Hamilton

Alexander Skatepark
Focus Group Consultation

October 4, 2021

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Ken Wheaton (City), Jana Joyce (MBTW Group), Bill Gurney (New Line), Stefan Ouellet (New Line)

Hamilton

the mbtw group

PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda

- Webex Tutorial (City)
- Guidelines for Participation (City)
- Land Acknowledgment (City)
- Introduction - Why Are We Here? (City)
- Skate Park Study Background (City)
- Precedent Parks (NLS)
- Proposed Site Location (NLS)
  - Discussion / Q & A (+/- 10 mins.)
- Budget & Program Considerations (NLS / MBTW)
  - Discussion / Q & A (+/- 10 mins.)
- Preliminary Survey Results and Key Design Goals Summary (NLS)
- Next Steps / Timeline /Outreach (City)
  - Discussion / Q & A (+/- 10 mins.)

Webex Tutorial

- How to mute and unmute
- How to turn video on/off
- How to raise your hand/send a reaction
- How to use the Q&A and Chat feature

Guidelines for Participation

- For your privacy, you are invited to turn on your video throughout the presentation, however this is not a requirement and at your own discretion
- Ensure you remain on mute unless it is your turn
- Be respectful of all participants
- Be open to new ideas
- Adhere to established process and time frame
- Change process during a session only by group decision if necessary
- Allow everyone the opportunity to speak within the allotted timeframes
- Do not interrupt when others are speaking

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers.

Why Are We Here?

- **Review** of work completed to date
- **Review Working Group Feedback** including survey results
- **Identify Next Steps** for the Working Group
- **Offer Multiple Q&A** periods to discuss the project and any concerns you may have

Skate Park Study Background

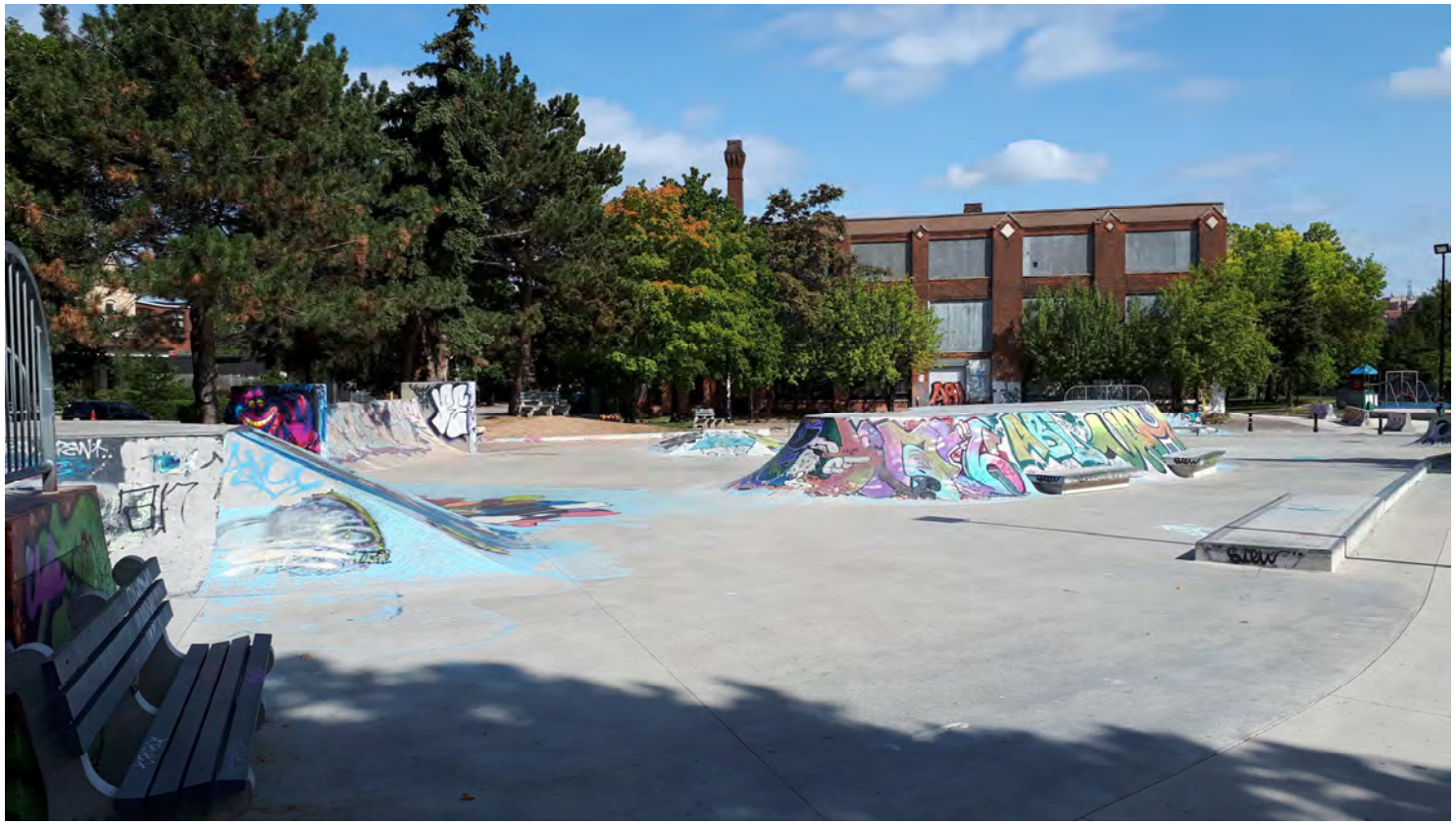
- 2015, the City undertook a study to create a standard process for selecting new skateboard facility locations across the city.
- 2017, Council received and approved the Study.
- Alexander Park was identified as a high priority location for Dundas and West Hamilton.
- Site suitability was confirmed by staff and the ward Councillor, allowing the project to move forward.

Hamilton Skatepark Study, LANDinc - SPECTRUM - 2016

SKATEPARK COMPARISON MATRIX OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATE SITES

SESSION 1 - SITE J			COMMUNITY SKATEPARK	
LOCATION	Location (Address)		Alexander Park (201 Whitney Avenue by Rifle Range Road))	
	Active Link (Google Earth)		https://goo.gl/maps/2QMZbeSvaiPpv	
	Aerial Photo of Candidate Site			
CITY	General Comments	Is there any reason not to pursue this location?	located in close proximity to elementary and high schools, may require re-purposing of existing amenities	
	Masterplan	Does this site have a Masterplan?	Unknown	
	DC Eligible / 10 year park improvement/development capital budget, neighbourhood action plan alignment	Is the site DC eligible?	TBD	
SITE CRITERIA	CATEGORY	CLARIFICATIONS	COMMENTS	RATING
SITE CONDITIONS	Development availability	Would the skatepark have the ability to integrate with existing programmed space in the park area?	Yes, skatepark could integrate with the other activities in the park	
	Opportunity to expand	Would the skatepark have the opportunity to expand in the future if needed?	Yes, but limited. Remove 1 baseball diamond?	
	Achievable skatepark area	Is the site big enough for a skatepark of the scale proposed?	Yes.	
	Biophysical Issues: Topography	Would the topography inhibit grading/excavation for construction?	No, Flat - no landfill	4.8
	Biophysical Issues: Trees	Would the skatepark have any impact on existing trees?	Some trees along the edge and small clusters, not interfering with possible location (remove the northern diamond).	
	Biophysical Issues: Planting	Does the planting on the site provide wind protection?	Partial wind protection	
ACCESS & SURROUNDINGS	Proximity to residential	Is this site appropriately setback from residential areas?	Yes, but the site is large enough for appropriate setback.	
	Proximity to public building	Is the site close to a staffed public building?	2 schools, less than 1 minute walk	
	Proximity to Park or green areas	Is the site close to any other park, playground or green areas?	Yes, located in a park and would share green space with other activities, sport fields and natural areas which offer opportunities for the park users to explore or be introduced to new activities like skateboarding.	
	Proximity to school	Is the site close to any schools?	Yes, 2 schools less then 1 minute walk	5
	Transit Access	Is the site or the area well connected to public transport?	Lines 05 and 51 stops right beside the site	
	Foot and bike access	Are there bike paths, sidewalks or trail system connections ?	Signed- On Street Bike Route at Whitney, sidewalks around the site	
	Parking Lot	Is there existing parking?	No, only a small parking lot in the south area of the park and school beside the south edge. Large parking lot behind St. Mary Catholic school.	
	Drive-by surveillance	Does the site have easy access for car surveillance?	Yes, specially if skatepark is located beside Whitney street, replacing the baseball diamond.	
AMENITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE	Access to Amenities: Restrooms	Does the site have enough infrastructure and amenities to improve the experience of skaters?	Accessible washrooms are open during games by the Alexander Minor Baseball Association.	4
	Access to Amenities: Drinking Water		Likely in the washroom building.	
	Access to Amenities: Shade or Shelter		Partial, trees	
	Access to Amenities: Food		5 minutes walk to Fortinos	
TOTALS (AVERAGE)				4.8

Precedent Parks – Beasley Park



Precedent Parks – Turner Park

Preliminary Survey Results

QUESTION 5: 10 FEATURES YOU ENJOY RIDING

Responses	%	
135	**12%**	Bowls/Pools/Flow Bowl
102	**9%**	Slide/Grind Rails/Rails/down rails/curved rails/ coping
82	**7%**	Quarter Pipes
82	**7%**	Ledges/curved ledges
52	**5%**	Stair Sets
50	**5%**	Banks (tall and short)
48	**4%**	Half Pipes
47	**4%**	Manual Pads
43	**4%**	Hips/Bank Hips
42	**4%**	Vertical Ramp/wall
41	**4%**	Box/Funbox
32	3%	Spines/ Mini Spines/ Spine Transfers
30	3%	Bump to Curb/Ledge
30	3%	Mini Ramp/easy ramps
27	2%	Flatbar
24	2%	Snake Runs
19	2%	Wall rides
17	2%	Gaps
16	1%	Curbs
15	1%	Hubba
14	1%	Flatbanks
13	1%	Double-sided Slappy Curb
12	1%	A frame
10	1%	Island
10	1%	Path around skatepark for inline skating
10	1%	step-up/ step-up kicker to flat
10	1%	Pyramid

Preliminary Survey Results

QUESTION 6: 5 FEATURES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE AT ALEXANDER PARK

Responses	%	
15	**15%**	Large Bowls/Mini Bowls/Pools with a Good Flow
7	**7%**	Quarter Pipes
7	**7%**	Stair Sets
6	**6%**	Long flatbar/ flat rail (+/-12")
5	**5%**	Manual pads/ledges of various heights
5	**5%**	Bank/Hip/Bank-To-Curb
5	**5%**	Ledge/Long Ledge
4	**4%**	Ramp Wall Rides
4	**4%**	Spines/ Mini Spines/ Spine Transfers
3	3%	Double-sided Slappy Curb/ slappy curb
3	3%	Step-up/ step-up kicker to flat
3	3%	Box/Funbox
3	3%	Vertical Wall/wallride
2	2%	Small Gap Jumps
2	2%	Full Visibility/Sightlines (Safety)
2	2%	Multiple Circuits (Rooms) to allow multiple users to complete full circuits
2	2%	Snake run with hips or flow section (all rounded, no edges unless coping)
2	2%	Grindable features/grindbox
2	2%	Mirrored features to allow goofy or regular setup
2	2%	low sloped handrail, 1.5m long
2	2%	Hubba
2	2%	Mini Ramp/easy ramps
2	2%	Half pipe

Preliminary Survey Results

QUESTION 7: 3 ELEMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE AT ALEXANDER PARK

Responses	%	
17	**23%**	Sun Shelter/Shade Sails
14	**19%**	Seating (Picnic Tables/Benches)
14	**19%**	Drinking Fountain
7	**9%**	Lighting
5	**7%**	Washrooms
4	**5%**	Trees
3	4%	Signage (etiquette & dangers)
3	4%	Repair Station
2	3%	Separate flat practice areas
2	3%	Viewing area outside riding surface
1	1%	Garbage cans
1	1%	Event Space
1	1%	Day use lockers
1	1%	vending machine

Preliminary Survey Results

QUESTION 8: 3 THINGS YOU DO NOT LIKE ABOUT OTHER SKATEPARKS

Responses	%	
5	**7%**	Poor Quality Concrete/Construction
5	**7%**	Loitering on features/lack of viewing areas
5	**7%**	Poor flow
4	**6%**	Limited riding space
4	**6%**	Lacking basic amenities (light, garbage cans, seating etc.)
4	**6%**	No Shade
3	4%	Rough transitions between elements
3	4%	Features are too tall/intimidating (limits inclusive rideability)
3	4%	Features are too short and steep
3	4%	No Access to Washrooms
3	4%	No drinking fountain
3	4%	too many people
2	3%	Features are not for riders of all abilities/skill
2	3%	No signage
2	3%	Some skateparks are only for skateboarders. Not inclusive of other wheeled sports
2	3%	skate park is too small

Preliminary Survey Results

1	1%	Every element cannot be hit both frontside and backside
1	1%	No stairs
1	1%	no colourful artwork
1	1%	Double Barrel Spines
1	1%	trees in the middle of the skatepark
1	1%	Garbage all over the place
1	1%	Traffic control is lacking
1	1%	Unwanted activities (Loitering, smoking, drinking, drugs)
1	1%	Graffiti
1	1%	dangerous entry areas
1	1%	No overhang on ramps
1	1%	lack of etiquette, users crossing paths is dangerous
1	1%	Large and small elements mixed. No separate space for riders of different abilities.
1	1%	similar obstacles

Preliminary Survey Results

QUESTION 9: COMMENTS, CONCERNS, SUGGESTIONS

Responses	%	
4	**18%**	Ensure skatepark is open, flows well, multiple lines without interfering with other riders. Acton and Welland are good for this. Norton and Port Colborne are not.
3	**14%**	Separate areas for experienced and beginners respectively (segregated multi-user design i.e. Brant's Crossing)
3	**14%**	Colourful skatepark features/paint/graffiti art
2	9%	Refer to Session Atlas for design reference
2	9%	Kiosk (food, drink, parts)
2	9%	please install Small features that are low and mellow (for all ages/abilities)
2	9%	Signage (etiquette, dangers, session and flow) and clear entry/exit points
1	5%	Community posting board
1	5%	Something following the design philosophy of the Taylor, TX park would be a great compliment/contrast to the existing parks in our area.
1	5%	Skateparks are very hot
1	5%	Workshops to encourage new skaters

Key Design Goals Summary

We will be creating three (3) design options that incorporate as many of the following key design factors as the program and budget allows:

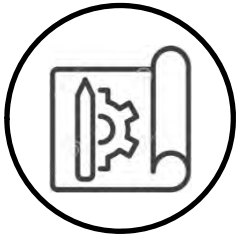
- Create a safe, high-quality, colourful and open, well flowing skatepark that has smooth transitions with multiple lines that do not interfere with each other
- Offer areas for users of different skill levels to ride safely
- Include a significant amount of transition elements i.e. a bowl/pool(s) with good flow, quarter pipes, spines, wall rides, ramps etc.
- Include complementary street/plaza terrain i.e. stair sets, ledges, manual pads, rails, boxes, step-ups, slappy curbs etc.
- Offer shade, seating, walkways, lighting, etiquette signage, and washroom access (subject to clubhouse renovations)

Next Steps / Timeline

WE ARE HERE (October 2021)

OCT. 2021

- Studies / Investigations (Geotechnical) - Completed
- Community engagement (rider-focused working group survey and meeting)
- Conceptual drawing development of 3, 2D drawings for review by the Working Group
- Working Group meeting to review 3, 2D drawings
- Hold vote to determine which 2 of the concept plans will be presented to the public to vote on.



FALL/ WINTER 2021

- Create 2, 3D models of the preferred
- Virtual PIC to present 2 concepts (Early December)
- Online vote
- Virtual PIC to present final design
- Detailed design development
- Contract drawing preparation concept plans

SUMMER 2022

- Tender and contract award
- Anticipated construction **late summer 2022**

Outreach

ASK QUESTIONS

- Focus Group Meeting **TONIGHT!**

WHAT FEATURES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

- Design Alternatives Review (November 15th)

STAY INFORMED

- Website Updates

Contacts / Who's Listening

Ken Wheaton, OALA, CSLA
Landscape Architect
Public Works
Environmental Services Division
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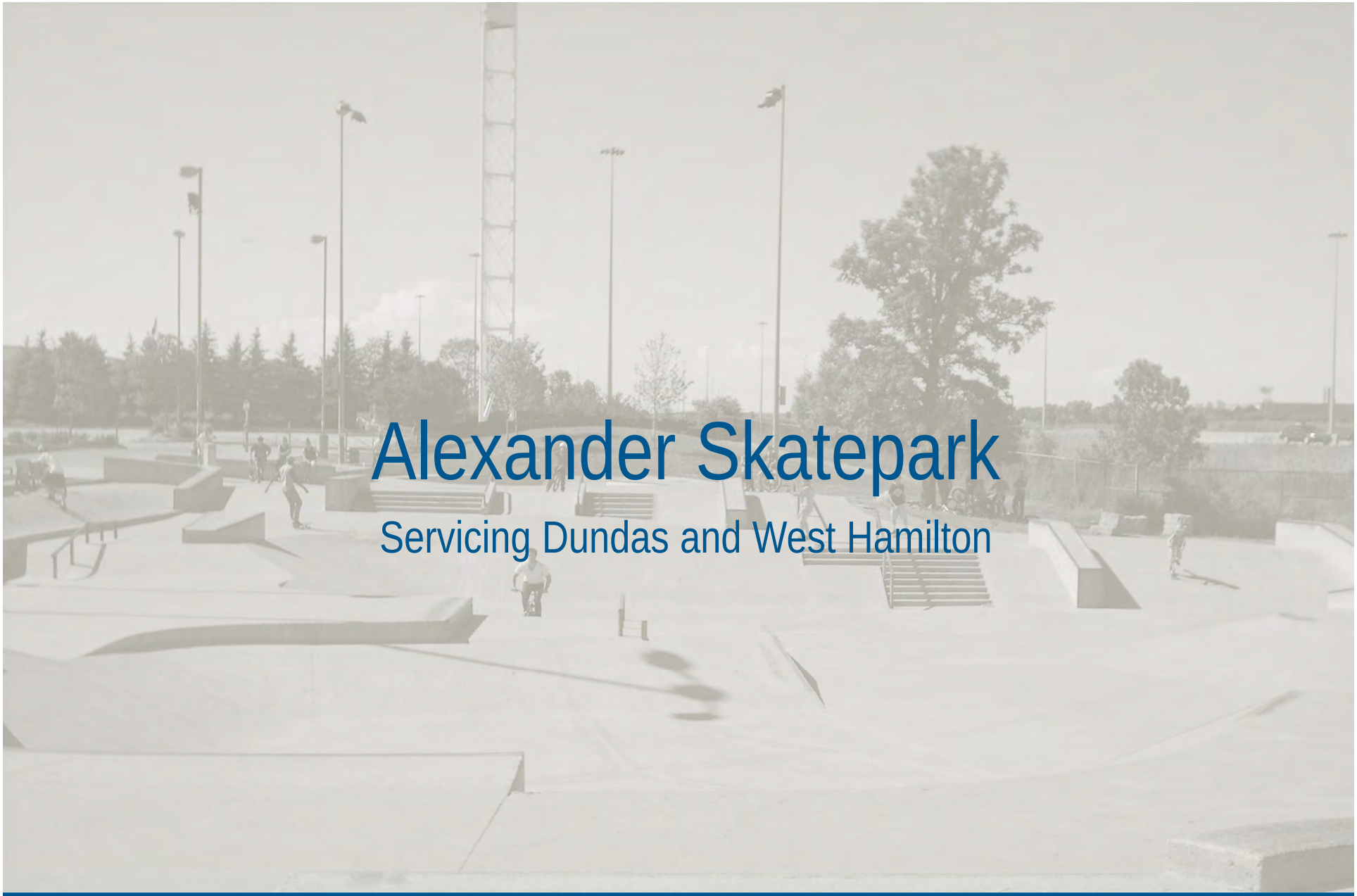
alexanderskatepark@hamilton.ca

THANK YOU

Q & A



Alexander Skatepark

Servicing Dundas and West Hamilton