

CITY HALL PROJECT

Skateboard Park Questions and Answers

February 2021

Where we are today – current project status



What is the City Hall Project status?

On Jan. 26, 2021, West Kelowna Council approved Johnston Davidson Architecture as the design team who will work with the City and the Okanagan Regional Library to design West Kelowna's first City Hall/Library Building on City-owned land. This earmarks the beginning of the City Hall Project's Preliminary Design phase that moves the project forward from the concept phase.

Will the skateboard park be impacted?

Yes. However, until more work is done on the Preliminary Design, including how the building and other amenities will be situated on the site, it's too early to say how transforming the skateboard park will look. As we work through the design process and determine building orientation, potential non-farm use on a portion of the site and other factors, we will have further details and engage the community as the regulatory and design process proceeds.

Did you know?

The skateboard park will not be deconstructed until a transformed park is built.

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The desire is to keep the skateboard park on the existing site. The initial site concept design identified the need to transform the skateboard park because it is in conflict with the construction area, and we will ensure a park is restored better than it is today.

Will we lose access to the skateboard park during construction?

No. Council has committed that if a new skateboard park is required then the existing skateboard park should remain operational until the transformed park opens.

Will the skateboard park design be improved?

Yes. The design will replicate what is enjoyed there today. However, there will be opportunities to expand esthetics and uses around the skateboard park such as by adding shade trees, improved lighting, and areas for sitting. This will be explored as the Preliminary Design process for City Hall/Library building proceeds.

Are additional project costs needed to transform the skateboard park?

No. Costs of transforming the skateboard park are included in the overall project costs and will be beneficial overall as a popular gathering space for the community.

The skateboard park is considered a valuable amenity to the community and is a popular park with all ages. The opportunity to transform the skateboard park allows for better site functionality including better amenities, lighting, areas for relaxing and observing the park in action.

What are the next steps?

Proactive steps are now underway to help with narrowing down a specific location on the City-owned lot. A portion of the site is currently within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). An application has been submitted to the Agricultural Land Committee (ALC) to designate a portion of the site as non-farm use to accommodate the skateboard park and/or parking. The intent is keep the skateboard park at the existing site, if possible.

We are also working with the skateboard park community at this early stage. As the design and regulatory process moves forward, we will continue to consult with the skateboard park community about the design and timing of the project to keep everyone informed. We anticipate the next update will be in spring 2021.

Did you know?

We will advertise all engagement opportunities in print and electronic media and report back what we heard.

We are better together!

When can I provide feedback?

We anticipate Preliminary Design consultations will begin in spring 2021. We will advertise all engagement opportunities in print and electronic media, along with reporting back to the community about how input has been considered as we move forward together.

How can I get involved?

It's easy! Visit our website to subscribe to the City Hall Project e-news or register on the City's online engagement platform. Announcements in addition to print and electronic advertisements and on-street signage will be made available closer to the date for public input opportunities.

City Hall Project Team
2760 Cameron Road
West Kelowna, BC V1Z 2T6

 778-797-1000

 cityhallproject@westkelownacity.ca

 westkelownacity.ca/cityhallproject