li>Proposed Site Location</li> <li>Budget / Program Considerations</li> <li>Preliminary Survey Results &amp; Key Design Goals Summary</li> <li>Next Steps / Timeline</li> <li>Question &amp; Answer</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<p><b>City of Hamilton Skateboard Park Study &amp; Precedent Parks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference was made to the City of Hamilton Skateboard Park Study (approved by council in 2017)</li> <li>Alexander Park identified as a high-priority location for Dundas and West Hamilton</li> <li>Beasley, Turner &amp; Valley Park were identified as existing Hamilton skateparks (Valley Park coming soon)</li> <li>the idea of Alexander Park included within a “network” of Hamilton skateparks was discussed</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<p><b>Budget &amp; Program Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create an inclusive “All-Wheels” facility suited to a wide range of age groups, skill levels and wheeled-sport preferences (<i>i.e. skateboards, bikes, scooters, inline, roller skates, etc.</i>)</li> <li>Integrate the Skatepark with other site amenities (<i>splash pad, playground, ball diamonds, etc.</i>) and landscape features (<i>one baseball diamond will be removed</i>)</li> <li>Safety and functionality maintained as top priorities</li> </ul>



<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p><b>Preliminary Survey – Summarized Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 40 members in the Working Group (22 participants submitted a survey)</li> <li>• A wide range of age groups was represented</li> <li>• 77% of responses from “Active Park Users” (incl. skateboarders at 43%, scooters at 17% &amp; BMX at 7%)</li> <li>• 23% of responses from Parents/Guardians</li> <li>• Top (3) skateparks that survey responses have visited include: Turner Skatepark (Hamilton), Memorial Skatepark (Waterdown), Inflow (Dundas) - indoor, Beasley Park (Hamilton) and Norton Park (Burlington)</li> <li>• Top Level Terrain Priorities appear to be “Bowl/Halfpipe” &amp; “Pump/Carve” typologies, with (large bowls, mini bowls, pools, quarter pipes, half pipes, etc.) as the most popular responses</li> <li>• Second Level Terrain Priorities appear to be “Plaza/Street” &amp; “Street/Obstacle” typologies, with (rails, down-rails, ledges, stair sets, manual pads, banks, hips &amp; fun-boxes, etc.) as other popular responses</li> <li>• Most popular support amenities suggested: (Sun-Shelter, Picnic Tables, Benches, Drinking Fountain)</li> <li>• Other popular support amenities suggested: (Lighting, Washroom Facilities &amp; Trees)</li> </ul>
<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Preliminary Survey - Comments, Concerns, Suggestions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure skatepark is open, flows well, multiple lines without interfering with other riders</li> <li>• Separate areas for experienced and beginners respectively</li> <li>• Integrate colourful skatepark features/paint/graffiti art</li> </ul>
<p><b>7.0</b></p>	<p><b>Design Goals Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a safe, high-quality, colourful and open, well flowing skatepark that has smooth transitions with multiple lines that do not interfere with each other</li> <li>• Offer areas for users of different skill levels to ride safely</li> <li>• Include a significant amount of transition elements (bowl/pool(s), QP’s, spines, wall rides, etc.)</li> <li>• Include complementary street/plaza terrain (stairs, ledges, manny pads, rails, boxes, step-ups, curbs etc.)</li> <li>• Offer shade, seating, walkways, lighting, signage &amp; washroom access (subject to clubhouse renovations)</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.0</b></p>	<p><b>Question &amp; Answer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the position of the skate park facility confirmed? Yes – based on required setbacks, views and future plans for the park (rotating the adjacent ball field) the general outline is set.</li> <li>• When is the expected completion date? Mid to late summer 2022.</li> <li>• Will there be washrooms? Yes, it is expected that access to washrooms will be provided when the existing community hub building is renovated.</li> <li>• Will the skate park feature be lighted? Yes – lighting will be part of the design. Please note however, that as per standard park policy, lights will be turned off at 11pm.</li> <li>• Will parking be provided? No, not on site. The city is currently working with the adjacent high school to negotiate shared use of their parking.</li> <li>• What is the buffer zone between the skate park and the splash pad? A area to separate the two features is needed for safety. The buffer area will become clearer as the design develops.</li> <li>• Will there be separate entrances for skate park users and splash pad users? Yes – this will be an important design feature.</li> <li>• Can the design be unique and interesting – not just a grey area? Yes, the team will explore an Alexander Park specific design that will maximize user experience while being attentive to aesthetics.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Now that priorities are known for the design will there be more outreach to gather info to hone in on details? Yes, the team will continue to work with the Focus Group to develop the design.</li><li>• A question was raised about creating an accessible feature – design team to explore</li><li>• Jason Phillips’ sketch was shared with the design team</li><li>• The Working Group stressed the importance of good flow &amp; minimal conflict points in the design</li><li>• The Working Group suggested looking to the old Wading Pool as a source of inspiration (photo shared)</li><li>• The Working Group expressed interest in exploring an Art component – including potential for participation by the Dundas Valley School of Art. The design will also reach out to Ken Coit, Manager Placemaking, Public Art &amp; Projects Tourism &amp; Culture, City of Hamilton to see what opportunities there may be to integrate art, tap into funding.</li></ul>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Next Steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Design Team to review and confirm all pertinent Base Data</li><li>• Design Team to explore multiple design options &amp; prepare (3) for presentation to the Working Group</li></ul>

**Next Meeting**

**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Design Alternatives Review with the Working Group**