

Support the Minnesota Skate Park Grant Program

Touching all corners of the state, the Skatepark Grant Program will fuel a skatepark infrastructure initiative, led by the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission, that will catalyze the construction of world class public skateparks throughout Minnesota.

This program will 1) provide matching funds for new quality public skatepark construction and 2) support much needed public skatepark renovations throughout the state of Minnesota.

- \$8M of these funds will take the form of project grants of up to \$350,000, given directly to interested cities. To the extent possible, the MN Amateur Sports Commission will distribute grants in a geographically diverse manner.
- \$4.5M for grants of up to \$1M that will provide funding for new construction of public skateparks with a regional impact.
- \$2.5M toward new construction on a large regional public skatepark that will provide a statewide draw.



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Why support funding for public skateparks?

- **Public skateparks are youth-centered community spaces** that safely serve the recreation needs of kids, especially appealing to teens looking for their own spaces. Parks also serve parents looking for a safe community space to support their child's interest in learning a new sport.
- **Public skateparks offer a low barrier to participation** and a free, inclusive recreation outside of organized clubs and paid programs. Skateparks serve people of all ages, genders, and economic backgrounds including adults looking for individually-directed recreation options.
- **Public skateparks are places of social exchange** much like a playground with creative, undefined play space. Skateparks provide a flexible venue in which peers can enjoy skateboarding, BMX riding, scootering and blading and other safe, social activities.
- **Public skateparks promote an active lifestyle** while also benefiting the mental health of our communities. These active sports build confidence, require bravery, discipline, learning strategies, goal-setting and grit. Activities like skateboarding not only improve physical health, but are shown to improve academic performance and reduce at-risk factors in American youth.
- **Well-designed, quality public skateparks can provide a real economic benefit.** Skateparks have been known to help turn blighted or underutilized areas of a city or community into vibrant recreation areas, attractive to new business and community investment.
- **Public skateparks require very little maintenance.** Professionally designed and built skateparks will provide years of support without any significant attention. There is no other public attraction that can boast the same return on investment as a concrete skatepark.
- **Skateboarding is a worldwide, Olympic sport.** The 2020 Summer Olympic Games debuted skateboarding to a world stage

