

Elsen, Nikki

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Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 3:04 PM
To: ZZ Council Members; ZZ Park & Rec
Subject: Erickson Skate Plaza plan comission follow up

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I'd like to address a couple concerns that were voiced at the last plan comission meeting in regards to the Erickson Skate Plaza project. First off, in regards to future maintenance and the longevity of such a project- as of now, the skatepark at Lueth has been around for 25 years, and none of the obstacles have had to be replaced. Concrete skateparks are built to last several decades.

Adding concrete skate obstacles to what is currently a vacant slab shouldn't create much in the way of future maintenance work, just trash cleanup, which the La Crosse skate crew is more than happy to handle ourselves on a volunteer basis.

I'd like to remind everyone that prior to my skate plaza proposal, the going plan for this location was a \$300,000 parking lot.

Parking lot blacktop cracks over time under the weight of automobiles and erodes away with the changing seasons, creating a lot of future costs in repaving and sealing and painting.

On that same note, it was mentioned that the funds set aside for this project could be better used for maintenance on our existing parks. I understand that all of our city parks need maintaining, but the funds allocated for the Erickson Skate Plaza are TID money- money that can't be used for maintenance work, has to be used for new projects, and can only be used in the same district as the Erickson location.

I'd also like to mention that this skate plaza will find use from not just skateboarders, but bmx bikers, rollerbladers, scooters and the like. I feel like a lot of my language has been very much skateboard centric in my advocacy for this project, and it's worth mentioning that this park will be for everyone.

Thank you all for your thoughtful input and continued support. I wish you all a happy July 4th holiday.

-Brock