

## 4.5 OTHER COMMENTS

Emails and letters were received that did not address analyses in the DEIR, but expressed opinions or comments regarding the project. These comments are identified below and included on the following pages. Since these comments do not address the EIR, no responses are provided.

- ☐ Bruce Bentley
- ☐ Don Betterley
- ☐ Chris Bowman
- ☐ Jeanette Cisneros
- ☐ Craig Curtis
- ☐ Cheryl Devlin
- ☐ Bill Evers
- ☐ Andy Forget
- ☐ Robin Gaither
- ☐ Rose Gaither
- ☐ Gabriel Garcia
- ☐ Bob Hickman
- ☐ Al Globus [Nov. 21 and 22, 2015]
- ☐ Edie and Ken House
- ☐ Bonnie Klein
- ☐ John Lieberum
- ☐ Richard Lippi [Jan. 7, 2016]
- ☐ Robert Mayer
- ☐ Shona McDougall
- ☐ Sally Mitchell
- ☐ Judy Radcliffe
- ☐ Gloria Settle
- ☐ Jennifer Shaw
- ☐ Jeanne Simari
- ☐ Ramon Villarreal
- ☐ Karla Villarreal
- ☐ Sandra Wallace

**From:** [thebrucebentley@gmail.com](mailto:thebrucebentley@gmail.com) [<mailto:thebrucebentley@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Bruce Bentley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2015 10:18 AM  
**To:** PLANNING COMMISSION  
**Subject:** Monterey Park

I'm sure, just like the City Council you haven't and don't care about the noise that your skate park is going to create for the residents in the area(some less than 100') and the classrooms at the middle school (not the least of which is the "special needs" classroom that is within 100")

I'm also sure that you have considered the fact that there will be NO restroom facilities which means the children will be using the shrubery next to the neighbors fences to relieve themselves.

I really think that the Planning commission should really look at this project and reject the councils approval of this fiasco. Termini may want it but the neighbors that will be impacted by it are ALL opposed to it. It will negatively affect the real estate values as no potential buyer will want this project in their backyard due to the noise and environmental pollution.

*Bruce Bentley*  
[ca-gil@hotmail.com](mailto:ca-gil@hotmail.com)  
831-428-5610

**From:** Don Betterley [<mailto:donbetterley@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2016 8:25 PM  
**To:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))  
**Subject:** Monterey Park, Capitola

We have avoided recent public meetings regarding this issue due to biased behavior on the part of certain moderators in the past earlier meetings (Capitola City Council members by the way), and have refused to be part of their agendas since then. This issue has also severely divided neighbors and has led to animosity as well.

**We are sincerely opposed to a skate park development at Monterey Park. This site is simply not appropriate for a skate park, as recently echoed by Ashley Edgar and many others at the recent Educ. board meeting.**

And yet we are fully supportive of youth activities. I was a soccer board member for any years with first the local Mid Co. Youth Soccer League as well as the Aptos Soccer Club, then Premier League Co. wide, coach for both young boys and girls recreational teams, Class 3, and Class 1 soccer, as well as long time soccer referee and regional county coordinator. We support youth recreation.

I was also Pres. of the Santa Cruz Co. Youth Symphony for 7 years, supporting youth activities throughout the county and beyond.

The fact that the city may further reduce the amount of peaceful green space in this small community is abominable, aside from the noise factor.

We have forwarded to the city council, the planning dept., and the educ. board studies from similar communities, citing increased noise levels, crime & maintenance costs. Skate parks can be successfully built in more isolated locations, but do not belong next to schools or in close proximity to residences.

This space is already used (albeit intermittently) by many . . . NBMS students for recreational activities, as well as hosting county games for softball and soccer. The space is also flooded at times for parking for other events as well . . . permitted softball games / soccer practices for multiple teams at a time, and other activities. All other times . . . a peaceful green space rarely found here.

**Given that another skate park was / still is planned a few blocks away means that the Capitola City officials have wasted an astounding amount of energy & money in pursuing yet another !**

The fact that apparently some private money has been offered to further this Monterey Park skate park effort must call into question how others may just simply buy out the city for their own private agenda and take over public green open space that simply does not exist here any more.

The Capitola City Council and others must be accountable for loss of open green space here.

Sincerely,

D A. Betterley, long time Capitola resident

From: The Bowmans [<mailto:dbow-man@pacbell.net>]  
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 8:01 AM  
To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))  
Cc: City Council  
Subject: Monterey Skate Park Proposal

Dear Mr. Grunow,

By now we have heard opposition to the Skate Park Proposal at Monterey Park from a number of folks from differing backgrounds, expertise and reasons for their opposition. I am a stakeholder since I live near the park, but I have my own particular experience since I worked as the lead custodian and lead campus supervisor at the school adjacent to Derby Skate Park - which is much, much farther away from that school than the skate park being proposed here. It is not ignorance or dislike for kids or skaters (of which proponents have accused us) that led me to my opposition, but rather my experience and knowledge.

I keep wondering at what point do we listen to those with particular knowledge who advise against a proposal? When do we listen to those who are trying to explain this to people who seem to want what they want when they want it regardless of how it impacts others? This proposed location is just poorly chosen. It is just a bad idea. It is a seriously bad idea for the school due to its close proximity to classrooms and the campus. There is no example of an existing skatepark this close to a school. The skatepark developers have given examples that are not similar. This is also a poorly chosen location for the neighbors of the park. It is too close to too many homes and neighbors who are opposed. It is also an extremely bad idea to send young children to a skatepark alone. This is what some parents are seeing as a benefit of this location. They are in dangerous denial. If skateparks were only used by young kids and families, there would not be a problem here. I can tell you from experience this is not the case. Parents should be urged to attend the skate park with their kids. This will be the best way to keep kids safe, but it will do nothing to keep the park safe when the families are not there.

I suppose the most relevant issue concerning the planning commission is noise. We know this will increase noise in a number of ways - at the skatepark itself, but also in the surrounding streets. What is the benefit of that?

All this because skaters? We would easily support a playground. That truly would be "for the kids".

Thank you for your hard work and consideration.

Best wishes,  
Chris Bowman  
714 Orchid Ave  
Capitola

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeanette Cisneros [<mailto:drajlc@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Saturday, January 02, 2016 8:30 AM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Monterey Park skate park

I am Capitola resident and am not in favor of a second skate park in Monterey Park. The money would be better spent on improving access to the skate park already being developed on McGregor. The Monterey Park should be available to residents who use the park for other purposes. Capitola should not sacrifice park space serving other residents for the relatively small number of residents that skateboard. They do not need two parks.

Jeanette Cisneros

-----Original Message-----

From: Craig Curtis [<mailto:seemebythesea831@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 4:58 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: 2015 Draft EIR at Monterey Park, Capitola, CA. 95010

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am absolutely opposed to the proposed skatepark at Monterey Park in Capitola, CA., yet I do support the skatepark at McGregor Drive in Capitola, CA.

I am opposed to the skatepark at the beautiful Monterey Park for many reasons, not the least of which include:

#1) The offensive, excessively loud, and 'unnatural' noise that is emitted from skateboards. Remember now: this is: 1) Residential area, 2) a Scholastic/Educational neighborhood (New Brighton Middle School - with the notoriety of being a 'California Distinguished School'), and 3) a Parochial neighborhood (Saint Joseph's Catholic Church) - where people worship God, have weddings, and also grieve and mourn the loss of loved ones at funerals.

#2) There already exists the development of the McGregor Drive Skatepark. Simply finish what has already been started!! It's nonsense to have two(2) skateparks within 1200 feet of one another. Perform the soil remediation at McGregor Drive, and then that location will be ideal for skateboarders, dog lovers, and any other neighbors/visitors to enjoy.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Craig Curtis  
204 Washburn Ave.  
Capitola, CA 95010

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Cheryl Devlin [<mailto:cheryldevlin11@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:46 AM

**To:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us)); City Council; PLANNING COMMISSION; Steingrube, Lisa ([lisasteingrube@gmail.com](mailto:lisasteingrube@gmail.com))

**Subject:** NO to Monterey Skate Park!

To Whom It May Concern:

I do not want a Skate Park on Monterey Avenue!

There will be TOO MUCH NOISE created by the skaters to and from the park.

There will be TOO MUCH NOISE from the skate park itself.

There is already too much traffic, including heavy, noisy commercial vehicles on Monterey Avenue!

Regards,  
Cheryl Devlin  
519 Monterey Avenue  
Capitola, Ca 95010

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Evers [<mailto:w.evers13@sbcglobal.net>]

Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 10:55 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Skate park

Dear People

As you know Monterey park is the only green area in Capitola.

It would be a shame to spoil it with concrete slabs.

Please consider this.

Bill Evers

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [andy.forget@gmail.com](mailto:andy.forget@gmail.com) [<mailto:andy.forget@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Andy Forget  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2015 9:04 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us)); PLANNING COMMISSION; Steingrube, Lisa ([lisasteingrube@gmail.com](mailto:lisasteingrube@gmail.com))  
**Subject:** Monterey Skatepark

Sirs,

I have a concern about the proposed Monterey skatepark. I am specifically concerned with the cost of destruction and removal of this park feature after it is determined that a graffiti covered, dystopian, Lord of the Fly's-like environment is inappropriate for a nice residential Capitola neighborhood. The lack of sanitary facilities is certain to promote outbreaks of Cholera, Hepatitis, and tape worms bringing on Mad Max style mayhem. I feel it is appropriate to have the backers of this project place enough funds into escrow to cover the complete removal of the skatepark once it is determined to be no longer copacetic with the wholesome and healthy Capitola we all desire.

Kind regards,

Andy Forget  
725 Monterey Ave

**From:** Robin Gaither [<mailto:hrgaither@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 8:37 AM  
**To:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))  
**Subject:** Monterey Park Skate Park Proposal

Dear Mr. Grunow:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed skate park based on my review of the EIR and the fact there is an existing skate park at McGregor. My primary concerns are: the size of the proposed park and the proximity to a Middle School; increased noise and skateboard traffic on neighborhood sidewalks; traffic and parking impact on the neighborhood and related safety as well as additional expense to the City of Capitola for maintenance, patrolling and potential injuries. A lesser concern, is impact to native habitat, the potential removal of eucalyptus trees as well as drainage at the proposed site and intrusion into the walking track and play field.

This project seems to be a duplication as there is another skate park with very similar amenities located at McGregor, and thus a waste of resource - regardless of any private funding that might be obtained. The proposed project is too large for the site, based on examination of the staked off area. This is not a park for 'little kids' and there will be insufficient parking to allow parents to park and supervise their children at the park. Children currently skate on the sidewalks, and the majority appear to be 10-13 and do not wear helmets. Helmets will be required at the park. Who will enforce this, or the skatepark hours of operation? The target age group for this park has changed from 'little kids' to include 'young adults' and certainly older teens. This is a clear example of 'scope creep', required by the donors as they stated several years ago that a small park for young children would not be 'worth their while' to construct.

At a time when the economy is uncertain and the City has limited resources, it seems poor stewardship to pursue this project - especially given the uncertainties and negative impact expressed in the EIR. I believe neighbors could support the proposal if the skate park size was reduced to 3000 sq ft and designed for beginners, with few advanced features. However, this is not what is being proposed.

I appreciate the effort you and the City have made to give residents a chance to comment on this proposal. It is my hope that this project will not be approved and that you and the City Council and staff can return to putting your energy and efforts elsewhere. I believe repaving Monterey and including a bike lane, as well as expanding sidewalks towards McGregor will be welcome improvements to the neighborhood, and will help beautify our area.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Gaither  
223 Junipero Court  
Capitola, CA

-----Original Message-----

From: Rose Gaither [<mailto:rosebird@aol.com>]

Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2016 9:07 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Hello...Re: Proposed skate park on Monterey

>

> Hello my name is Rose Gaither and I am very much opposed to the proposed skate park, to be built, on Monterey. I have been using the park grounds, several times a week, since the early 1980's and very much appreciate the serenity of the park, the birds singing in the trees, the ability to walk around in a safe and beautiful area...etc.

> I am appalled at the potential, of the beautiful grove of mature trees, being cut down in the name of "public safety"!

> Noise is also a huge concern.

> Is there something I can do, to try and stop this development from going forward?!

> My e-mail address is: [rosebird@aol.com](mailto:rosebird@aol.com) My #831 419-9062 Thank you for

> your time and assistance.

> rose

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** GABRIEL GARCIA [<mailto:gabrielgarcia@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 5:41 PM  
**To:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))  
**Subject:** Monterrey skatepark

Dear Mr. Grunow,

I'm writing in regards to the proposed skate park on Monterrey park.

As a new neighbor to the park, I'm am highly concerned about this project, specially since i just moved across the street from it,

my main concerns about the project , are the permanent noise increments to the vicinity, the people it will attract and the ecological impact that cutting the eucalyptus grove will create.

You see, i grew up skateboarding so i know first hand that it is a very loud activity, and the sound from skateboards impact on concrete and metal is not a pleasant one at all.

all thought this skate park is "focused" on children i can assure you that there will not only be kids using the premises, but also young adults and older, that are very well known in the skate parks for causing most of troubles

in which i may include drinking, the use of drugs and loudly cursing, i'm not saying that all skateboarders are like this, but there will be this type of crowd!!! This is an environment that i will NOT like to offer to my kid.

my other main concern is the proximity tho the school, my kid will be attending New Brighton on the next year and it does not make me feel safe at all to have her walk back home from school and have to walk by a skatepark where there will be an unwanted crow that is not limited to harassing or preying on smaller kids so yes this is a BIG CONCERN!!!! if the two moms main thing is to make a safe skate park for their kids, have make their skate park behind the police station / city council bldg, THERE IS A HUGE space there that seem more than safe for me, and they will not have to supervise their kids since i suppose is a very safe area.

on last cutting the eucalyptus grove?? really? this is unacceptable, i completely oppose to this project.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Gabriel Garcia  
415-734-1240

**From:** Al Globus [<mailto:alglobus@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Saturday, November 21, 2015 9:29 AM

**To:** PLANNING COMMISSION; Goldstein, Jamie ([jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us)); Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us)); Jesberg, Steve ([sjesberg@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:sjesberg@ci.capitola.ca.us))

**Subject:** Monterey skatepark as staked out is too large

It measures  $40 \times 46 \times 157 = 6,751$  SF

The city authorized 6,000 sq ft.

Please require a redesign back to the approved size.

**From:** Al Globus [<mailto:alglobus@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Sunday, November 22, 2015 5:35 PM

**To:** Termini, Mike ([michael@triadelectric.com](mailto:michael@triadelectric.com)); City Council; Dennis Norton; Bertrand, Jacques; Jesberg, Steve ([sjesberg@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:sjesberg@ci.capitola.ca.us)); Harlan, Stephanie ([sharlan@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:sharlan@ci.capitola.ca.us))

**Cc:** Goldstein, Jamie ([jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us)); Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us)); Jesberg, Steve ([sjesberg@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:sjesberg@ci.capitola.ca.us)); PLANNING COMMISSION

**Subject:** The Impact of Derby Skate Park on Adjacent School -- Important

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** The Bowmans <[dbow-man@pacbell.net](mailto:dbow-man@pacbell.net)>

**Subject:** The Impact of Derby Skate Park on Adjacent School

í .

After reading PCS Principal Simon Fletcher's brief letter, provided by the developers proposing a skate park at Monterey Park, I wanted to include my information and experiences at PCS during my six years as a Lead Campus Supervisor and my time as Lead Custodian there. It is *because* I was so closely involved with the impact Derby Skate Park had on my school and my job that I am certain Monterey Park is a problematic location for a skate park.

It is important to note the configuration of the skate park element at Derby Park in relation to the school buildings is completely different from the one being proposed here. Derby Skate Park is several hundred (900?) feet away from the school, on the other side of a hill, and below ground level, like a swimming pool. Skaters using the skate park cannot be seen or heard from the school. Simon Fletcher wrote he felt the skate park had been a good resource for PCS. PCS does not have P.E. in the curriculum. Resources that provide physical exercise are always embraced. Mr. Fletcher said it is probably fine **"As long as there is a commitment by neighbors and the police department..."** Yes. A commitment by the police and neighbors would be absolutely necessary. PCS also has the resource of scores of parents at the school at all times during school hours including the largest group of volunteers - Campus Supervisors. I am glad we were effective in our work. We trained our volunteers, maintained open and constant communication and continually strategized ways to keep problems from interrupting school and the staff. But I can attest there were a number of challenges and problems brought about by the skate park.

The lockdown at the school was the most frightening problem. A neighbor called the police when she noticed some young men at the skate park had a gun. Some months later I spoke with one of the arresting officers. He showed me where he tackled one of the men (uncomfortably close to the school). He said it was the man's third gun related offense.

I was speaking with the police officer because he was at the school to document gang graffiti. Graffiti (gang related and non-gang related) was a perpetual and almost daily

problem. As the custodian I was required to cover graffiti immediately and report to the police any graffiti that looked gang related. At one point the principal (at the time) complained that our school looked like a patchwork quilt. I didn't have proper school district paint so I was using whatever paint the drama department could give me to cover the ubiquitous graffiti.

During school hours we *often* had skaters on school grounds. They used the school restrooms since there were none at the skate park and skated on the walkways, playground asphalt and school steps. It was very distracting to classes especially those at the back of the school near the playground facing the direction of the skate park. Once some college age young men, with what looked to me like a cinematic movie camera, were filming a skater doing tricks on the steps just outside the in-session Biology and 7th and 8th grade science classrooms. The skaters I encountered during school hours - generally young adult men, not of school age - were often initially gruff and defensive, but I found candy (which I always carried) and kindness and lots of apologies kept them fairly agreeable as I got them to leave. But they had to be told to leave, and the noise was disruptive and distracting, even as they skated away through the school toward the park. The film crew was probably the most resistant adult skater group I encountered. They were unconcerned that they were disrupting classes and filmed me as I tried to talk them into moving on to the skate park.

PCS high school students used the skate park during lunch because we had an open campus for high school students. Campus Supervisors - known by attractive bright neon green vests - would arrive early before lunch and other breaks. Some Campus Supervisors were stationed at the park. We made our presence at the skate park very obvious because it was effective for keeping problem people away. Some parents were stationed at the boundary between the school and the park to keep the middle school students on campus, as they were not allowed to use the skate park. We did have a small problem while I was there with a couple of students who chronically cut class to go to the skate park.

Some of the more difficult problems happened directly after school when thirteen to sixteen year old skaters came to use the skate park. Some of the worst issues happened when younger, more invasive skaters decided to interact with PCS students engaged in the many after school activities such as Drama and Life Lab (Horticulture). I had to intervene as did teachers. I remember one student ended up in tears and her parent had to be called after she had a difficult interaction with some particularly challenging boys who came regularly to use the skate park.

There were a number of times when I had to talk a skater down from the roof of the gym or the school building. The skaters would stack the picnic tables one on top of the other - another almost daily occurrence as I found when I arrived at school each morning. Young men would be on the ground filming while another boy was on the roof sizing up the distance as he was about to skate off it and onto the tables and then on to the ground.

Another less frequent but no less challenging issue happened during school dances. Because there is no lighting at the skate park it is attractive to teenagers and

young adults at night. A few times there were young people partying at the skate park who tried to come into the dance. Campus Supervisors and at least one hired security guard, were stationed outside around the perimeter of the school during the dances while Mr. Fletcher and other staff members were graciously inside the dance (a place most parents did not want to be).

Because I worked late into the evening as the custodian at the school I am acutely aware of the late night activities at Derby Park and the school. Unfortunately I had to call the police a number of times. So yes, again, I would agree with Mr. Fletcher that a commitment by the police department (and school staff, especially custodial) is absolutely necessary.

In my numerous interactions with skaters I never once had to intervene with families or girls - they hardly used the skate park and they didn't do anything wrong when they were there. All of my interventions were with young men. In my experience it is mostly young men who use skate parks.

A raised skate park built on hills, with this kind of potential auditory and visual disruption, this close to a school and classrooms - especially classrooms where some students have particular noise sensitivity - and offices where people are trying to work, and right next to a number of homes where neighbors (such as myself) are not supportive, seems to me to be an unwise and inconsiderate proposal. Monterey Park and the school is not an appropriate fit for a skate park. There is another skate park right down the street from Monterey Park. A playground - especially a playground with elements for kids with special needs - with swings and slides and climbing structures and ramps, would truly be for the kids .

Sincerely,  
Christine Bowman  
Orchid Avenue, Capitola



**From:** Bob Hickman [<mailto:bobster1263@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2016 5:18 PM  
**To:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))  
**Subject:** Monterey Skate Park

Dear Mr. Grunow,  
Please find the attached information as my concerns on the new skate park proposal and the questions I have regarding it.

Robert Hickman  
207 Washburn Ave  
Capitola Ca 95010  
January 7, 2015

This is a letter for the Capitola City Council with regards to the proposed skate park to be located at Monterey Park. There are several issues I would like the city to consider before approving this skate park as I will outline below.

1. We already have a new skate park being built at McGregor park located 1.3 miles from this location. Why does the city feel the need to have two skate parks located so close to each other?
2. Noise level: Per the EIR submitted the noise level will increase around 10db. This is a hard noise that is unacceptable for those that live nearby. I live across the street from the Gymnasium on Washburn Ave, this is a frequent place for the skateboarders. Though I am across the street the sound of the skateboards on the cement can be heard loud and clear in my house with the door shut. Why do we need to subject the neighborhood to more noise when we already have a park being built that is away from houses?
3. Cost. I understand the cost is being paid for by private parties, however this does not include the ongoing maintenance cost, i.e. repair of damaged concrete, cleanup of trash and waste left by the park attendees. Yes there will be trash left, just look outside the gymnasium after a basketball tournament to see how much trash people leave in the street. Another issue to consider is liability insurance. You will need to carry insurance as sure as shooting someone is going to be injured using this park and they will try to sue the city. You already have the insurance for the McGregor park why do we need to pay insurance on a second un needed park?
4. Enforcement: Who is going to enforce the park hours? The skate park is not that visible from the street, does this mean you will have the Capitola Police Department driving in the parking lot to make sure that everyone is out of the park at sunset? Seems to me that the police department resources are better spent patrolling the streets and the village than they are the park.
5. Traffic impact. You are rating this park for beginner to intermediate, so this means a lot of parents driving their kids to the park, more traffic on Monterey/Kennedy Ave is not what we need! We have enough traffic from the school, St. Josephs and all of the

baseball and soccer games held at the park. Why are you subjecting the Neighborhood to more traffic? Would you want this extra traffic if you lived here?

6. Cost again. I keep wondering where is the extra money to pay for maintenance and insurance coming from? Is the initial sponsor that is paying for the park willing to donate extra money to the city to pay for the additional costs? At a time when we have streets full of potholes all over the city including major repair work needed on Monterey / Kennedy Ave how can you justify diverting money to this ?

In Conclusion I would like to propose an alternative use of the money. Seems that those in favor of Monterey skate park are doing so because.

1. They do not live nearby so traffic and noise will not bother them a classic case of not in my backyard.

2. They are worried that McGregor is unsafe to get to, no sidewalks.

Why not use the money that is being put up for the Monterey Skate park be used instead to build sidewalks to the McGregor Park? Wow what a no brainer this is!!!!

The Capitola PD could check in on the McGregor park periodically as they will be doing anyways and only have one park to check on, not two! More time and money saved!

In conclusion,

**You Need to postpone Monterey park until McGregor is up and running**, do not build a second skate park until you realize the expenses and maintenance that is required for one park before you build a second. Monterey park should not be considered as a prospect until at least 2 years of McGregor being opened has passed. **Let the city learn from the first park before building a second to open two parks at the same time is setting us up for failure and money spent that is much needed elsewhere.**

Robert Hickman

-----Original Message-----

From: Apple Admin [<mailto:ediehouse@charter.net>]

Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 6:46 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Monterey Park

Greetings,

I would urge that our lovely neighborhood park remain as just that. I have lived here for decades raising 3 children on Elinor St. I am older now and enjoy my walks around the park. I realize we senior citizens are probably considered a pain in the a\*\* but it would be sad to see this lovely green space be paved over with the constant smashing sound of the skateboards. I love children...but my home is my sanctuary. THIS IS JUST TOOOOO CLOSE!

Thank you for your consideration. :)

Edie and Ken House  
223 Elinor Street

-----Original Message-----

From: Bonnie Klein [<mailto:bk1904@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 2:01 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Skate Park

I am a longtime resident of Capitola and am STRONGLY opposed to the proposed skate park at Monterey Ave. park. The increase in noise and activity will dramatically affect those of us who reside next to the park, and I cannot, for the life of me, think of a single positive reason why it needs to be built in this location.

-----Original Message-----

From: [jlieberum@cruzio.com](mailto:jlieberum@cruzio.com) [<mailto:jlieberum@cruzio.com>]

Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 6:32 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Skatepark at Monterey Park

Dear Mr. Grunow,

I think skateparks are great, but not too close to residential areas. I supported the park at McGregor Drive but oppose the skatepark at Monterey Park.

Since the city council has approved the project, I assume it is a done deal and the best that can be done is to mitigate the possible negative aspects. I have some thoughts to share in this regard.

Re: Noise

I hope some serious effort is put into finding the most effective noise barrier. I live at Brookvale Terrace Mobile Home park, about 200 yards, as the crow flies from the proposed site. For me the noise will probably be a continual minor irritation, for the folks living on Orchid Ave, or the school district staff, a potential nightmare. A good sound barrier is really important.

Re: Potential Bad Role Models

Imagining the skatepark will be used exclusively by little kids is unrealistic. Some older riders like to smoke pot and drink beer. The noise barrier might also be an effective sight barrier to facilitate that behavior. The city council needs to be on board with the police checking things out, at irregular intervals.

Re: A place to pee

The skatepark will likely be very popular. The number of kids using it will likely exceed the number of people using Monterey Park, for all other purposes, several time over. The skateboarders will need a place to pee. If no other place is provided, the back of the sound barrier might be pretty tempting.

I'm not sure exactly what the Community Development Director does, or if you have any influence in addressing my concerns, but I thought that I would give it a shot.

Sincerely,

John Lieberum

January 7, 2016

City of Capitola  
Attn: Community Development Director  
420 Capitola Ave.  
Capitola, CA 95010 (hand delivered)

Reference: The Proposed 6,750sf Skatepark at Monterey Ave Park---Draft EIR

Subject: Major Objections to This Skatepark Project Proceeding

Dear Mr. Grunow,

This project should never have been allowed to proceed beyond the February 11, 2015 City Council meeting and certainly not beyond the May 12, 2015 deadline for the Applicants to submit a complete project application as required under the City's Master Application. Here are the reasons why...

**THIS PROJECT WAS MISREPRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ON FEBRUARY 11, 2015:**

1. The re-submittal parameters set by the City Council on January 26, 2012, when the 9,000sf skatepark was rejected were as follows:
  - a. **A revised skatepark was to be 6,000sf OR LESS;**
  - b. **Softened features (so it's safer and less noisy), and;**
  - c. **Save the trees**
2. On Feb 11, 2015, the Applicants misrepresented the revised skatepark design to be 6,000sf. After measuring the preliminary layout of November 20, 2015, we see that **the skatepark is actually more than 6,750sf.**
3. On Feb 11, 2015, the Applicants misrepresented the new features as "softened" and they never described the changes---with good reason. **The features were not softened.** The 9,000sf skatepark design that was rejected in 2012 was merely scaled down as documented in emails from the Applicants to Dreamland Skateparks.
  - a. **SAFETY: The 6,750sf plan is not safer.** If anything, it is as dangerous, if not more, than the 9,000sf plan especially for the younger, smaller, beginner skaters.
    - i. Back in January of 2012, Mark Scott, of Dreamland Skateparks (the designer of the 9,000sf skatepark proposal) said, **"We usually don't recommend less than 10,000sf because it limits the flow."**
    - ii. Skateparkguide.com tells us that "It is important not to directly combine beginner and intermediate/advanced areas as **this design approach tends to be unsafe and leads to collisions.**"
    - iii. The flat bottom of the 6,750sf skatepark is 6 feet below ground level. **Any accidents, injuries, fights, etc. cannot be seen 6 feet below ground level.**



- iv. Skateparkguide.com tells us that **“Any skatepark design must have a minimum of 10 feet of flatbottom between obstacles and opposing transition.”** “Not being able to roll or run out of a ‘bail’ can mean the difference between a scraped elbow and a trip to the hospital.” **The 6,750sf plan has a mere 6 feet between opposing transitions.**
  - b. **NOISE:** The 6,750sf plan has all of the noise-producing features of the 9,000sf skatepark **PLUS the Applicants have added a rock textured slant bank to the revised skatepark without alerting anyone to this addition.** Great. More noise! **The 6,750sf plan should be considered noisier than the 9,000sf plan.**
4. **SAVE THE TREES:**
- a. **Despite the popularity and beneficial existence of a small grove of eucalyptus trees** (north of the proposed skatepark) at Monterey Park that measures 80 feet wide x 100 feet long x 115 feet high the Draft EIR on page 4.1-4, last paragraph, of the Draft EIR reads, in part: “There are four eucalyptus and two redwood trees to the north of the project site... Although the current project proposal does not call for removal of any trees, **it is possible that the Planning Commission or City Council could require removal of up to eight mature trees located between the proposed skate park and Monterey Avenue to improve visibility for public safety purposes.**”
  - b. Well, any reasonable person can see that **the proposed skatepark will be obscured from view on Monterey Avenue, trees or no trees**, but the City would allow a skatepark at Monterey Park AND THEN remove the trees, after the fact, under the premise of safety? Seriously?
  - c. **SAVE THE TREES, stop the skatepark!**

**THE APPLICANTS DID NOT SUBMIT A COMPLETE PROJECT APPLICATION, UNDER THE REQUIREMENTS OF A MASTER APPLICATION, BY THE ESTABLISHED DEADLINE OF MAY 12, 2015.**

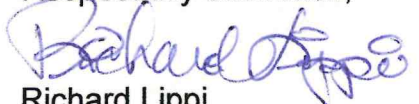
- In a City Council meeting held **February 26, 2015**, a motion was passed **“establishing a 90-day time limit for the submission of a complete project application** by the proponents of the Monterey Park Skate Park. **The deadline was thereby established at May 12, 2015.**
- **On May 14, 2015**, at a Capitola City Council Regular Meeting, at the end of the Public Comments section you, Mr. Grunow, addressed the City Council with a summary of the status of the skate park project. See time mark 0:30:45 of the meeting video. **You said, “We did deem the application complete late last week.”**



- On May 29, 2015, you will recall that I met with you and Ms. Cattan at the front counter to determine if ALL of the documents required under the Master Application were, in fact, submitted and available to the general public for review. **There were minor irregularities, but I also discovered significant shortages as follows:**
  - **Section B. Floor Plans and Elevations, item 3. Elevations:** "All four sides of the structure... ..existing and proposed." **NO ELEVATIONS WERE SUBMITTED.**  
**Update:** As of this writing **NO ELEVATIONS** are available to the public despite numerous inquiries into which features of the proposed skatepark are at-or-above ground level. Elevations would give us that information.
  - **Section B. Floor Plans and Elevations, item 6. Additional information that will indicate the design aesthetics, affect and compatibility with neighboring properties and uses.** I interpret this to require 3-D color renderings to illustrate the profiles of all features in the proposed skate park; depths, heights, textures and intensities of the obstacles in the skate park; the view from Monterey Ave where police may be cruising by to check on the activities; any spectator seating or standing areas that may be available, the intensity of the 6' high iron fence surrounding the skate park; and more. **NO 3-D RENDERINGS WERE SUBMITTED.**  
**Update:** 3-D renderings were submitted by the Applicants in the week following this investigation. It should be noted that the 3-D drawings were "Photo-shopped" to squash the nearby buildings of the Middle School, District Offices and nearby residences thereby distorting the proximity factor between the proposed skatepark and nearby uses.
  - **Grading details were missing from drawing SP5.** Subsequent to my May 29<sup>th</sup> visit, an additional drawing SP5 was supplied to the City. Now the package contains two (2) SP5 drawings, each showing different aspects of the grading scenario, but **only one (1) of the SP5 drawings was made available to the Architectural and Site Review Committee on July 22, 2015.**

**For all of the above reasons the proposed skatepark project should be cancelled based upon gross misrepresentations of the project to the City Council and failure to submit a complete project application.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Richard Lippi  
620 Monterey Ave, Capitola

Cc: To All City Council Members



**From:** Robert Mayer [<mailto:robearmon@aol.com>]

**Sent:** Sunday, December 13, 2015 7:42 PM

**To:** Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us)); [citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us); PLANNING COMMISSION

**Subject:** Only One Skateboard Park Please

I am one of the "Friends of Monterey Park". Until the McGregor Dr. complex was started, I would have been OK with a skate park at Monterey Park as long as It did not include the removal of any trees.

Now that I am hearing of both duplication of projects and the removal of trees to make room for another skate park within a half of a mile of each other, I am very much against it.

Robert Mayer  
212 Elinor St.  
Capitola (100 yards from park)  
831-234-1955

Hi Mr. Grunow,

I sent this letter last week, but, today I have a message that the email was not able to be delivered, perhaps your box is full? I'm forwarding on again in hopes that you will receive my comments. Thanks in advance!

I'm shocked to hear that there is continued consideration for the Monterey skate park at a location that backs up to the property line of so many of our neighbors, as well, sits overlooking our neighborhood middle school.

I would like to preface this by saying, I grew up with the kids in my neighborhood who rode skateboards, they were my best friends back then, and remain so almost 30 years late, my husband rides a skateboard regularly, our 9 year old received a skate board for Christmas. Point is: I am a HUGE skate fan. My question to you is: Can you honestly say you would want your home to back up to a skate park?

The property values and general level of comfort for owners within the few blocks surrounding the park are going to be drastically impacted. I am disappointed that some people are not being more considerate of the safety, financial well-being, and comfort of their neighbors. The individual who wants to build this park clearly appreciates having a home that is free of nuisances - as the signs around his properties indicate. This person doesn't want nuisances such as dog poop or people who don't 'drive like their kids live there' disturbing his family's level of comfort in his properties, why should this individual not offer the rest of the community the same consideration?

Skate parks are really noisy!!!! I grew up listening to the residual noise coming from all 5 of the boys in my neighborhood who rode skateboards. *There were only 5 of these kids*, but my God, the racket we listened to from our home, situated a full 300 feet away from the area they used to practice was not avoidable, even from inside our home. The suggested Monterey location sits less than 100 feet from the backyards of many of our neighbors.

I've researched all of the skateparks in the Bay Area, a skatepark sitting within 100 feet of a residence is unprecedented. How is it that nowhere else in the Bay Area will consider such an option - with exception - a community who should truly care about the comfort and well-being of its residents, such as Capitola?

Please research the SOMA skate park in SF that sits under the 101 freeway. Neighbors who bought in the area knew they were purchasing homes/condos practically under a freeway, and do you know what the bane of their existence is? Not a freeway over their heads, the skatepark! A park that sits MORE than 200 feet from the nearest residential building. The Monterey location is unprecedented as far as proximity to residences.

In addition to sound issues, I can't help but shudder with the thought of my daughter walking home from school past the skate park, how safe is that for her and the other female students? **Strangers we don't know can suddenly seem to have a purpose for lurking around**

**the middle school. Who can guarantee the safety of our daughters when we don't know who the people 'hanging out', looking over the school property are?**

I appreciate your thoughts and consideration on the issue. I think a skate park in the neighborhood is truly a great idea, but not adjacent to a middle school (high school? maybe?) and not in a location with such close proximity to our neighbors. It is not fair to the homeowners, more importantly, lets not play Russian roulette with the safety of our daughters and the other students in the area.

thank you very much.  
shona mcdougall

-----Original Message-----

From: Sally Mitchell [<mailto:sallyggbr@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 7:13 AM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Monterey Skate Park

Hello Rich,

As a long term homeowner in Capitola, I want to go on record as one who opposes the plan for a skate park in Monterey Park. In addition to the fact that we don't need a second skate park, it is clear to me that the noise created by a skate park located in such close proximity to residences is not in keeping with a traditionally quiet neighborhood. The noise will adversely affect the quality of life of those Capitola citizens who live near the park.

Thanks in advance for doing the right thing for the residents of Capitola.

Sally Mitchell  
1855-42nd Ave.  
Capitola

Dec 29, 2015

To whom it may concern :

As I have difficulty attending meetings, I am ending this year by, yet again, writing to protest the locating of the proposed skate board park next to the school on Monterey Avenue because of :.

Traffic:

The traffic on Monterey avenue is already far to dense. I live at 617. It is already difficult to get in and out of my driveway because of traffic . I believe that a skate board park will increase the traffic problem as well as the ongoing parking problems. Often there is no parking in front of my house.

Noise

Skate boards are noisy . More skateboards, more noise

Safety

Skate boarders are not always safety conscious. Walking today I was almost hit twice by skaters using the sidewalk. At the corner of Monterey ave and Bay Ave I watched a more adult skater come down the hill and out into traffic in front of a moving car. Obviously he did not stop for the stop sign.

We are a quiet residential neighborhood. The neighbors have been quite vocal about not wanting a skate park in the proposed area. Locate the park in a less residential area. Develop the park with more residential activities.: A toddler park, a par course, an open roofed area for picnics. a good running surface

State parks serve a very minor part of the population. They are noisy and often attract a less desirable demographic.

Thank you for your consideration ,

Sincerely

Judy Radcliffe

-----Original Message-----

From: Yahoo! [<mailto:gloria0116@att.net>]

Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 8:03 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Skate park

Dear Mr. Grunow:

I have read the draft environmental impact report on the proposal to build a 6000 square foot skate part at Monterey Park. I have lived at 215 Junipero Court for a number of years. I know what the noise level was when the grammar school was located in my backyard. I could not open the windows on that side of the house because of the noise from the school. The skate park will be much closer than the playground and the noise level will be much greater. There is also some shrubbery (not trrees) back of my back fence. The area between the fence and the plantings is not visible from the park area. I do not want to have this area used for an outhouse or other illegal activities such as smoking, etc.

Monterey Park is not the place for children to be without supervision and I cannot believe that children under 10 will be accompanied by parents - since most of their complaints regarding McGregor Park has been lack of sidewalks to get there. This would indicate that the parents have no intention of being there but intend for the skaters to skate to the park. There are many adults who walk every day on Monterey Ave. and I have already seen an "ownership" feeling in the skaters who use the sidewalks

Traffic is another problem - as it is right now, there are times during the day when parents are dropping off or picking up their children at school as well as the commuters who think Monterey Ave. is an extension of the freeway making it a chore to get onto Monterey from Junipero Ct. I am sure this is not your venue but Monterey Ave. between Park Ave. and the school looks like a back road in the interior of an underprivileged country> I cannot remember when any attempts were made to make it look like most of the other streets around town.

Sincerely,

Gloria Settle  
215 Junipero Court  
Capitola, CA 95010

-----Original Message-----

From: Jennifer Shaw [<mailto:jshaw@cruzio.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 9:18 AM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Monterey Ave skate park

I live on Plum St in Capitola. NO, NO, NO!!!!!! On this proposal. It would destroy the serenity of a beautiful park and neighborhood and be totally unfair to the residents, and to those who have to park on the street.

We ALREADY have a state-of-the-art skatepark about to open. Private funds will build the proposed second park with a 1/2 mile of each other. But guess who maintains it forever? We the Capitola tax payers.

NO< NO< NO!!!

Jennifer Shaw

[jshaw@cruzio.com](mailto:jshaw@cruzio.com)

831-588-7409

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeanne Simari [<mailto:jeannes@cruzio.com>]

Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 10:23 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Cc: City Council

Subject: Skate park at Monterey Park

Please deny the skate park being built at Monterey Park. Capitola does not need 2 skate parks and one located at Monterey Park will become a public nuisance with noise, lack of parking, and loss of green space.

Jeanne Simari, Glenn MacPherson  
157 Cabrillo St. Capitola



Dear Mr. Grunow,

I am opposed to the skate park at Monterey Park for many reasons. I have spoken at many City Council meetings and sent more than one letter to the city stating my opposition to the skate park. I have two major concerns regarding this location, the noise it will create and the safety and learning environment of the school will be compromised.

Regarding the issue of noise, the skate park will be located roughly 150 feet from the nearest classroom and 99 feet from my fence line. I have been unable to find a skate park in existence that has been built so close to a school or homes. Common sense tells me the "mechanical noises" produced by the skate park as opposed to the "natural sounds", such as children playing, produced by the existing park, will have a large impact on the school and surrounding homes. As a neighbor to the park, I enjoy hearing the people walking dogs and playing sports, however the unnatural sounds of skate boards hitting rails and concrete are not soothing to the ear. As a teacher, I can only imagine the disruption such noise would create for the school children in my classroom.

Regarding the issue of safety, the city needs to consider the students of New Brighton. In a time when our nation is looking for ways to make school campuses safer, Capitola has approved a location for a skate park that invites even more outsiders to sit by and pass through an already open campus. Skate boarding is a sport that involves sitting around and waiting, essentially loitering and thus inviting the potential for unsafe individuals to scope a campus and its students under the guise of a skater just hanging out. As a parent of 2 children who will attend New Brighton, I want the safest campus most conducive to learning. Capitola should be committed to the safety and learning environment of its school children not the desires of the individuals who find the McGregor location inconvenient or dangerous. Children should be monitored at skate parks, and thus McGregor is the perfect location for a skate park. As a parent of kids who love skate boarding, I am thrilled about the McGregor skate park and its wise location in a multi-functioning park.

Sincerely,  
Karla Villarreal  
706 Orchid Avenue  
Capitola

Dear Mr. Grunow,

As a resident of Capitola, a neighbor of Monterey Park whose yard borders the proposed skate park location, and a long time skate boarder, I am stating my objection to the skate park location. Noise is a huge issue that has not been addressed sufficiently. The impact of the noise created by such a skate park location on the school, district office and neighbors would be huge. The skate park would be 99 feet from my fence line (I measured 96 feet). In my research I can find no such comparable skate park located this close to homes or a school. The negative impact of the mechanical sounds created by a skate park at this location need further more extensive and realistic studies.

The proposed skate park location could potentially have a negative impact on the safety of New Brighton students as well. As a skater, I know skate parks involve sitting around. Who is to say those sitting around during school days all have positive intentions? Such a location is unwise and irresponsible.

Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,  
Ramon Villarreal  
706 Orchid Avenue  
Capitola

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Wallace [<mailto:smswallace@gmail.com>]

Sent: Sunday, November 29, 2015 2:02 PM

To: Grunow, Rich ([rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:rgrunow@ci.capitola.ca.us))

Subject: Monterey Skate Park

Dear Mr. Grunow:

I have a few questions about the proposed skate park at Monterey Park:

Are the eucalyptus trees going to be removed? If not, will the City clean the skate park of the seed capsules from the trees? As we all know, they are round, hard and messy.

Will the baseball field be moved from its current location? If not, is there a plan to be certain no balls are hit inside the skatepark fence, possibly hitting a skater?

Have you taken into consideration that someone lives very close to the north end (closest to Monterey Avenue) of the skatepark?

Who will be responsible for daily unlocking and locking the gate to the skatepark?

Are there plans for a restroom near the skatepark?

Thank you very much for answering these questions.

Regards,

Sandra Wallace