

Attention Stafford Residents

The purpose of this notice is to provide an update to the public that includes accurate information regarding the skateboard park located within Hyde Park.

- The skateboard park was closed in 2019 due to safety concerns. The closure has included signage noting that entrance to the park will be considered trespassing and police will take notice.
- As is done with many large or expensive Town projects, the Board of Selectmen pursue are actively pursuing grants or other sources of funding in an effort to reduce the impact on the Town budget.
- In recent weeks, the skatepark has been broken into and vandalized on multiple occasions. Each time doing further damage to the existing fence which causes increasing safety concerns for the public. While the Parks Department has repaired the fence each time, the fence continues to be cut in multiple locations. In addition, the park has been spray painted with terribly graphic, disgusting, and disturbing messages and images that are inappropriate for public viewing. While the Parks Department continues to clean up the vandalism and repair the damaged fencing, the continual vandalism has created sharp edges on the fence.
- The Stafford Police Department has been involved with concerns regarding the skate park from the onset and are investigating these recent acts of vandalism.
- In an effort to ensure the safety of our residents and minimize the cost associated with such vandalism, a decision was made to disassemble the equipment so that it could be safely stored at another location until funding could be secured to repair the skate park and associated equipment. Parks employees have been given the directive to catalogue the disassembly to ensure the equipment could be reinstalled correctly. During this process, further inspection revealed that additional repairs will be necessary to the structure of the ramps to ensure their safe use in the future.