Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark

A registered non-profit 501(c)(3) Founded 2010

Ann Arbor Parks Advisory Commission Report September 18, 2018



Our Mission

To promote and preserve the Ann Arbor Skatepark as a permanent, free, public resource.

Guiding Principles

- Ambassadors of skateboarding acting in the interest of skateboarders
- Benevolent promoters of the Ann Arbor Skatepark
- Committed to the preservation of the Ann Arbor Skatepark
- Active and responsible leaders in our community.
- Proponents of accessibility, diversity and inclusion.
- Champions of health and FUN!



Board of Directors

- Josh Meisler President
- Nick Farris
 Treasurer
- Jennie Hale Secretary

- Max Davis
 Director
- Nina Juergens
 Director
- Crystle Partington Director
- Trevor Staples
 Director



• 2005

- July: Dug Song presents at PROS Plan public hearing about the need for a public skatepark in Ann Arbor.
- August: a2skatepark.org goes online!

2007

- Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee holds 6 meetings over the course of the year, and forms steering committee which would later become Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark.
- July: First meeting with Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation staff
- August: First presentation to PAC
- AASAC begins advocacy campaign including interviews, concerts, skate jams, and creation of merchandise to help with fundraising



• 2008

- January: About 100 people attend public meeting at Scarlett Middle School with City and Washtenaw County Parks staff to discuss public skatepark
- May: PAC public hearing on Veterans Memorial Park location for skatepark; Staff opens up partitions in council chambers to make room for standing-room only crowd of supporters. PAC votes unanimously to support location.
- Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation establishes
 Design/Build, and Maintenance Endowment funds for the Ann Arbor Skatepark

• 2009

- Skate Art Show at Vault of Midnight raising \$10,000 for skatepark
- MOI between City and Skatepark Action Committee describes partnership rights and responsibilities



• 2010

- Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark non-profit 501(c) (3) organization
- First design charrette held at Slauson Middle School
- Washtenaw County Parks Commission pledges \$400,000 in matching funds to spark fundraising and get the park built!

2011

- PROS Plan survey shows strong desire for public skatepark
- Tony Hawk Foundation awards \$5,000 grant to Ann Arbor Skatepark
- DNR Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant awarded to Ann Arbor Skatepark

2012

Designer/Builder approved for Skatepark



- 2013
 - Final skatepark design and budget approved by PAC and City Council
 - Construction begins!
- 2014
 - Thousands attend grand opening of Ann Arbor Skatepark
 - Tony Hawk, Andy MacDonald, Mark Davenport, and other pros in attendance to celebrate!





Public/Private Partnership



Programs

All Girls Skate

- Spring-Fall, twice/month
- Female Instructors
- Equipment provided: skateboards, helmets, knee & elbow pads
- Environment for girls and women of all experience levels to learn and skate together
- Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation Youth Council grant winner 2015, 2016

A2 Skatepark Scholarship

- Provides equipment: complete skateboard, helmet, elbow & knee pads
- Provides transportation: AAATA The Ride bus passes
- Residents of Washtenaw County, age 7-17
- 24 scholarships awarded in 2015
- 15 scholarships awarded in 2016
- 25 scholarships awarded in 2017



Programs

Ongoing

- Pick Up and Skate!
- Bake Sales
- Contests, and other events
- Partnership with GIVE 365!

Annual Event

- Raises funds for maintenance and improvements
- Required in MOU
- Attended by skaters/enthusiasts from across United States and Canada



2018 Annual Event: LIGHT UP THE PARK

- Kickoff of campaign to raise money for lights at the skatepark
- Saturday, October 20, 5:00 to 9:00 pm
- First Annual A2 Skatepark Film Festival
- Contests, giveaways, music, bake sale, new skatepark merch... FUN!



Contact

- visit a2skatepark.org
- email info@a2skatepark.org
- IG: a2skatepark
- Facebook

