

City of Gainesville

City Hall 200 East University Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601

Legislation Text

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Skateboard Park (B)

This item involves a recommendation from the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee to approve a skateboard park pilot project. This would include approval of the suggested site and authorizing the City Manager to develop and execute an agreement for the construction and maintenance of the skate amenities at the site.

On October 17, 2013, the City Commission made a referral on skateboard parks to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works (RCAPW) Committee for further discussion. At the January 27, 2014 RCAPW Committee meeting, the committee authorized staff to develop a plan for a pilot project to install two Skate amenities in the City right-of-way adjacent to a rail-trail, or other appropriate location, not including funding (any information on funding would be provided to the City Commission as it becomes available). Staff was also directed to make a proposal at a future RCAPW Committee to make Skateboard Park funding eligible in the PRCA Master Plan.

City staff worked with Mr. Jimmy Lannon, professional skateboarder, who expressed interest in assisting with the project development. Staff met with Mr. Lannon and other stakeholders interested in the development of a skateboard park adjacent to the City's rail trail system, and a location off the rail trail (near 635 NW 6th Street) was selected for the conceptual plan to be developed around.

On July 31, 2014, the RCAPW Committee heard an overview of the pilot project and proposed site near GPD next to the Rail Trail, including the advantages of having it near the new GPD building. Staff verified that this site had been discussed with Chief Jones and he was supportive. The Committee reviewed the proposed location and a conceptual mock-up of the type of features that could be included. Mr. Lannon will be working with community stakeholders to raise funds to install and maintain the skateboard amenities in the City right-of -way. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that the City Commission designate this parcel for skateboard amenities and move forward with the pilot project.

Once the first pilot project is developed it can be determined how to proceed with a second location.

There is no fiscal impact at this time. Any site development will be raised through efforts of Mr. Lannon and the constituents he works with.

The City Commission: 1) approve the site location for the pilot project; 2) authorize the City Manager to develop and execute an agreement for the construction and maintenance of the skate amenities, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality; and 3) remove this item from the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee referral list.