



Clear Creek County Skatepark in Idaho Springs

SWOT

- Strengths - Weaknesses - Opportunities - Threats -

*As informed by the Clear Creek County community at the
March 2022 Roundtable Meeting hosted at Tommyknockers Brewery*



Strengths

What separates the skatepark from something else?
What current factors contribute to success/added value?
What are the advantages of the skatepark?

- Easy location to access
- Providing for an activity for teens/kids that they love
- "My son will have a place to go and hang out with friends"
- Going outside + staying out of trouble
- Safe, fun, active space for youth
- Awesome recreation in our community
- Gorgeous location - using the beauty of Idaho Springs and the mountains and incorporating it into the design
- Better location - more central with less traffic
- Finally getting a sick park in Idaho Springs!
- Opportunities for kids to meet new people and build connections
- I won't have to drive to Golden or Silverthorne to skateboard
- Gorgeous location that will not get baked in the summer to the point of egg frying
- Clear Creek is recognizing the need for more positive youth outlets
- Stakeholder engagement in the process
- "Somewhere for my girls to learn to be confident and spend time with their dad"
- Many user groups
- Free activity for youth
- Super cool gym class opportunity for the school district
- Opportunity for being active and interacting with others
- Positive environment for kids (not Kum & Go)
- Young people helping with the design
- Liability and it being closed during school hours
- Collaboration
- Skatepark taking 2nd place to the school renovations
- It would improve the image of our community (being more progressive)



Strengths

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- CCMRD programming
- Being next to the school makes sense
- Having a playground and a skatepark at the same location will appeal to more families
- Knowing my children can skate safely in a designated area (not on sidewalks)
- This fulfills the promise of the school's ballot initiative to provide the space to build the park
- A great way to connect with my own child and stay connected to my inner child
- Learning new things
- Not having to drive to another county to use the skatepark
- All the kids and adults will have a place to skate that is safe and away from traffic
- Showcases progressiveness and care for youth
- The community and the team bringing this project forward
- The kids definitely need some kind of outdoor activity in the mountains. This is a great idea
- A community space that appeals to teens
- Gives skateboarders somewhere to go besides the busy streets
- Equity for kids!
- Engaging student voices
- Could host events like national/state skateboard competitions
- Clear Creek County residents can finally participate in Go Skate Day
- Will be a nationwide destination for traveling skateboarders from all over the country
- School District ballot initiative



Weaknesses

What characteristics exist that put the skatepark at a disadvantage, relative to other projects?

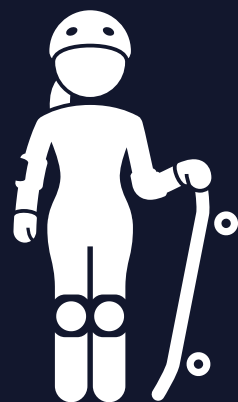
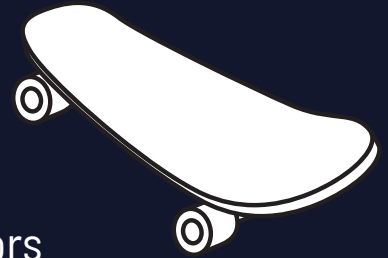
- Too many people
- Cost
- Location (less accessible as something in town)
- Ensuring safety with crossing over I-70
- Funding
- Sustainability
- Next to/near an elementary school is not the best place for a skatepark
- Worried if this will become a drug spot or a place where fights would be common
- Impact on neighbors
- The location is a little out of the way and it might be harder for some kids in town to get to. It'll need a nice wide and safe sidewalk to access it from town with crosswalks.
- I'm concerned that the location suggested is too isolated and will lead to problems
- 9 months of snow. .. is there a way to put heating elements into cement to help melting/drying? Solar power?
- Can we have lights to use at night?
- Enough space at Building 103
- Who would monitor it? I'm worried about graffiti, drug use, and transients making it their home



Opportunities

What elements in the environment could be leveraged to the advantage of the skatepark?

- Biking
- Project skate tech
- Integrated recreation design multiple courts
- Cool to combine with other recreation opportunities
- Additional recreational resource for residents and visitors
- Sitting area for spectators and/or special events and performances
- An area with numerous activities, not just a skatepark
- Work with community garden for flower and plant upkeep and planting bee friendly/hummingbird plants
- COMPASS DAY (5th Day) potential is huge!
- Can the natural topography be incorporated into the design?
- King Murphy and Carlson Elementary schools are adopting an experiential learning model. I'm excited for the curriculum connections.
- Host events like shows and competition to showcase the space as something the community is proud of
- Integrate school skate programs + More extra curricular activities
- Potential to incorporate ADA accessibility to serve those in our community and beyond (including Easter Seals RMV) to use the skatepark
- Gardening collaboration with Scraps-to-Soil
- Using innovative design to solve competing stakeholder challenges
- The hillside? Connections to the Greenway?
- May create more business for the small offering of skate supplies at Clear Creek Supply. May also open the door for a full skate shop
- Community outreach
- Off-season snowboard training, developing athletes in general
- Can we do something to get kids who can't afford them equipment?
- Art, maybe a mural?



Threats

What elements in the environment could cause problems or challenges for the skatepark?

- Wildlife
- Renovations @ Bld 103 disrupting the usability of the skatepark (both during the updates and in the future if the building houses students)
- Security & Safety
- Funding
- Parking
- Safety to cross I-70 from the main part of Idaho Springs. Pedestrian bridge is important
- NIMBY's
- Need to address concerns of elementary parents - lots of ways to do this!
- Interactions between skaters and wildlife (moose, bear, elk, mtn lions have been known to appear out of the woods)
- Supervision during school hours
- Potential for misuse from people will not so great intentions
- Freeze/thaw

