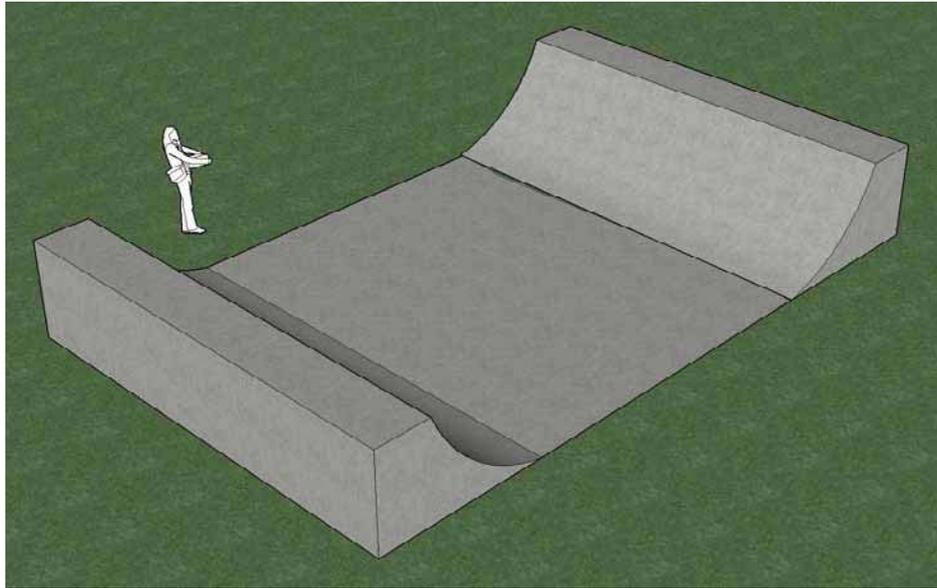


Patterson Park Skate Spot Proposal

Presented by the
Austin Public Skatepark Action Committee
www.austinpublicskatepark.org



Defying
gravity
(Smithville)



Definition of a 'Skate Spot'

A skate spot differs from a skatepark primarily in scale. A skate spot can be as minimal as a small ledge or bench on a meager stretch of concrete. Skate spots provide a nearby safe skateboarding option for children who are unable to travel by themselves to a larger skatepark facility.

Because skate spots are of such a small scale, they can be sprinkled throughout a city as part of an overall master skatepark plan. This smaller scale also enables the construction of skate spots where a larger budget or land is unavailable for building a skatepark. An ideal skate spot is integrated in the surrounding landscape so that non-skaters can easily view and experience the excitement of skateboarding

in a neutral environment.

Details of this Proposed Skate Spot

The Austin Public Skatepark Action Committee (APSAC) has designed a small, concrete mini-ramp for construction within Patterson Park. The structure stands 5-feet tall, 24-feet wide, and 32-feet long. This size is primarily dictated by the availability of funding through the Austin Parks Foundation grant of potentially \$2500. In this project, the \$2500 would be used entirely for the purchase of concrete while APSAC will leverage donations for the rest of the required materials.

This structure will support only one skater riding at a time, with room for several other skaters to stand waiting for their turns. A mini-ramp such as this is great for beginner skateboarders and is commonly built by families in their backyards to support their children's athletic interest.

The limited size of this skateboarding feature will also limit the number of visitors who will travel to Patterson Park to use it. No additional parking or other infrastructure should be required to support the users of this mini-ramp.

Although not shown in these diagrams, each platform will be supported by a raised earth berm. This will provide easy access to the top of the ramp and also eliminate the risk of a user falling off the back of the structure.

Why Patterson Park?

Patterson Park offers a diverse array of recreational features, but currently lacks a strong magnet for neighborhood children between the ages of 10-16. The park is located within walking distance of Maplewood Elementary School. There are also several bus lines available to children living in neighborhoods further east along Airport Boulevard.



According to Tony Arnold, of Austin's Parks and Recreation Department, the soil in Patterson Park is ideal for pouring concrete as it tends not to expand under wet conditions. Soil expansiveness can lead to cracking and shifting in foundations and other concrete structures.

Credentials of APSAC Volunteers Relevant to this Project

APSAC is well-equipped to execute on this project due to the strong volunteerism found among its members. The strength of the volunteers is bolstered by the donated experience of Lonestar Skateparks. This company has been contracted to build public concrete skateboarding facilities in San Antonio and Tyler. The public skatepark built by Lonestar's staff last year in Smithville has already found screen time in a recently released professional skateboarding video.



Lonestar Skateparks adds a quarterpipe to the LBJ Public Skatepark in San Antonio



Lonestar Skateparks finishes a manual pad at Southside Lions Park in San Antonio



APSAC volunteers trowel a ledge at a temporary Austin Public Skatepark by Town Lake. The skatepark was later replaced by the Mexican American Cultural Center.

For more information, please visit the Austin Public Action Committee website or contact Seth Johnson:

www.austinpublicskatepark.org

seth@austinpublicskatepark.org

512-789-0009