



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Madison's First Public Skatepark Nears Fruition

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MADISON— In September, City of Madison Alders Rhodes-Conway, Rummel, Clausius and Verveer proposed an amendment to the City of Madison's 2013 Capital Budget which included funding for the construction of the city's first public skatepark. The amendment passed unanimously; the City of Madison has allocated \$300,000 for construction of the skatepark in 2013. This money will be used as seed and match money, allowing the group to pursue private donations and grants. The City of Madison also provided a letter of assurance to the Skatepark Fund in which they committed to donating almost 20,000 square feet in Madison's proposed Central Park, showing their commitment to the project. With this support, the Madison Skatepark Fund is poised to focus fundraising efforts for construction of Madison's first public skatepark.

“The letter of assurance and inclusion in the 2013 capitol budget shows that the City of Madison wants a destination skatepark in downtown Madison, and is willing to support the project verbally and financially. Our real fundraising efforts can begin today.” says Pat Hasburgh, Spokesdude, Madison Skatepark Fund. Tax deductible contributions can be made via PayPal at madisonskatepark.com or by contacting the Madison Skatepark Fund.

The proposed skatepark is planned as part of the first phase of the Central Park project and is anticipated to be a plaza-style park. Typical smaller skateparks consist of modular skate ramps and elements while the Madison Skatepark will be a regional destination park featuring concrete construction of elements such as a bowl, steps and ledges that would have more of the appearance of elements found in places such as downtown courtyards and streetscapes. Several public meetings will be held to obtain design input from local skaters and the community. The project is expected to cost approximately \$750,000. The group has discussed park naming options but has decided that the name may ultimately reflect the largest donor to the skatepark project.

The Madison Skatepark Fund is an all volunteer group whose mission is to bring the first public skateboard park to the City of Madison. Currently, the only legal place to ride a skateboard in Madison is on a sidewalk in a residential area. Stoughton, Sun Prairie, Verona, Oregon, Waunakee, Mt. Horeb, Middleton, Cross Plains, Mazomanie, Monona, McFarland, Lake Delton and Sauk City are a few of the towns surrounding Madison that have created legal facilities for their riders. For more information on the Madison Skatepark Fund or to donate, contact Patrick Hasburgh at madisonskateparkfund@gmail.com or 608.692.3459.