



Eastwood Information Session General Community Comments
Wednesday, 8 March 2017 – 6:00pm – 8:00pm

1. Eastwood Park is used as a quiet passive space by the community that is well utilised by the widest demographic possible. A skate park would change the nature of the area and narrow its usage.
2. Older kids need a place to go to however there are concerns that younger kids brought to this family space might get bumped into at the skate park and therefore wouldn't be inclusive of all ages.
3. There would be a loss of green space for a cemented space.
4. The reason you don't see local skateboarders in Eastwood is because there is no place for locals to skate in Eastwood.
5. A lot of skate parks are located near swimming pools, which is an ideal area for a skate park.
6. There is a culture of drugs and theft in the world of skate. A skate park that is in close proximity to a station makes it easier to deliver drugs. Drugs can come from the local club, and alcohol will come from the local pub. This would not be ideal as it is too close to the library, the CWA (Country Women's Association) and school children which need peace, a quiet space and safety.
7. On an early morning on the weekend the police were called because of skaters near the grand stands making noise and using profanity. This happens weekly. These problems will get bigger with a skate park and will disadvantage families that live in the local area.
8. These spaces will be utilised by skaters because if the infrastructure is there they will use it. When kids see these facilities in a park they want to use it. Other parks located in areas with lots of young families have become a family space and service the local families in the area.
9. Teenagers will cause mischief no matter what. Wouldn't you rather them in public view where people can see them? As it makes it harder for teenagers to display this behaviour if they can be seen.

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10. People who cause mischief can't be seen in the dark in the very late/very early hours and mean the responsibility of policing the area is left up to the residents which is not fair.
 11. There is a two way risk, that skateboards may hit others using the passive space.
 12. The risk of hitting other users in the passive space may also apply to soccer balls and cricket balls being used by the sports users.
 13. The space at Eastwood is currently being used by people doing Tai Chi, eating lunch, walking and passive play. These people will lose their green space if Council installs a skate park.
 14. The masterplan of Eastwood Park refers to the need to keep it as an open village space.
 15. A skate park is essential as there is no facility in the area.
 16. The area could be a fence around the soccer field (2m from the field behind the posts) and around the skate park with the gates to the fence locked at night. This would prevent soccer balls from being kicked outside the field area and skateboards from the skate park coming out. There is currently a fence for the croquet club and the fence could be similar.
 17. We are happy with the current space as is and don't want to change it. The current use of the space is under assessed and is actively used as passive space.
 18. Flooding is a serious issue in Eastwood. If you are going to do works in Eastwood Park it's important to know it used to be a lake.
 19. There is not enough parking in Eastwood. On Saturday and Sunday there is no parking.
 20. There are more people around Eastwood Park and if anything were to happen, I'd feel more comfortable and safer in a skate space in this area.
 21. There are some members of the community that would feel intimidated or frightened to confront others that might be misbehaving in the area.

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22. Skateboarders as a community are self-policing and won't tolerate bad behaviour. As they've wanted a skate park in the area for a long time, therefore the skateboarders would be the first to stop bad behaviour in this space. The skate community in other areas actually maintain the parks amenity.
 23. The park in Eastwood is close to the pub and will attract drunks and hangers on.
 24. There is no evidence that skateboarders don't engage in antisocial behaviour any more than any other group. It is actually those people that hung around from a pub that behaved this way.
 25. Lighting would improve the area.
 26. Ryde Council is behind the other Councils in Sydney, Hornsby Council have six skate parks and a large budget for these areas.
 27. Ryde in the early 80's near Macquarie Shopping Centre had Sydney's first concrete Skate Park which was world class. However this land was owned by Dick Smith who recovered the space for a Helipad and the skate community hasn't been the same since.
 28. There needs to be a skate structure in all play areas, as its creative play for kids. Families shouldn't have to travel 10 kilometres to a facility that provides this type of play.
 29. A snake run would work well with the topography in Eastwood Park. It would be passive to the eye, include green space and would still allow for people to do Tai Chi.
 30. With any skate park there should be good amenities that come with it like public toilets with plenty of change room to be able to put skate pads on under your clothes, and water bubblers.
 31. Skateboarders won't graffiti their space, just like no soccer player would dig up a soccer field, therefore for the kids who are antisocial there should be a space like a graffiti wall to engage them and encourage them to do art not tagging and can enhance the area.