



Steel Bridge Skatepark Project in Old Town: Community Survey Summary and Key Themes

Project Background

Portland Parks and Recreation plans to build a new 63,000-square-foot plaza, with 33,000 square feet of skateable terrain, at the western foot of the Steel Bridge in Old Town/Chinatown. Feedback from the community is guiding design concepts, helping the project team refine plans for Spring/Summer 2026.

Design Concepts:

Available on the [Steel Bridge Skatepark Project Webpage](#) along with more project background information (www.portland.gov/parks/steelbridge).

- [Design Option 1](#)
- [Design Option 2](#)
- [Design Option 3](#)

Community Engagement

Engagement included one in-person gathering (Feb 15) and an online survey (Feb 15–Mar 9). Outreach included the project webpage, social media, newsletters, flyers, postcards, partner channels, and postings at businesses.

Participation: Community Gathering: **300+ participants**, Survey responses: **535 total** (141 in-person, 394 online)

Language Groups – (see “Who We Heard From,” Question 3 for the full list):

English **441** | Spanish **71** | Chinese **38**

User Type – (*multiple selections*) Wheeled sports **380** | Skaters **264** | Non-skaters **103**

Residence – (*multiple selections*) District 2 **34%** | District 4 **32%** | District 3 **28%** | Outside Portland **21%** | District 1 **10%**

Age: 25–44 **64%** | 45–64 **20%** | 18–24 **10%** | 13–17 **3%** | 65+ **2%** | 12 & under **1%**

Gender Identity: Man **66%** | Woman **21%** | Prefer not to answer **5%** | Gender expansive **3%** | Transgender **3%** | Nonbinary / questioning / Two-Spirit **<1% each**

Disability – Based on the question “Are you or someone in your family disabled or live with a disability”: No **80%** | Yes **20%**





Community Feedback Themes and Take-Aways

Community feedback consistently highlighted priorities for the project’s design and function:

- **Year-Round Use:** Covered areas and lighting are critical for safe, dry, and usable space in all weather.
- **Street-Plaza Focus:** Prefer simple, durable street-style obstacles (ledges, curbs, rails, manual pads) over large bowls or transition-heavy features.
- **Open Space & Flow:** Leave space between features to allow multiple users, support safe riding, and create comfortable spectator areas.
- **Transit & Pedestrian Connections:** Prioritize access from Old Town/Chinatown, the Waterfront, pathways, public transit; ensure clear circulation and safe entry points.
- **Amenities:** Restrooms, drinking fountains, seating, and gathering areas for both all-wheeled-users and the pedestrians.
- **Inclusive Design:** Terrain for a range of ages and abilities, including beginners, intermediate, advanced, and adaptive riders, BMX, and all-wheeled-users.
- **Neighborhood Identity:** Integrate materials, art, and landscaping that reflect the cultural and historic context of Old Town/Chinatown.

Design Direction: A covered, well-lit, street-plaza skate space with open areas, strong connectivity, and basic amenities that welcome all users while reflecting the local neighborhood.

Breakdown By Question

1. What features would help make this a welcoming and safe space for everyone — skaters and non-skaters alike?

- Lighting and visibility: **83%**
- Seating areas (benches, ledges): **64%**
- Shade or picnic areas: **50%**
- Green space / landscaping: **46%**
- Public art or murals: **35%**
- Other: **16%**

Top comments summarized from “other” (see Appendix 1 for a full breakdown):

- Cover from rain (27 responses)
- Open/flat spaces for riding (9)
- Water foundations/water access (8)
- Seating and spectator areas separate from skating (8)
- Bathrooms/restrooms (6)





2. How can the design celebrate the park’s unique location and reflect Old Town’s character and history?

- Use lighting, murals, or structures that frame views of the Steel Bridge **51%**
- Incorporate historical materials or design motifs from Old Town’s architecture **47%**
- Create gathering spaces that blend industrial and historic design elements **30%**
- Include interpretive art or signage highlighting the area’s cultural history **21%**
- Other: **9%**

Top comments summarized from “other” (see Appendix 2 for a full breakdown):

- Use historic Old Town/Chinatown/Japantown references (10 responses)
- Use historic materials including brick, granite, cobblestone, or stone (8)
- Local art and cultural expression (8)
- Reference famous Portland skate spots or skate history (6)
- Plaza-style/street-style design (5)
- Park functionality should not be prioritized before history and aesthetics (3)

3. What should the design emphasize to better connect the park to Waterfront Park, nearby landmarks, and local businesses?

- Landscaping and lighting to create a welcoming and safe environment **71%**
- Improved pedestrian and bike access between the skatepark / Waterfront Park **68%**
- Partnerships with local businesses for food, art, or skate-related pop-ups **52%**
- Shared public spaces for events, markets, or performances **36%**
- Visual and wayfinding connections to nearby landmarks and businesses **29%**
- Other **7%**

Top comments summarized from “other” (see Appendix 3 for a full breakdown):

- Connectivity to surrounding areas including Waterfront, transit, bike/pedestrian routes (7 responses)
- Urban plaza and community gathering space (4)
- Open, functional skate design including flat ground and plaza obstacles (4)
- Safety and separation between pedestrians and skaters (4)





4. What amenities would you like to see included?

- Lighting **80%**
- Restroom **77%**
- Drinking fountain / water bottle station **68%**
- Shade structures **53%**
- Food or coffee kiosk **25%**
- Other **11%**

Top comments summarized from “other” (see Appendix 4 for a full breakdown):

- Rain cover, roof, or weather protection (23 responses)
- General park amenities including storage containers, event space, tables and chairs (10)
- Lighting for night use (4)
- Event and community programming space (4)
- Shade and trees (3)

5. How would you use the Steel Bridge Skatepark + Plaza?

- Skate, bike, or scooter **87%**
- Meet friends / hang out **57%**
- Attend events **46%**
- Relax or people-watch **44%**
- Walk or roll through **39%**
- Other **5%**

Top comments summarized from “other” (see Appendix 5 for a full breakdown):

- Skateboarding or skating activities (10 responses)
- Photography and filming (6)
- Art and creative activities (4)
- Community gathering or socializing (3)
- Youth and family recreation (2)





6. What skate and ride features are most important to include?

- Street terrain (rails, ledges, stairs) **51%**
- Creative obstacles **48%**
- Beginner / practice areas **45%**
- Hybrid (combination of Street and Bowl) **44%**
- Transition (Bowl, flow, competition, or grom) **37%**
- Skate-friendly art **28%**
- Other **14%**
- I don't know, this does not apply to me **7%**

Top comments summarized from “other” (see Appendix 6 for a full breakdown):

- Street and plaza skatepark, not bowl focused (18 responses)
- Flat open space for skating and flow between obstacles (14)
- Avoid bowls or too much transition (12)
- Basic street obstacles including ledges, curbs, manual pads, and banks (9)
- Features for all skill levels and progression (9)
- Long ledges and grindable features (5)
- High quality materials including granite, brick, and marble (4)

7. How should the skatepark be designed to welcome all levels of ability — from beginners to pros?

- Keep a similar balance to the 2011 plan — about 25% beginner, 50% intermediate, and 25% advanced areas. **49%**
- Include more beginner and intermediate areas so new skaters feel comfortable learning. **21%**
- Add more advanced features to challenge experienced skaters. **15%**
- Focus mainly on creating safe, friendly spaces for beginners, even if that means fewer advanced areas. **9%**
- I don't know, this does not apply to me **5%**





8. What type of transportation will you use to get to the park or what type of physical activity do you plan on participating in at the park?

- Drive **64%**
- Skateboard **50%**
- Bus or MAX **48%**
- Bicycle **46%**
- Walk / Run **28%**
- Inline or quads **8%**
- BMX **7%**
- Scooter **6%**
- Motorbike **5%**
- Wheelchair / adaptive **4%**
- Other **1%**

Top comments summarized from “other”:

- One-wheel (1 response)

9. After looking at the design boards, what words describe your favorite features from any of the designs?

Urban Design Elements

- Trees **39%**
- Integrated Skate and Site Elements **28%**
- Art **27%**
- Tiered Seating **27%**
- Ribbon/Skateable Art **26%**
- Variety of Seating Options **23%**
- Accent Lighting **23%**
- Viewing Areas **22%**
- Custom Benches **20%**
- Gathering Zones **20%**
- Stormwater Planters **19%**
- Planting Areas **17%**
- Raised Planters **17%**
- Diving Board **12%**
- Park Entrances **11%**

Roof Structure Elements

- Integrated Lighting **47%**
- Translucent Portions of Roof/Sky windows **36%**
- Integrated Stormwater Control **26%**
- Origami Roof **25%**
- Skateable Columns **24%**
- Honeycomb Roof **22%**
- Folded Roof **14%**

Skate Terrain Elements

- Beginner Area **35%**
- Ledges **38%**
- Skateable Spaces **37%**
- Flow Bowl **37%**
- Slappy Curbs **36%**
- Historical Skate Spot Replicas **36%**
- Skateable Benches **34%**
- Skateable Art **32%**
- Street Plaza – Competition Style **32%**
- All-Ages Bowl **31%**
- Landscape Integration **31%**
- Unique Features **30%**
- Rails **26%**
- Materials and Textures **21%**
- Bump to Bar **19%**
- Standout Features **18%**
- Stair Sets **17%**





Summary of Comments (see Appendix 7 for a full breakdown)

- **Plaza-style skatepark design:** Strong preference for a street plaza integrated with public space rather than a traditional skatepark. **Approximately 40 responses.**
- **Street obstacles (ledges, rails, manual pads):** Requests for long ledges, curbs, rails, banks, euro gaps, flat bars and simple street features. **Approximately 35.**
- **Rain cover / roof:** Portland climate makes covered skating areas a major priority. **Approximately 25.**
- **Lighting for night use:** Requests for good lighting to enable safe evening riding. **Approximately 20.**
- **Avoid large bowls / transition-heavy parks:** Many respondents say Portland already has enough bowls, referencing nearby parks like Burnside Skatepark. **Approximately 20.**
- **Open space and flow:** Desire for less crowded design, more flat ground, better flow between features. **Approximately 18.**
- **Inclusive and beginner-friendly design:** Requests for accessible terrain for beginners, youth, older skaters, and adaptive riders. **Approximately 17.**
- **Material quality and durability:** Emphasis on smooth concrete, granite/stone ledges, durable coping. **Approximately 15.**
- **Multi-use:** Support for BMX, roller skates, surfskate, and wheeled riders. **Approximately 18.**
- **Builder / designer selection:** Strong opinions about which skatepark builders should design the park (e.g. Dreamland Skateparks, Grindline Skateparks, criticism of others). **Approximately 12.**
- **Community gathering space:** Interest in seating, spectator areas, and the park as a community hub. **Approximately 12.**
- **Art and murals:** Support for skateable art, murals, and local artists integrated into design. **Approximately 10.**
- **Accessibility and transportation links:** Requests for better bike connections, pedestrian access, and circulation. **Approximately 9.**
- **Events and programming:** Ideas for competitions, festivals, vendors, or food carts. **Approximately 8.**
- **Safety and maintenance:** Concerns about security, supervision, sound control, and upkeep. **Approximately 6.**





Who We Heard From

1. What is your age?

- 25-44 years old **64%**
- 45-64 years old **20%**
- 18-24 years old **10%**
- 13-17 years old **3%**
- 65 or older **2%**
- 12 or under **1%**

2. I identify as

- Man **66%**
- Woman **21%**
- Prefer not to answer **5%**
- Gender expansive **3%**
- Transgender **3%**
- I am undecided or questioning **>1%**
- Non-binary **>1%**
- Two spirit **>1%**

3. The language/s I prefer the project materials to be presented in for full participation and feedback:

This list is based on the City of Portland's Language List of languages spoken by approximately 1,000 or more individuals.

- English **90%**
- Spanish **15%**
- Chinese **8%**
- Japanese **2%**
- Vietnamese **1%**
- Something else **1%**
 - French (3)
 - Tigrinya (1)
 - ASL (1)
- Ukrainian **1%**
- Russian **1%**
- Romanian **>1%**
- Tagalog **>1%**
- Korean **>1%**
- Arabic **>1%**
- Nepali **>1%**
- Mon-Khmer Cambodian **>1%**
- Laotian (Lao) **>1%**
- Chuukese **>1%**
- Somali **0%**

4. Does you or a family member live with a disability or identify as a disabled person?

- No **80%**
- Yes **20%**





5. If yes, please describe the nature of you and/or your family member's disability.

- Mental health **31%**
- Neurodivergence **31%**
- Mobility or other physical disabilities **23%**
- Prefer not to answer **22%**
- Intellectual, developmental, cognitive **15%**
- Invisible **15%**
- Hearing **12%**
- Speech or communication **8%**
- Visual **6%**

6. Regarding residence, I

- Rent **55%**
- Own **34%**
- Live with my parents **10%**
- Other **1%**
 - Sober living (2 responses)
 - Live with partner (1)
 - Live as a caretaker (1)
 - Multiple locations (1)

7. How many children under age 18 live with you?

- 0 – **73%**
- 1-2 – **23%**
- 3-4 – **3%**
- 5 or more – **>1%**

8. What are their ages?

- 11-14 years **34%**
- 7-10 years **33%**
- 15-18 years **28%**
- 3-6 years **23%**
- 0-2 years **17%**





9. Which neighborhood do you live in?

There was an option to choose specific neighborhoods surrounding the Steel Bridge project site, and the results have been broken down by Portland City Districts.

- District 2 – **34%**
 - Overlook **3%**
 - Lloyd **3%**
- District 4 – **32%**
 - Downtown **6%**
 - Oldtown/Chinatown **3%**
- District 3 – **28%**
 - Goose Hollow **3%**
 - Pearl **3%**
- District 1 – **10%**
- Outside of Portland **21%**
- Kerns **4%**

10. How far do you travel to get to the PP&R skatepark you skate at most often?

- More than one mile **67%**
- I do not currently skate at PP&R skateparks **20%**
- Less than one mile **8%**
- Five blocks or less **5%**

11. How often do you currently visit Old Town/Chinatown?

- A few times a year **31%**
- Once or twice a month **30%**
- Once or twice a week **21%**
- Every day or every other day **10%**
- Never **8%**

12. How did you hear about this event?

- Instagram **46%**
- Friend/neighbor/family member **42%**
- Facebook **15%**
- Email **13%**
- Flyer **8%**
- Neighborhood Association **2%**
- Postcard **1%**
- Event **1%**
- Non-Parks Website **1%**
- Nextdoor.com **0%**





Next Steps

Feedback will be shared with project partners, DAO Architecture, Lango Hansen, Grindline, and Dreamlands Skatepark (design team), and Project Advisory Committee (community members guiding the project).

These groups will incorporate community feedback into the next round of designs.

Updated design concepts will be shared for additional community input at the second community gathering scheduled for Spring or Summer 2026.

Online Survey Appendices

Some questions had open-ended responses, this appendix is has a full comment details for each question with an open-ended option.

Appendix 1 – Question 1. What features would help make this a welcoming and safe space for everyone — skaters and non-skaters alike?

Open-ended Responses to “other”: 87
Adaptive Skate Features
If you want safety don't build it. If you don't want vandalism and graffiti don't build it.
Entrance further from active MAX crossing, looks really sketchy in the rendering
Option 1 seems more aware of challenges of Glisan/Naito intersection
Bathrooms
Bathrooms
Bathrooms
Bathrooms and water fountains!
BBQs
Bikes must be allowed
Charging bank for phones and speakers
Children's area
Food carts
Green space and landscaping needs to be carefully considered and not become a muddy, bark-mulchy mess. This is often overlooked in skatepark design.
Hook ups for a few food trucks
modern urban plaza elements
Open areas
Public bathrooms!!!!
Restroom water fountain trash and recycling





Space for graffiti
water
Water fountain
Water station
All of these items need to be included. And so much more. How does limiting people to three of these items help this project? Parks outreach is outdated. The most important thing is that Parks does not just develop another version of the same type of skateparks they do every time. This should be a shared skate plaza space that allows many types of recreation.
Drinking water fountain and smaller water feature to provide cool down opportunities in the summer
Water fountain/features
Sound abatement walls (reduce noise pollution), and a roof to support future solar panels. Make it useful in multiple ways.
Blank spaces of flatground for activations, tabling, space for beginners to own, safe needle drop off site, free 2 hour parking (average skate session)
flat smooth open space
Make every seat skateable - no breaks or stoppers
Mixed use OPENAIR space (think Berlin Mauerpark, Holtzmarkt, Tiergarten...) Space should be inviting as a park, fostering culture of the area on a daily basis...Think Venice Beach skatepark and how it mixes with the beach and bike path as a cultural focus...
OPEN SPACE to move - making it feel like it's integrated with the surroundings - like some of the skateable European plazas rather than a caged in area that is too stacked with skate obstacles concrete
Open space, flood (not spot) lighting until 11pm(ish) and skate ledges and regular ledges for seating
Venice Skatepark's separate audience viewing area (clearly demarcated by railing) around the park keeps everyone safe while letting parents/tourists enjoy the action! Do not create multiple "seamless" entry ways into the park from public areas or walkways. This will unconsciously encourage non-participant to enter the park. This is dangerous to both users of the park and onlookers. You know this already. Do not let the landscape architects persuade you otherwise.
Lots of places to observe from a distance
A roof designed to keep water off of the park more so than sun shade.
Cover
Cover - for use in all weather/seasons.
Cover for rain





cover from rain
Cover from rain, lots of light
Cover from the elements
Cover over some areas
cover over the skatepark for rain
cover that keeps rain out, good drainage system for puddles
covered and lighted skate areas (rain)
covered areas to get out of rain
Covered areas, dry concrete!!!
Functional cover so that the skatepark is skateable when it rains.
Functional rain cover!
It would be so nice if it was at least partially covered so we can still skate on rainy days.
lighting, shade, and a rain cover
Please make sure the roof to rain line actually allows you to ride park when wet
rain cover
rain cover
Rain cover
Rain cover
Rain cover
Rain cover
rain cover
Shelter

Appendix 2 – Question 2. How can the design celebrate the park’s unique location and reflect Old Town’s character and history?

Open-ended Responses to “other”: 43
A concrete stump to skate with tight transition.
A curved kicker to kicker gap
A mirror of the Burnside would celebrate Portland skate culture like no other feature could.
Again, a poorly written question that limits the necessary outcome. All of these options are valid and there are more. None of the design concepts presented do anything special to represent Old Town. The concepts are generic. They could be applied to any neighborhood in any City because there is nothing special about them. The design team should work to determine the true spirit of this place and develop design ideas that truly represent this incredibly unique context. Also typing info into





these text boxes is not user-friendly. Because you can't see what you have written. Another poor example of successful public outreach.
Art designed by Asian Americans.
as long as it is second priority to proper functioning skate obstacles
Clean up surrounding areas, fund security
Current history would suggest trash, human excrement, the strong scent of urine and shit, syringes, crime, vandalism, graffiti.
Dedicated staff to keep it clean and homeless free
design it so access points for how people will arrive at the park lend to skaters being able to easily get to old town side of the park to support business - have it so you can skate down the street to connect to other stuff in the community
dont care, to be honest
Drop in from Steel Bridge
Everything should be from the gilded age.
Famous pdx spots from downtown.
Graffiti
I thinking using lots of brick and granite would be cool for that
If you include history don't forget about how the city set up a speaker to play horrible noises to deter houseless people.
include community and hire local aritst ti create artwork
Interactive art, or shout outs too famous portland spots
keep it simple, less is more. open plazas with simple granite benches
Lean into the cherry blossoms which are right there
Lean into the train somehow. It's a big part of that area.
Let the flow of the park reflect the cascades and constant moving water through the city
Let this space redefine its relationship to Portland within Old Town in and of itself as it becomes used after it's built (think Love park in new Philly)
Local art and special features that mimic landmarks
Look at SoMa west skatepark in sf. Every obstacle in that park is an interpretation of a famous skate spot in the city. Including subtle things in the design of the skatepark itself to share the history of old town and Portland would be really cool.
look at the major skatepark in Boise they did an excellent job
Make rideable/skateable features that pay homage to the neighborhood (like the Tigard brick bank)
Music Shows





Old Town is an urban area and Portland skaters have done street skating in the area for decades, so it should focus on being an authentic street style plaza. Something that looks like and functions as a public plaza space, not an obvious skatepark.
Outdoors exposition (art) / events
Overall park color scheme
Pieces of materials can be used to create unique skate elements in the park. (Templehof field skate plaza uses pieces of the former palace of republic DDR throughout the park, great reference.
Preserve plaque/incorporate old photos as educational tools for its history
reflect Japanese and Chinese communities with landscaping or cherry blossoms.
Replicating and honoring skateboarding history staples (department of skateboarding, Keller fountain park, etc
should include materials and designs that don't just reflect Old Town, but it's history as Chinatown as well
Some Old Town/China town/Japan town references should be included. We don't need to go over the top. The history of the neighborhood is better told by places like the Lan Su Chinese Gardens.
Though these are neat aspects, I'm more concerned with how parks are built and how they ride. I like these aspects but I never enjoy a park for its unique location
transform it into a new (china) town
Use brick and stone for certain elements of a plaza style park
Use garden motifs from Chinese garden, showing cultural diversity and community unity
Utilize the materials of old town (brick, stone, concrete, even cobblestone) to create plaza features that connect the park to the history of the area
A concrete stump to skate with tight transition.

Appendix 3 – Question 3. What should the design emphasize to better connect the park to Waterfront Park, nearby landmarks, and local businesses?

Open-ended Responses to “other”: 34
A ferry, music, and PA system
A mirror of the Burnside park would connect Portlands past with it's future and become a world famous landmark in it's own right.
a timer for Trimet MAX and bus lines
Again, a separate audience viewing area similar to the Venice Beach Skatepark.
all of the above are excellent, also inviting community into the skate space in a way that is safe, for example the planters as possible seating, but are out of the way from





the run-up to get speed to skate the obstacles - have teh non-skating community be able to access this space, like people jogging through can have a path, but it won't be in the way of skate lines
Care to mix-use too much, pedestrians will become hazard in skate space without realizing
Connectivity to nearby housing. Pedestrian bridge across 1'st st
Cultural program fund to ensure constant commitment (and employees) to maintenance for 20+ years
Don't create spaces and platforms that make it easy to camp.
don't over crowd the space. don't build large vert ramps. lean more towards open space with flat ground, ledges, banks and curbs, intermediate skill level design build. lean more into creative design not gnarly bowl design.
Easy signage and public restrooms near the area.
Easy transit access
Effective cover for inclement weather so that the park is functional during rain.
Enough blank, flatground, a skateable stage that function as beginner areas when not being used for events, tabling, booths, music, etc
Have addition skateable obstacle on the waterfront side of the street that help guide you towards the plaza once you cross the bridge.
I'd like to see a true urban plaza like Pioneer Courthouse Square. The skatepark is the focus, but this could be a new Third Space for people to gather. Art and food pop ups, concerts, community events!
Just don't build it.
Keep it extra kid-friendly and promote a non-sport dominant environment. All skatee parks in the state focus very heavily on skateboards only, not skates, or scooters or bmx.
Keep pedestrians away from the MAX intersection make the grand entrance towards the waterfront park/SE corner of the skatepark
No pop ups at the skatepark please. This is a place to skate, not gather and sell things :(
Parking!
Pedestrian walkways
Plants and trees!
PNCA Partnerships
River, tree and mountain elements
Skateable and versatile walking ways.
Skateable obstacles that lead you from the bridge to the skatepark
Skatepark expansion (beginner area) into North Waterfront Park





Smooth transition from pedestrian space into skate space as features start simple and get more intricate to dissuade to much pedestrian traffic in skate zones
The skate plaza should be a great place to just hang out, not just to skate. The plaza design should ripple out and intentionally connect to the adjacent urban fabric. This is a chance to reconnect Old Town to the river. The design team should zoom out and study this more.
The space should be bright and covered, which often work in conflict of each other. A welcoming space is a visible space
There should be a signed and delineated path from the NW Flanders Greenway to the Naito bike lanes.
this project should extend all the way to the waterfront
Try to use recycled plastic asphalt for bike lanes and pedestrian paths. It would show that Portland wants to be environmentally friendly and this would be the perfect spot for proof of concept for a new material .

Appendix 4 – Question 4. What amenities would you like to see included?

Open-ended Responses to “other”: 56
a raised space that is a bit seperate from the park to allow for events (you could have judging table, Area for a DJ or MC to set up, this doesn't need to be a big space, but it needs to be a bit of space with electrical access) This would allow the city to permit the space for events and have them be what companies are looking for to be able to host events. I saw this as I work at adidas and managed hosting skate events around teh world, but we rarely do any in portland, partly as there isn't an ideal set-up that is easily ready to go.
A restroom would NOT be a good idea.
A safe place for storing belongings. Maybe a partially fenced section where seating is
A working roof
Adaptive Skate Features
All feel very important imo
ALL OF THESE
Another poorly written question that limits the outcome. All of these things, right? And more things. Basketball hoop. Area to stretch and exercise. Consider intergenerational active recreation opportunities. Stage for performance. Area for video projection and video premiers. Flexible area where people can modify the environment? Dynamic > static. All of the designs presented are generic and limiting. The design team has limited themselves to providing only seating, skate obstacles, and over-designed roof structure. This shared plaza should offer more than that.





Artist gallery area
Be cognizant of maintenance costs and ability to secure area
Bike parking
Board and safety gear rentals
can't emphasize shade enough, so many skateparks are fully exposed to the sun, aslo they often face east to west which can be miserable when the sun is starting to set, blinding in one direction
Combine public program with the ongoing development with the 1803 fund
Cover for the rain
COVER FROM THE RAIN!
cover over the skatepark
Cover part of the park in case it rains
Covered skate areas (rain)
Covered skate space to keep park dry during winter months.
Covered skatpark, lights
covered spots to skate on rainy days.
Covered. Able to skate in the rain.
covering to ensure skatepark stays dry from rain
Do NOT include restrooms.
Food and coffee kiosk only invites littering into the park. This is a skatepark not a marketplace. Why are yall so eager to sell stuff at the skatepark ????
Food Trucks (Permenent or just hookups for events)
Free public Parking
Functional rain cover and lights are a must!
large trees
Lighting would be a game changer for the Portland skate scene as the only park with lights in the entire metro area is in Beaverton and the lights aren't very good. They need to be super bright in order to skate at night, plus the lights will help deter crime.
Lots of skateable stuff
Make sure park is FULLY covered!
meeting table
Outside viewing
Rain cover
rain cover
rain cover
rain cover
Rain cover
Rain cover





Rain coverage
Rain protection is all that matters
Rain protection, especially from water flowing into the park from wherever.
Roof that allows skating even when it's raining
Safe needle drop site, bulletin board for community updates and resources, wheelchair access for full outer perimeter (to view every area for contests and events), natural lawns and native plant species
Shade from rain.
Skate tool and bike tool stand
Sound abatement, and a roof that supports solar panels
Space for events
There really needs to be a high-quality bike route between NW flanders and the steel bridge path through / adjacent to this project
These four things are very important to safe community spaces: staying hydrated is essential, if there are no bathrooms guys will just find a corner to piss in, lighting will help with night life revitalization, shade is essential when it is hot
Transition areas between skatepark and cityscape large enough to create true third spaces tha the city users can enjoy as well as the riders.
trash cans, recycling, waste disposal
Vending machines and trash cans
Zero amenities. Stop wasting public funds when the city is in a doom loop.

Appendix 5 – Question 5. How would you use the Steel Bridge Skatepark + Plaza?

Open-ended Responses to "other": 29
A skatepark is a gathering place, we would hang there a lot
BMX
burnside
Comps
Definitely meet with friends WHILE skating
Drawing
Film video clips to learn and showcase tricks.
Fingerboards
Host adaptive skate meet ups
I can't because I'm neurodivergent. You think everyone is going to want to use this but about 18-20% population will need to avoid it.
If it is built I would use it as an example of government waste and corruption.
Just skateboard





Live mural paintings. Music performance. Basketball. Ping pong. Rock climbing. Stretching and exercise. Protest. Sleeping. Bonsai demonstration. Eating food. Tai Chi. Neighborhood meetings. Chinese New Year celebrations.
Open space. Nothing over crowded.
Photograph
Photography
Playground for littles - families can be together older kids with skates little ones having fun
roller skate
Shoot photos
Skate
Skateboard skateboard skateboard
skateboarding
Skateboarding
Skateboarding. Preferably a mirror of the Burnside park, that would be sick.
Sleep
smoke piffs
Take photos
Teach children, we need friendly and approachable spaces
theatre/symphony

Appendix 6 – Question 6. What skate and ride features are most important to include?

Open-ended Responses to “other”: 74
A decent step up gap. Slappy curbs. Options slightly outside the skatepark, on the pathway
A good amount of sub 4’ tall transitions to make it fun/approachable for all skill levels. Portland does not need another deep pool or massive vert bowl!
All features should be designed as one concept with the public space areas. Should be seamless as one plaza. Like in Malmo.
All skateparks in the portland are very transition focused. It would be great to see more street-oriented terrain and less giant bowls and quarter pipes that no one skates.
Approachable mini ramp with minimal flat but also not crazy close. Also mix of large and small features, portland has so many large features already
Banks and small transition for flow
Barcelona style street obstacles (planters with embankments on the sides, etc.)





Big bowl
Big transition, 6ft plus
BMX style bowl designs are far too often overlooked. The bowl in Design option 1 is a great example of how to do it right
Box jump line with some being hips, and turns included, which could surround bowls and street course, kind of like a lap around the perimeter.
Brick and marble
Cannot emphasize this enough: Portland, and Oregon in general, does not need more transition parks. Go to pier park, go to Astoria, go to newberg...nobody is skating. We need a skate plaza similar to ed Benedict. We don't need another burnside. Skate across the bridge if you want to skate transition. Please please please do not build a transition park or ask dreamland to build a plaza. They don't know how to build a plaza.
Classic backyard pool with mellow transitions in the shallow end, flow bowl and grom mini half pipe.
Create integrated versions of spots and architecture around town that looks authentic to the space but skates better like the bank to ledge/barrier right there. Leading to an authentic cohesive plaza that looks like it was meant to be there with a consistent style and detail details.
Curbs and manual pads
Do a complete perfect recreation of burnside park , period
Don't need more bowls
Everything all kinds of skate obstacles and every section for different levels of skaters
Fingerboard park
Flat ground
Flat ground. Banks. Slappy curbs. Ledges painted red and white.
Flow
Flow
Focus on street features. We want well made obstacles with enough space between them. Flow is the most important. The transition skaters will be happy if you build them a covered pool in the corner
girl bowl (pink)
Granite / tiles - quality materials
Isolated beginner zone with low impact obstacles
it should have the feel of a modern urban plaza, that happens to be skateable
Just build a really nice very long and short quarter pipe, a really long flat bar, a really long flat ledge, a perfect hip and then you can build whatever you want after that. The issue with every other park that has ever been built in Portland is that they fail to





include basic obstacles and instead start with insane creations that look cool but aren't practical or fun for most skaters. There is millions of dollars worth of wasted concrete in the metro area that never gets used due to this problem. That's why you see more people at crappy diy spots that have a few ledges and some wooden quarter pipes than you ever would at parks with these massive bowls and crazy art pieces of obstacles- these areas are depressing wastelands of skateparks that never get used. We would be better off getting paving over them to put some ledges and manual pads, you would have the packed with kids. There's no reason to waste money on stuff that won't be used. Just think practically instead of just what looks cool.

Kicker gaps and SPINES

ledges and curbs -- most skate park ledges and obstacles are too big for me. Would like a variety with some lower than usual ledges, like 12 inch, 14 inch, 16 inch heights - while it seems minor, it really is the difference of if the space will be use-able for me or not. Creative but small features that are fun and allow for older and younger skaters to have a welcoming space that is fun and approachable - like a small pole jam rather than multiple giant handrails that are all the same. A 45 degree hip would be good (rather than 90 degree). Stuff that is easier to skate would make it use-able for more people. Most skateparks are designed based on an SLS course design and these are for olympic level. make small easy to skate street obstacles please :)

Long ledges 10' or longer around 16" tall.

LONGGGGG ledges pretty please!!

MANUAL PADS AND LEDGES THAT DONT FLOW INTO TRANSITION SECTIONS PLEASE FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

Minimize street elements and focus on more advanced flow terrain. A lot of skaters in the community grew up with burnside and are good skaters. It is always good for a "beginner area" but sometimes beginner obstacles are more akin to getting hurt than more advanced features and learning how to ride them.

mostly street. with ample space for people to bring and build their own obstacles. would be ideal for transition to serve primarily for flow. there is already a transition park on the other side of the river at Burnside.

Music

NO BIG BOWLS OREGON HAS ENOUGH AND THEY DONT GET USED

no bowls or pools. incorporating small quarter pipes and banks for beginners and intermediate skateboarders to be able to ride/practice. experts can make do with all the obstacles.

No more evergreen skateparks, use Dreamland





Not repeating the same skatepark templates around Portland and Oregon: no giant bowls, no street league parks, something unique and vibrant to add to the community rather than repackage the same thing
Open flat concrete void of skate obstacles.
Open Space to roll around
Plaza style
plaza style features like how they have in europe/ barca/copenhagen
Please avoid wasting space on large obstacles -- better to create a plaza style park with small to moderate transition for maximum useability - large transition obstacles or street obstacles deter shared use and restrict access to beginning and intermediate skaters, bmxers and scooter-ers - please also consider flow of the space so that it can be usable by multiple individuals at the same time,
Please don't build a massive bowl
Please keep it strictly street obstacles. Incorporating what skateboarders would enjoy skateboarding throughout downtown Portland
Please provide substantial wide flat level spaces for quad and inline skaters who want to practice jam skating.
Pool coping and curbs!
Prioritize street terrain, plaza style, with transition elements for flow
Progression focus, areas for all abilities to improve their skills
Progression obstacles
proper vert style pool or bowl. Vert is very important for transition skateboarding to progress
Pump track.
Slappy curbs and beginner friendly fun features
Slappy curbs, low ledges and manuel pads, banks, low impact creative obstacles, hips.
smooth flat open areas
Some separation of beginner from advanced areas. Too close together and it invites comparison and can be intimidating.
Something like the L shaped flow bowl at Newark Skatepark, CA it's a perfect 3ft long mini ramp that flows left into a rounded taller pocket
Spine, fun box that isn't sketchy
Straight ledges accessible without transitions.
Surfskate
The basics need to be done well, like a long medium ledge or a long mellow quarter pipe. Cramming too much into an area gets claustrophobic and kills the flow of the park. Take the most requested features and incorporate them into multiple areas, for instance, some people love just skating a ledge, and you can have many basic ledges





around the perimeter without it interfering with the flow of the park, and they are one of the more low cost/high use features. There can certainly be some bigger "competitive" sized features, but that doesn't cater to a very large percentage of the demographic
The weirder the funner, rocks, pool coping, windy ramps, textured areas
Think Frogger across Naito.
this city is over saturated with transition and bowls, we just need a big flat open space with like 4 ledges in a row. both sides.
Transition is dope but has oversaturated every park in Portland except ed Benedict
Vert and all levels
We have way to much transition and and bowls in Portland's skateparks. There is an extreme lack of equity with providing street skating. Ed Benedict skate plaza is the only street skating focused park and it is far from downtown. Burnside is right across the river from Steel Bridge. No more bowls! We need granite ledges. Stop doing float finished concrete for flat ground. It is overdone and does not skate well. Yes to beginner areas, creative obstacles, and skateable art.
We need a plaza style park
we need big walls this is Oregon. Respect the history of skateboarding here as well as accessibility
We need skateable spaces!!!! Those are the best examples on each mood board. And, NO BOWLS AT ALL! This site is a half mile/13 minute walk from the Burnside skatepark. It is the most famous skatepark in the world- full of the coolest, unique, and challenging transition elements. We have the bowls right there, we don't need more.

Appendix 7 – Question 10. Is there anything else you’d like to share?

Open-ended Responses: 199
@[redacted] on instagram has a design that he created that is almost perfect. It’s like exactly what we need. Go look at that, it’s the second post. He has the right idea- plaza style, transition elements for flow. We should have an all ages bowl and a pool, a big flow bowl takes too much space. Pump tracks are also a waste of space, and we already have them elsewhere. Do not build a pump track. It will be completely out of place. This should be an urban plaza style space above all else
A lot of the image refs in your PDFs are very designs. Please don't spend all the money on landscape design details like artistic benches, sculpture or other cutesy things. The community can bring art and murals later. Make a damn good skate park first and foremost. Curved concrete is the most important. We have flat spaces and stairs





everywhere but skaters want ramps and bowls. Smaller for beginner and then step up from there. Glenhaven in Portland 82nd ave is a good example. Anacortes is another great one that is very new still. Less desigy fluff. More classic skateable features please.

A plaza and amphitheater street style space surrounding above a more traditional competition style street course with transitions and banks integrated below. Allowing a more authentic pedestrian experience as the engaged in the space and then towards the center where the more advanced bigger features are. Raw street around the edges with ledges, with a main feature big stair set rail ledges as the central obstacle that leads to the street course

A pump track is skateable for a levels and if the surface is smooth appropriate for all disciplines. And while they do take up space they are also visually interesting

Add a fingerboard park

Add food carts and program competitions.

Adding some street vending near the steel bridge - I'm thinking of a coffee cart or food spot - would be a huge addition to the area. This area is on many people's route to various places around the city by bike and it could be a great vending spot. This could serve as the 'corner store' for the skatepark as well

Advanced bowl

All you need is a good ledge or two, a flatbar, a good mini ramp (maybe 4-5'), lights, and cover.

Which obstacles you pick is not as important as how well they're built and how everything is laid out, such that it has a natural flow to it. For the love of all that is green and good in this word, PLEASE have someone who actually skateboards (or rolls on some kind of wheels) design the park and how the obstacles are laid out in relation to each other.

this idea of having "beginner areas" feels a little mislead, to be honest. i've seen a number of parks/"skate dots" in the portland area that are beginner-focused, and they just kind of end up being bad skate parks, without that much actual added value to beginners.

see beaverton skatepark for an example of a park that's completely skateable by beginners and enjoyable for more advanced skaters. Just don't build a 12 foot pool





coping bowl, and don't build borderline-unskateable, super-flat "beginner" features or flowy blobs. Build a regular, well-constructed skatepark with medium size features.

also, do not build that nightmarish diving board feature. some kid or random park-going pedestrian is going to "take a dive" off that for sure.

An integrated design between skatepark and plaza where the difference is indistinguishable

As a professional BMX rider from France who moved to Portland a year ago it's very difficult to keep my routine training here because of the lack of infrastructure. I have to drive to Tigard 4-5 times a week to train and every time I want to try anything, I fall. This project is a good opportunity to make something for everyone but if you pick a park with a bowl, include a spine and a BMX jump.

Bank to ledge!

Big balls for pro level contests

Big half pipe/big transitions!

Build obstacles out of brick and stone in some places with give an authentic feel
Beautiful stone, ledges, standards obstacles, well built
The roof needs to cover the whole park and keep it dry.
Function > form
Lights are essential

burnside bowl is right across the water, what we need is a street inspired skate plaza not another bowl

burnside

Consider the ponderosa pines with new plantings.

Considering that most public skateparks in the Portland metro area are not equipped with cover for rain, it is imperative that this be a priority for this project. People want to practice skateboarding and other similar activities even when it is raining.

covered / dry skate space very important. Would love to see more big transition features that Grindline is known for from the past.

Creating lines that actually flow is so important and makes a park great when it's done well. I know this is called a skatepark, but please keep BMX bikes in mind. There are a lot of bmx riders that will likely ride this park regularly. I mentioned the box jump line around the perimeter, this can help keep bikes and boards out of each other's way pretty naturally. Claremont in San Diego has an amazing looking box jump line. And more locally, Orcas Island skatepark does this really well, with a super fun lap around the perimeter with a great bowl and cool street setups in the middle.





Cultivate the next generation of skaters.
Curb Spine like Napa would be sick!
Different coping, pool block, exposed aggregate, river rock, etc.
Doesn't appear to be a question regarding which Option users prefer. Option 1 feels most aware of neighborhood and skateboard use.
Don't make it a massive bowl for the love of god just make a normal street plaza
don't let evergreen build it
Dreamland and Grindline are not skate plaza designers. They do big, gnarly skateparks and that is not the intent of this project. The last thing our city needs is another Dreamland / Grindline park. Most of the skateboarding community skates street and has completely checked out from the outreach process because Parks has lost their trust. The fact that the project is being designed to separate plaza areas in yellow and skate areas in grey is already a major flaw. This should be an integrated plaza space. Preston is our only hope for this project turning out somewhat decent. You should give some of the design fee to Preston rather than exploit community members and not compensate them.
Envisioning something like the Lot 11 skate park in Miami Fl. except less stair/rails. more Mellow/ intermediate stuff with lots of flat ground/ creative stuff
Euro gap, many pads
Euro gap, pole jam
Everything within the skatepark should be for skating, bike riding, and all-wheels. Pedestrian and seating areas should be outside in a designated area.
Excited for this!
Features that are fun for beginners and experienced riders is ideal. Small, steep, smooth, long grinds! Slappys! Designed to accommodate large numbers of skaters at once.
Flat ground
Flatbar, flat edge, many pad, cradles
Focus on street obstacles, but build a pool and a mini bowl
Food place
Fresh water and community use space for throwing events, Materials and textures - choose what will stay smoothest the longest vs a cool texture that breaks. Single 8-10ft bowl or intermediate/advanced bowl (not more than one)
give some money to Burnside skate park
Give us some super long ledges of different heights please and thank you!!!!
Have plaza design elements and granite and skate able art and lots of ledges and rails - take inspiration from European skate plaza
Helly Kitty bowl





<p>Hoping more than anything that this contract doesn't go to Evergreen Skateparks. The region is already over saturated with their tired, boring builds.</p>
<p>I appreciate you considering quad park skaters in this design! I'm especially excited about big flowy bowls, and would love to see one that creates a half pipe on one end</p>
<p>I cannot stress enough that all skateparks in the Portland (and Oregon) areas are very transition focused with huge bowls and quarter pipes that hardly anyone skates. It would be really cool to see this park be the opposite of that and use this opportunity to build something unique for people that aren't transition skaters, or like to skate everything.</p>
<p>I feel this plaza should mirror traditional plazas, limiting the amount of transition features and focusing more on cohesive skate features that mirror things we see in everyday life</p>
<p>I hope this project thinks about the views of the design & art from the MAX as transit riders enter Old Town/Chinatown - this is a major entry point.</p>
<p>I just want to share my 2 cents on the difficulty level and design of this park. Every time grindline or evergreen build a park there is always consideration for beginners so most of the park is small transition and/or ledges. Im not saying this steel bridge park has to be built for advanced skaters but it is an opportunity for the city to build something that is nice to look at for non-skaters and maybe that means it is a bit off the wall or out of the ordinary of your cookie cutter grindline/evergreen park. maybe it makes the skaters think a little bit. i think there are enough beginner parks so i'm hoping this park serves the intermediate with more interesting obstacles.</p>
<p>I live nearby at McCormick Pier. This project couldn't come fast enough. This area is a perfect spot for it. Please have good lighting, otherwise this area can become neglected as it currently is.</p>
<p>Rotating food carts would always get my money</p>
<p>I think a stronger landscape presence would help including some large trees. This is an important link for the Flanders bikeway to connect to Naito, the Waterfront and across the Steel Bridge, but the connection feels pretty weak. Consider a consistent flow of bikes and e-vehicles moving through here.</p>
<p>I think it's really important to minimize expenditures related to over-the-top features - full pipes, the diving board thing, etc. And instead invest into features that will actually be skated. For every giant quarter, full pipe, or other expensive, barely skated feature, you could build multiple many pads, curbs, low rails, ledge/manual/bank integrated areas, etc. That and/or interesting, unorthodox features. Think Alexis Sablone's park. Extremely cost effective and more interesting and more trafficked than any of the 00s "video game" style skateparks.</p>
<p>I would like a half or quarter pipe.</p>





I would like the skatepark to have more open space and less features. I think so many skateparks are created with idea that more features are better, but I believe having fewer features with more space in between caters to a more inviting environment both for skaters and non-rolling visitors of the park. My favorite places to skate have been plazas with lots of open space where my non-skate friends don't feel like they are impeding on the flow of the skate-able area.
I would like to help build and design!
I would like to see a roof/covering, however, I think it would require more maintenance and liability than it's worth.
I would love a water fountain, restrooms and covered space with skateable features to be able to enjoy during the rainy season.
I would love this place to be a mostly street plaza with a section or creative transition features spread out with pool coping
I would love to see a 5 foot box jump like parks in the uk have a lot, also a hip like the hip at Boise would be amazing, and the design the Swedish skatepark used in the 3rd design is a perfect bowl
I would really love to see a esthetic, unique and varied skate park with a little something for everyone. I would also love an iconic feature or zone that really makes it stand out.
I'd love to see some brick terrain because of the unique traction and feel it provides. Also both wedge hips and quarter pipe hips, and plenty of ramp features that are taller than the average Portland park. Many designs seem limited to 3-4 feet tall. Also please use durable metal coping that can last for many years and is designed to grind well for all sports. Sometimes coping is too low or a poor sliding material.
If the roof doesn't cover the majority of the park putting one in at all is useless, look at Corvallis and washington Jefferson in Eugene, not fully covered so when it rains it's wet, look at burnside completely covered and never wet
Include a pro bowl like in the original design. Or very deep pockets and challenging elements in the flow bowl. Portland has a long history of transition skating and the park should include elements for more advanced transition users. No rock or exposed aggregate coping.
Include open space for beginners to learn and experienced to warm up
Increase artistic performances
Increase the number of tree-lined roads or areas.
Integrate circulation corridors, access, and viewpoint opportunities. Create pedestrian, business, and safety zones to integrate. Partial roof structure design in lieu or full courage or retractable fabric/screen etc. Hold events for public to integrate use to others.





Integration of art, landscape, and plazas would be ideal and accessible. The less it looks like a skatepark the better. I'm also a bowl rider so having room for 1-2 bowls would be cool too. Big emphasis on unique features and skateable art. Makes a skatepark worth going vs any other skatepark in the area.
Invite community to be part of the events as a vendors free cost (Benefit for everybody)
It is important to not make every park so open to beginners we have a lot of easy learning spots in Portland, the "crown jewel" should definitely have elements but should be geared towards more intermediate-advanced skaters. We cant have a city full of berrydale and khunokomost parks. Please, please, please for the love of God dont let evergreen build it. Let grindline/dreamland collab on it.
It is my opinion that Oregon already has enough bowls. We do not need a park with more terrifying bowls that limited numbers of people can skate. Please don't build something like Corvallis did, that awful terrifying bowl instead of more low impact street obstacles. Flow is important, but Portland needs another dedicated street plaza.
Keep it accessible all year round, day and night
Keep it dry and lit at night.
Keep the space open. Don't over-crowd it with elements.
Large well-built bowls like no other in Portland - for events and tourism.
Lemmings should never be in charge of city funds.
Less is more - just make it a nice public plaza where people are allowed to ride, keep it very open and don't cram in too much. One mini ramp bowl and one small organic pump zone and the rest open plaza. European style, not competition style!
Lighting art like seen at the winter lights to activate the space
Lighting is most important. Prefer bowls and transitions
Lighting to be able to skate after sunset!
Lights and rain cover!
Lights, inspired by Rhodes skatepark in Boise Idaho
Long, wide manny pad, ledge combos, and euro gaps
look at copenhagen, simplify the design, we don't necessarily need another "skatepark" as we just need a sanctioned place to skate that feels part of the city.
Love places to gather watch and eat lunch while more advanced skaters do there thing... Skatable park table... Been park esk but skate focused
Low maintenance green roofs. Celebrate / announce the entry points.
Lowered roof. Old-school pool design. Street Plaza. Separation between street, transition, and pool/bowl skate areas. Living landscape. Lights. Brick and stone.
Make rails low enough for both beginners and wheelchair skaters





Make roof much smaller while also using existing bridges for coverage. Option 3 tiered traverse was my favorite option.
Make skate features challenging, use the language "concrete park" not "skatepark". Hire Chinese and Japanese heritage artists.
Make the park something the most of people can skate and have fun at. Do NOT make something only high level pros can skate (big transition and huge rails are a hard NO)
Make the roof stick out 15 feet so sideways rain won't fall in
Making sure boxes and rails are at various heights. Sometimes a small rail is good for skaters but bad for bmxers. So a combination of heights
Malmö bowl tribute
Manny pad
Manny pad, euro gap, small quarter pipe. Dreamland skateparks builds too many bowls. Most skaters prefer street obstacles. This skatepark will see a lot of use. I hope the park is designed to accommodate crowds of skaters with plenty of room for street skating - not the one at a time bowls that Dreamland builds.
Marble or granite ledge.
Me
More advanced skills transitions and creative features.
Mural that speaks to the community, free paint wall, small quarterpipes (no big bowl). Less is more: leave space between obstacles and don't cram the zone with too much Long obstacles: people love a long simple ledge, people love a bug QP to hold a good grind Keep obstacles chest high or lower: there are the obstacles that get used most by the community
NO BIG BOWLS OR BIG TRANSITION. THIS EXCLUDES 95% OF THE SKATEBOARD COMMUNITY. BURNSIDE SUCKS DONT BELIEVE ME GO THERE YOURSELD
No bowls
No bowls please. There's way too many already. Portland needs a plaza style park that looks appealing and is simple in nature to draw a gathering of multiple age ranged skaters etc
Old Town and Chinatown, not Old Town or Chinatown. Inclusivity
Olympic/competition style bowl with room for spectators would bring visitors to competitive events. Accommodate possible add-on vertical elements for elite events?
Oregon (and Portland specifically) has a plethora of large transition features already. Smaller, more accessible features are going to be the best for a range of skaters looking for a park to suit needs that aren't already met. Also, prioritizing functionality over creativity is best. Centennial way in SF is a great example of a very simple park





done EXTREMELY well. The materials were high grade and it regularly draws both pros and newer skaters while still being a really simple park in its design.
Part of a successful skate space is designing the flow and surrounding area so that people can have clear areas to wait their turn without getting in the way of people actively skating. There's nothing more frustrating than having a fun place to skate where everyone waits in the middle of your line or on top of the obstacle you'd like to hit.
Permanent mural and a wall for free art to reduce vandalism and illegal graffiti.
Personally I'd like to see a large quarter to bank obstacle in the flow bowl. Something easy to get good speed for and able to be skated from both sides. Tigards bank wall setup is a great example of this. Something that I know is uncommon in the PNW is a good forgiving box jump/hip. Ex concrete waves in the UK or Chino skate park in California. Both of those parks use the spine/large center portion of the park and connect it all with a hip/box jump to create a super fun bowl to flow. Sand skate park has something kind of like this, but it's more of a volcano with the same transition all around Chino and concrete waves both have a designated takeoff/landing.
Plaza style skateable spaces with integrated urban and landscaping features.
Plaza!!! 😊
Please add a Euro gap feature
Please consider how simple of a PLAZA this could be and materials that can be implanted in design that a lot of parks don't have (granite, tile). There is no need for more bowls or pools when more than half of the people that skate that terrain can't do it anymore. We need a street style plate with ledges, pads, and quarter pipes for all to skate on - burnside is just across the river!
Please consider noise pollution control. With 18 to 20% of the population being Neurodivergent, and likely the sound will need to be avoided. I'm glad it's on the other side of NAITO from the waterfront path.
I'd love to see you use the roof line for solar panels to power the lights. Even if panels can't be worked into the current budget, plan for it with the shape and directions it faces.
Please cover entire park! The renders of creston are only partially covered so that even the covered obstacles won't have a dry run up or run out, making the park useless in the rain
Please create open flat terrain for jam and dance skaters. We want an outdoor place to legally skate on, too. Tired of getting yelled at on tennis courts.
Please do not go with option #3 for the design.





Please don't let Evergreen skateparks build this park. They do not echo the needs of local skaters, and are out of touch with what most people actually want to skate. Manual pads, slappy curbs, ledges, fun transition, flat bars, regular stuff. No bowls. And no quarter pipes that allow people to just barrel through the park at Mach 10 speeds.
Please don't build a massive bowl
Please don't make any bowls or transition elements over 2' tall. Burnside is one of the best transition skateparks in the world and is right across the river. This skatepark should be 100% an urban plaza with some skateable elements integrated into it. Welcoming to beginners. Spend money on granite ledges and other materials. Should not look like a skatepark at first glance.
Please focus on community access - particularly for beginner and intermediate skaters - and creating a park with lighting and rain-cover, which Portland is lacking in given our climate.
Please have a more street focused park. Oregon has way too many bowls and transition focused parks. No more dreamland parks!
Please have some sort of advanced area where the roof will actually cover the park from the rain
Please incorporate larger quarters such as 6ft, 8ft, and 10ft
Please make a mirror version of the Burnside park then do whatever with the rest of the space. Thank you to whomever is reading this.
Please make something that sparks hope and imagination in the minds and hearts of children and young people.
please put a cover on the park that keeps the rain out. doesn't have to look pretty it needs to be functional. please get grindline or dreamland to do the work.
Please use Dreamland or Grindline. They'll get it right!
Pole jam
Pool block, bricks, exposed aggregate, death boxes, love seats
Portland and surrounding areas has so much transition skating. Please focus on street/plaza features. Bigger does not mean better. Well designed beginner and intermediate friendly obstacles are fun for everyone even professionals. 90% of people can't skate big rails, stairs, bowls. It ends up goin unused.
Portland and the Northwest in general would not be the skateboard destination that it is today without Mark Scott. If Dreamland does not get the contract to design and build this project it would be an absolute travesty.
Portland has a lot of skateparks catering to transition and bowl skating. It also has a lot of skateparks focused on beginners and low barrier to entry obstacles. I think a street style plaza, that is mostly focused on intermediate level difficulty is what





Portland needs. This kind of skatepark also meshes better with dense or urban setting like downtown Portland. Some examples would be the love park remake in Malmo, or the newest skate plaza in Montreal.
Prioritize what actual skaters want, if skaters love it then it has the potential to become world renowned, and truly revitalize old town.
Protection from rain/lights Roof with lights Add unique/original obstacles, more advance level obstacles, good flow
Public restrooms are a must for a new park downtown where there are currently none/one in the area.
Pump track
Pumptrack
Quad friendly areas would be welcome
Red and the dreamland crew build incredible transitions parks that nobody skates. Go to any of their big parks around Oregon and they're always empty. We need a space that welcomes beginners and is fun for intermediate to advanced skaters. If you build another big transition park, you will not be creating new skaters who want to come to the space. I cannot emphasize this enough.
Replica of The Department bowl from option three, image seven or similar design. Your transition designers will be eager to "show" you what they got by shoving every possible transition type and size into one bowl. It has something for everyone! Don't fall for that. Tell them to put their ego aside and build at least one simple bowl. People will love it and they will love you for making a bold call to show restraint.
Seating and shade is so important! A roof to utilize the space during the rainy season is so important! Designing it so it does not get wet when it rains and remains skateable is so important. We need at least one flat bar that is exactly like the two that were at the old courts. RIP courts!
Should be a park ranger kiosk for active security presence, great place for a park if patrolled at all times. Could be very scary in this neighborhood if left to adult skaters without supervision.. some of the worst vigilante Karen's are 42 year old skater dads
Skateparks that flow through are nice for us advanced skaters and BMX'rs but can tend to be a safety hazard for younger non experienced riders.
-Smaller roof so we can still get some sunshine on the sunny days. -Don't over clutter the space with too many obstacles. Open flat ground areas are much needed. -If using granite, make sure its the right kind. Polished granite is a big no no. -"Gathering spaces" should be skate-able ledges.





smooth ground, open space, ledges. just like the skate plazas skaters get on a plane to skate. macba. love park.
Something special and unique that feels less like a normal skatepark and more like a city plaza. Less transition, more open space.
Stairs kill the flow in skateparks.
Stormwater pollution education would be very helpful and integrated in design. How about a balloon top roof. The acoustics are currently terrible
Storytelling needs work. Many people are confused and needs more storytelling to bring us to the starting line with you.
street ledges
Street plaza is what the community of skaters want. We have plenty of bowls and transition in the pnw. Time to change to street plazas.
Surfskate
Surveillance to prevent homeless people from sleeping in the park
Thanks!
The crown jewel of the first skatepark system, located in the downtown core, presents a unique opportunity to make an urban plaza style public space, designed as skateable elements. We won't have the same opportunity in other neighborhood parks. We seem to be on the path of simply making a larger version of the types of skateparks we've already done, but this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for something so much more
The greater Portland Metro is a transition heavy area and a modern street plaza will bring the city into the present. Additionally, integrating roofing designs that deliver a portion of dry/winter accessible terrain during the winter months is vital.
The Keller feature and the Diving board are way cool.
The last thing we need is another Evergreen style skatepark in Portland. The inner city needs a nice, skatable plaza that can welcome non skaters as well. Portland has too many pump tracks and big bowls/transition. A relaxed skate space that is beginner friendly would be super beneficial to Portland's skate community.
The Molenaar street section is a great reference!
the most popular and most polulated skate spots in the city are the courts and davinci middle school. both of which are WIDE OPEN and FLAT. the accommodates the most people skating at the same time.
The origami roof is such nice connection to the history as well as being a functional element.
There should be outlets for festival/music events and possibly a place to project video.
The park could really benefit with a proper clover bowl. Think 1970s Skate City (Whittier) clover bowl... Recreate the Turning Point Ramp! Get creative. All of the





current proposals seem too *architected* I want to see something wild. Make it mind blowing. Bring people to the waterfront!!

The roofing should be considered for sound-proofing since it's directly adjacent/under typically day-round heavy traffic

The skate community in Portland wants a PLAZA, not a big bowl.

A Plaza is NOT a “Street League Competition Style Park”. A Plaza is a public gathering space that integrates naturally into the urban environment. We want long ledges, planters, space between obstacles, and transition elements for flow.

If you visit most local parks, the big bowl is usually the feature in the park that gets the least use. Examples: Pier Park, Glenhaven Park, Bellingham Skatepark, Vancouver Park (off 162nd), Beaverton Skatepark. If you visit these parks, the "street section" is usually full of people with a wide range of skill levels. The bowl is generally empty, or being used by just a couple people. If you're reading this and disagree, I challenge you to visit one of these parks on a sunny day and be honest with what you observe.

If you visit Interstate DIY in Portland, you will notice that a vibrant community of skaters gather in the "Street Section". It is full of skaters regularly. The other side of the DIY has a large volcano transition piece, and this section is usually empty. Interstate DIY is proof that small obstacles get used by both advanced riders and beginners. Big bowls do not meet the needs of the community. Again, I challenge you to visit Interstate DIY and be honest with what you observe.

In regards to a park design, generally less is more. Keep it simple, leave space between obstacles, have a range of different ledge heights to accommodate for different skill levels. And incorporate transition and banks for flow. Have a working roof and lights.





Thank you for taking the time to read this.

I hope you listen to the needs of the community.

Burnside is directly across the river. Portland needs a centrally located street plaza

The skatepark builder evergreen, does not know what they are doing. They make facilities built for children, like a play ground, rather than a skatepark that caters to all ages and abilities. Grindline or CA skateparks are other builders that have done phenomenal work in the Portland metro area.

The skaters of Portland keep building skateable spaces. We're telling you with our actions what we need. It shows you exactly what gets used the most. The Courts, Creston DIY, Glenwood Park tennis courts, The Interstate DIY. Classified in the terms of this survey they are heavily beginner friendly skateable spaces. We have a chance to have an innovative skateable space skatepark in the heart of downtown. Huge for the city and for all the builders and designers! Huge for the skaters and the public to have this third space as somewhere to gather, skate, and build community. Let Steel Bridge and Burnside skatepark be the Yin and the Yang of central Portland skateparks. We already have the best transition park in the world. Let's also have the best skateable space skatepark in the world just across the river.

Keep the design simple! Less is more. Let the skateable spaces and beginner areas of the mood boards be your guiding light!

We don't need unique/standout features (sorry dreamland and grindline, but those always turn out dumb and are a waste of concrete). We don't need "diving boards", or skateable art. We certainly don't need anything that is "competition style". Let Rockstar/DewTour pay for their own contest courses. This park is for the skaters of Portland- those of us who will be there every day using it.

The tiered seating in Option 2 allows more variety in programming, however the canopy in Option 3 is preferred.

There are plenty of bowls and transition dominant parks in the portland area. What will be used the most are basic street obstacles. Ledges, stairs, rails, bump to obstacles, banks, manual pads and simple quarter pipes will provide the most room for use and progression. "Unique features" and "standout obstacles" may look nice in a picture but limit use and waste money.

There is a huge difference between a skateboard design bowl and a BMX friendly design bowl. A happy medium can absolutely be achieved. I would hope whichever skatepark designer you choose doesn't go to far one way or the other. Too much BMX design isn't great either. That's coming from a BMXer! The surface texture is massively





important for safety and feel. There are many newer built skateparks like Sandy OR and Eugene OR that are borderline dangerous for BMX tires due to how slippery they are. The BMX community is so excited to have a voice in this project. Thank you!
there is enough transition in portland. dont scare the kids away and make a good family friendly are where peple can build as a community. too many skateparks are packed together with big obstacles. we need a community park for beginners and intermediate where the advanced can come roll around for a warm up.
There really isnt much of need to make a skatepark for professionals. For the most part the skatepark gets used by people trying to have a good time, not get broke off, though that does still happen, it's just not the majority of people that need something like that for their skatepark
There should be never be anything that is internationally not skateable
This is a project that can make an impact in this neighborhood and overall city for the better. Thanks for your work on this. Keep pushing forward!
This needs to be a skatepark not an integrated park since it's dangerous to have a picnic near skateboarding. Since the city is losing one of its biggest cultural institutions in the eyes of young people, the burnside DIY, it would show a lot of respect for history and for skateboarding history to recreate this space and decline these overly architecture firm heavy designs.
This should be a street plaza with smaller long quarter pipes (<5') and banks.
This should be an opportunity to build a skatepark that will welcome skaters that haven't found a home at another park, be that because of too many advanced features, heavy transition focus, neighborhood/location, and especially shade and rain coverage. This is a super cool opportunity to provide something to the Portland skate scene that we don't already have!
Trust Dreamland and Grindline because they are the best
Unique obstacles are the most important thing for me ! But long ledges, banks and a flowy bowl are too !
Use a builder/architect/designer that comes from a skate background that truly understands skate boarding and how the important the flow of a park is.
Walkers shouldn't get in the way of skaters Pool, pool coping, transition, banks, brick stamps
We are stuck in a singer person skate park bowl format in the northwest, please focus on open space and inclusivity. look to Europe and Barcelona style space integration. The motocross pumptrack stuff is lame. You don't need to pack to many things in the space to make a good park. Better materials and open spaces for creativity.
We don't need more large bowl and transition areas. That is all ready available across river at burnside.





We have too many gnarly parks/features in Portland already. Let's keep this one chill.
We just really need a place to skate/ride in the winter time. There's no public park available to ride in the winter.
We need dry, covered areas to skate when it is raining.
We want Dreamland to be the builders.
Lots of loud things to grind, river rock, exposed aggregate, pool coping
WE WANT MINI RAMPS
Weird little street things like parking bumpers and weird funky shit
Where is the parking?
Whichever roof design keeps water off the most should be chosen, no other factors should be taken into consideration besides maybe the skylight idea that's kinda cool. Just focus solely on things that will actually get skated and used the rest is nice but it's going to be a waste of money to add all these features that look nice but nobody will actually care about. Just focus on building a skatepark. If people are going down there who don't skate they will surely be going there because there's a skatepark there not because there's some amazing art or architecture they heard about down there lol. Just be practical and real about what you're building. Don't build too many curved ledges and ramps that's annoying and nobody asked for that.
While a restroom would be awesome, it can only work if it receives proper maintenance.
While it's often referred to as "beginner" or "advanced" - there is a lot more at play in terms of being able to make a space that is usable for all skaters and fully represents the community. I'm 47 and have been skating over 30 years, I used to be pro and 25 years ago I might have wanted to jump down a 10 stair handrail -- however these days, I'd rather more low impact options. I skate with dozens of other street skaters who are 45 to 55 years old. We usually skate at Kellogg Middle school due to it having low curbs, and some open space to hang-out, talk or just sit for those in-between moments when you are taking a break. (that is part of what is so cool about skating, it's flexible time to what you feel like in the moment, rather than a timed game or something) Landscaping and space to account for this flexible use is great to have.
Skate obstacle wise - something like the Malmo Love park replica, but with ledges in a variety of different heights (12", 14", 16 inch high etc) that are lower than typical skate park ledges, and accessible for both younger and older skaters would be amazing to have. Something for everyone, young and old -- it should be approachable, both in terms of the landscaping making a welcoming environment, and also the skate-able terrain and obstacles should be welcoming. Bonus is that small stuff means less concrete and





less space needed and more cost efficient.

As far as concerns that I have after seeing the options -- it looks from the designs as if it will be quite packed with obstacles. Less density of obstacles, and making sure it is open enough to have a good flow is very important from a skate perspective (like making sure theres enough space to get the adequate run-up and speed for whatever you are skating) Enough open space will be even more important for safety, if it is mix-use with bikes and scooters.

While not the emphasis of the project, it does sit right at the end of the NW Flanders Greenway and the Naito Bike Lanes. There should be a signed and delineated path that connects these together.

with the Burnside skate park so close, we do not need a bowl at this one. this park could focus on street skating elements while also making a good space to connect old town to the waterfront for cyclists and pedestrians.

Would love ledges that resemble street ledges like half circle with buttery concrete

Would love to include adaptive skaters and local art

You don't mention Bmx as an option for new and disabled skatepark users, or more specifically for how someone would use the area. why??

You guys are doing this right and have the two best companies in the biz!

