



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
505 Market Street, Suite A, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3300
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Carrie Hite, Deputy Director, Parks & Community Services
Jennifer Schroder, Director, Parks & Community Services

Date: June 2, 2009

Subject: Draft response letter to Mr. Tor Jensen RE: Skate Park Enhancements

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize Mayor James Lauinger to sign a letter as presented or modified responding to Mr. Tor Jensen.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

On May 15, 2009, a letter (Attachment 1) was received at the City, addressed to the Kirkland City Council, and authored by Mr. Tor Jensen. In the letter, Mr. Jensen proposes enhancements to the Peter Kirk skate park.

For the City Council consideration is the draft response letter to Mr. Jensen (Attachment 2)

Attachment 1: Letter from Tor Jensen, 5/15/09
Attachment 2: Draft City Council Response

May 15, 2009

Mayor James Lauinger
City of Kirkland
123 5th avenue

RECEIVED

MAY 18 2009

CITY OF KIRKLAND
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Dear Mayor James Lauinger:

I am writing for you to enhance the Kirkland Skate Park to give it more variety. For most beginners the hard the ramps are too hard and the grind rails are also very difficult. Every time I go there I cant practice because it is mostly for more advanced skaters. This is true for most beginners and if there isn't anything we can practice on then we cant get any better.

So the city of Kirkland could build onto it during the winter on the grass all around it when it is not in use. This could happen with parks and recreation funds or fund that could be collected in other fundraising ways. Also some teenagers sit and smoke and sometimes taunt others. Enhancing the Skate Park would also give others more space and not feel threatened. The park would also attract more people which is good for the businesses the area. To prove this is a need for the community I'll start a petition to show many kids would like a bigger skate park. You can reach me at Broncosrock6@msn.com. If changes are not made I will just have to find a different place to skate.

Again, I would like you to enhance the Kirkland Skate Park with more variety. I would be very happy if you took this into consideration. It would make me as well as others in the Kirkland community enjoy our city more.

Sincerely,



Tor Jensen

June 17, 2009

DRAFT

Tor Jensen
6th Grader
Peter Kirk Elementary School

Dear Tor,

Thank you for your letter to the Kirkland City Council dated May 15th about the City's skate park at Peter Kirk Park in downtown. We're glad that you skate at the park and appreciate your suggestion that the park should be improved for beginning skaters.

Although there are no plans at this time to change the skate park, there are plans to build a new one at Juanita Beach Park. Future improvements to this park include new little league fields and relocating the parking lot so that the skate park can be built. As proud as we are of the plans to build the skate park, it's going to take a lot of money. We have some money but need much more.

If you would like to be involved in the development of this new skate park, I encourage you to get involved with the Kirkland Youth Council. The Youth Council works on projects and programs that support youth in the Kirkland area. Please contact Regi Schubiger, Youth Services Coordinator, at rschubiger@ci.kirkland.wa.us, or 425-587-3323 to learn how to get involved with the Youth Council.

The City Council appreciates your taking the time to write a letter to share your thoughts on expanding the downtown skate park to include beginner skater features. Your letter will be shared with the Park Board and Youth Council.

Sincerely,

Kirkland City Council

By: James L. Lauinger, Mayor

cc: Park Board
Kirkland Youth Council
Jennifer Schroder, CPRP, Director, Parks and Community Services
Carrie Hite, Deputy Director, Parks and Community Services
Regula Schubiger, Youth Services Coordinator