"New Denton Skate Park in the Works"

Sara McNiel

Denton is planning on adding new features to the city's skate park and is still looking for ideas from the public.

Denton held a public meeting for the Skate Park Planning Focus group on Feb. 11, which discussed possible skate park trends, elements, terrain, obstacles and potential locations for future plan considerations.

"The city actually put in a lot of effort into it, there were a couple of poster boards with pictures of different features that are in different local parks, and we got to cast our vote on which different features we wanted," said Derek Vitiello, a frequent skater in Denton and employee at Denton Skate Supply who attended the meeting.

These new skatepark ideas are a part of the Denton Parks Department's new 10-year parks master plan, which will include possible new features for other sports, playgrounds, and trails. The Parks Department will present its ideas to the City Council in November for approval.

"The meeting was to basically get a feeling for what the community was looking for to get a master plan together," Vitiello said.

Different ideas being suggested for the skate park were adding new features such as half pipes, stairs, rails and possibly new locations in the future.

"In my eyes, the meeting was a great turn out, about 35-40 in attendance, and proved to the Parks department that there is a large group in the community that feels the urgent need for a new skatepark," said Marc Culp, President of the Denton Parks Foundation and part of the Denton Skate Park Committee.

Culp attended the meeting and seemed excited with the outcome and what Gary Packan, Director of Parks and Recreation, planned for the future.

"For the size of Denton and the amount of skateboarders in the community he recommended a park anywhere from 20-30,000 square feet," Culp said in regards to the Packan's possible plans for the new skate park location.

To help suggest any idea or interest in the Skate Park's progress visit www.dentonparks.com and provide feedback via the Needs Assessment Survey, or email input to <u>parksnrec@cityofdenton.com</u>.



(Current Denton Skate Park: 2400 Long Rd, Denton, TX)