

**Results of Tybee Neighbors Website Survey Questions**  
**02-08 Mini-Survey -- Skatepark and Ethics**  
**209 responses**

**Question #1**

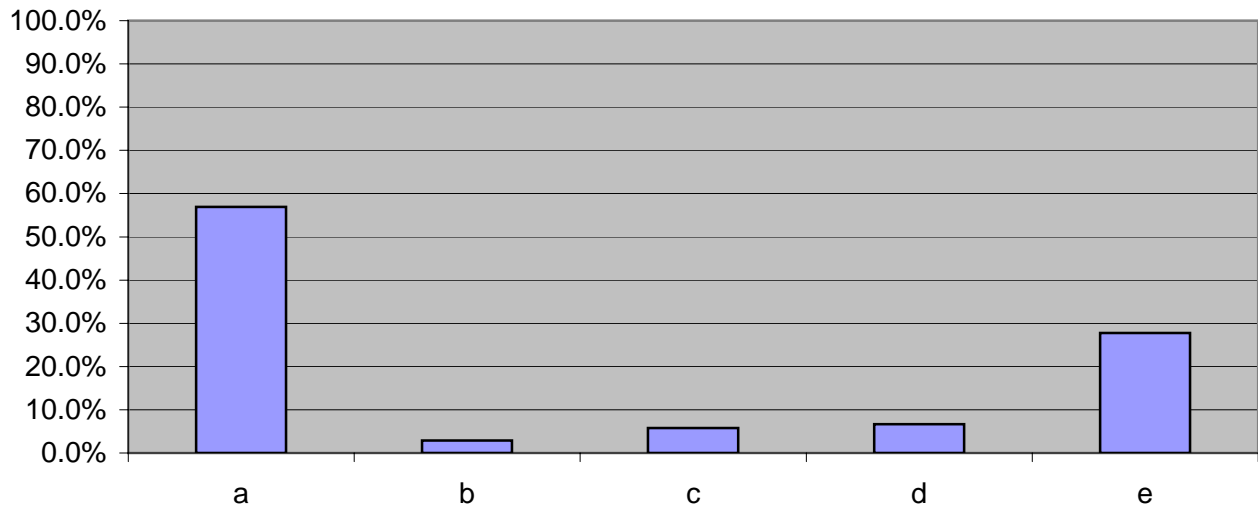
Background: For at least the past 4 years the City of Tybee Island has committed funds in support of a skate park. The 2007 City Council approved \$60,000 toward a Skate Park to be built in Memorial Park. The new City Council has removed the \$60,000 from the budget. Independently supporters of the skate park have raised approximately \$20,000 for the building of a skate park.

Check the response below that most closely reflects your opinion on this issue.

The City of Tybee Island should:

- a. Provide the \$60,000 and allow the skate park to be built in Memorial park
- b. Not provide financial support but allow the skate park to be built in Memorial Park
- c. Provide the \$60,000 but allow the skate park to be built in another location on Tybee Island(not Memorial Park)
- d. Not provide financial support but allow the skate park to be built in another location on Tybee Island(not Memorial Park)
- e. There should be no skate park allowed on Tybee Island.

119	6	12	14	58
a	b	c	d	e
56.9%	2.9%	5.7%	6.7%	27.8%



## Introduction

A great deal of interest was generated by this survey. A total of 209 responses were included in the results. We had 2 surveys completed by 3 people and only included the most recent of the two. We had 3 surveys without real names on them and did not include these in the results. We made every effort to verify the credibility of the names and email addresses and rejected 2 who did not live on or own property on Tybee Island. We had responses from 4 young people under 18 and did include their responses since one issue is a skate park for young people. We had a very diverse group of people responding and you'll see this is evidenced by the comments.

## Tybee Neighbors March 2008 Survey Comments on the Skate Park

### Comments Supportive of the Skate Park

I signed the petition against the city spending \$200K + on the skate park, because I wasn't in favor of that amount. I am not opposed to the city funding \$60 K for the project. I have stated the families who want this should conduct fundraisers and they have done so. Some people have said there aren't that many children living on Tybee, but there were many young families at the two Christmas parties on Tybee.

\* \* \*

ETHICS< ETHICS< ETHICS We must keep the ethics ordinance in place. Without it the Council will have no accountability. This also means keeping promises made by the prior Council. Let the skate park be built.

\* \* \*

I have worked with young people for the better part of my 67 years. Over and over again I see evidence that, given respect and support during the tumultuous growing-up stages, they develop into fine people and upstanding citizens. Tybee is a wonderful place for all of us, ALL of us. The kids will live up to what is expected of them and if they sometimes fail, they will learn through accepting responsibility for their failing. So what if many, maybe most, of the kids who will use the skate park don't actually live on Tybee? Most of the people who eat in the restaurants, shop in the shops, walk on the beaches, visit the museums, fish in the waters, stay in the lodgings don't actually live on Tybee. I live on Tybee and I guess I can be classified as fairly old, and I resent people with more money than average or more political clout than the average citizen being in position to rob people too young to vote of any voice in what happens on our island.

\* \* \*

the tourist business is the primary source of revenue for Tybee island. the people come with children to enjoy the beach and other activities. more than likely, over 50 % of the children are skate boarders. if they have a skate board facility to use, they will be happy. if the children are happy, and at the skate park, the parents will be VERY HAPPY. happy tourists return year after year. it's as simple as this!

\* \* \*

I filled out the Tybee Neighbors skatepark survey last night.... obviously I'm in favor of the skatepark being in Memorial Park, and the City leaving the \$60,000 in the budget, however I would like to state for the record that I'm disappointed that the survey was posted prior to the Ad Hoc Memorial Park Committee making it's recommendation for the Memorial Park Master Plan. It's understandable that some "Tybeenians" may be concerned about space availability in Memorial Park. The Master Plan for the park is a comprehensive long term plan that, when presented, will show that there is room for everyone in the park, but without it being public how are residents to know that? Janice Bentley will be presenting the committee's recommendations at the March 27th Council meeting. I believe that after this plan is presented there will be a greater understanding in the community as to how the skatepark can easily fit into Memorial Park without taking up space that is currently utilized for other things, as well as being buffered from residences. If possible please insert this comment into my survey response.

\* \* \*

The supporters of the skate park have worked very hard for this. I can't believe it could just be taken away from them after it was promised. The kids need a place to skate safely. In this day of video games and computers we should welcome a place for kids to get outdoors and get some form of exercise in a safe place. If we don't offer a safe place the kids will resort to skating in unsafe places like parking lots.

\* \* \*

I've lived on Tybee since the early 1900's. After all those wealthy retired people have moved here, they want to rule this island and encourage all the young people with families to get off their Golden Island. This is truly a sorry situation!! Tybee was always a family community, and dearly-loved by tourists for being a family destination. Don't allow a few sourpusses to make our island their country club!

\* \* \*

Keep the \$60,000 in the budget and get it done already!

\* \* \*

One must understand that little children are politically correct - teenagers are not. Noone raised a fuss about building two children's playgrounds costing \$175,000. But, encourage teenagers and the uproar begins. Unfortunately, kittens grow into cats, puppies become dogs, and little children become teenagers. The giant water slide, the carnival, and putt putt golf were lost to condo development and the private sector will not replace them because recreation is not the best and highest use for Tybee land -think \$\$\$\$. Ultimately, the public sector must provide recreation facilities for young folks - including teenagers. What they most desire is a skate park and it should be built.

\* \* \*

As a member of the Memorial Park ad hoc Committee, I object to the council "changing" their minds about the allocation of the \$60,000 for the skate park. The impetus for the development of this committee was due to the need (and support) for the skate park in our community. It is a "slap in the face" to those of us on that committee who have worked very hard, sometimes with difficult decisions, since September 2007. We have undertaken extensive planning, research, discussions with experts, and our valuable volunteer time served in meetings, etc. to give our City a plan for the park that is comprehensive, and includes the much needed and much supported skate park, provides optimal location for the Veterans Memorial, and provides for multiple uses in the park for citizens and visitors of all ages. Maybe the committee was a way to deflect the issue and allow it to become a political issue with the current council??? Our children deserve a safe place to play in a healthy environment. Do we want our children skating in the streets, alleyways, etc? SAFETY should be a concern and should be considered.

\* \* \*

Tybee needs a skatepark. You have no idea how it will positively affect the youth on an island where there is very little to do. I vacation on Tybee several times a year. Having a park on Tybee would be great. Fun for the whole family. Just do it.

\* \* \*

With a great design, this skate park could be a huge asset and attraction to Memorial Park and Tybee in general wherever it is built. I would offer my services as architect to provide some initial land planning ideas. If the master plan has other suggested locations for the skate park, such as a linear park where current surface parking now exists along the Strand, that may be an even better location (if a parking garage hidden by mixed use buildings could be built off of the Strand). I would much rather look out of my condo and see a beautiful park than a parking lot between my unit and the ocean! I would design the skate park so that it can function as a regular park when not being used as a skaters park by integrating all the ramps and such into a natural land, water and plant design that doesn't look like a concrete skate park.

\* \* \*

I am 86 years old and a long-time resident of Tybee Island. Tybee has always been so inclusive and it hurts my heart to see adults act so mean spirited over a recreational facility that will be used by children, teenagers, and adults. I've visited several skateparks with my grandchildren and think one would be a wonderful addition on Tybee. I want the city to provide the funding and a location in Memorial Park so that my grandchildren will have a great place to skate when they visit.

\* \* \*

My only comment has to do with the skate park. You are looking for ways to increase revenue and this is a great one though some people would prefer a " more upscale " method Tybee hopefully will always be a unique spot and these smaller indulgences are a way to bring more people to the island on a day to day basis if done well! Happy to help in this department as I know a skater who can really pull this together if you want his input in doing it properly. Half way will not get the job done.

\* \* \*

To protest the results of the recent election to pro-development individuals, I bought an electric skateboard. I'm having so much fun with it I would encourage everyone to try it. The skate park would be a fun spot for all....especially 56 year old kids.

\* \* \*

Initially I was not for a skateboard area. However, since it has been approved I have changed my mind and believe it should go forward as planned. This issue will go back & forth depending on who is on council.

\* \* \*

We need a real skate park. One that people will make a destination when traveling. It could help put tybee on the map and help fill our empty hotel rooms and condos

\* \* \*

As a mother, I strongly support the construction of a skatepark on Tybee. Both of my children skate, and it's a shame that we have to drive to South Carolina or Florida to find a decent skatepark. It's also a shame that some members of our community have turned the skatepark into a political issue. We have basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, playgrounds, bike trails, etc. so why not build a skatepark for the children and young adults?

\* \* \*

What I really think is that when the city was building the playgrounds and renovating All the other recreational facilities, we should have built a "state-of-the-art" skate park. It could bring many people to Tybee, not just skaters, but entire families. It could be a real boost to our economy during the off-season.

\* \* \*

We worked on this, seems like 8 years ago. My skater Son is now grown and lives on Tybee only part time. Isn't it time the city went ahead and did this right? I'm sure there are still plenty of skaters on Tybee that would be very grateful if the city finally got a decent skatepark built.

\* \* \*

A skatepark would improve the youth-friendliness of our community. Having a variety of activities makes Tybee a family destination. Destination. City council should appreciate and recognize the significant contributions that the community has made toward a skatepark.

\* \* \*

It's just a skate park, let them build it. Don't take away money already pledged, because an underfunded public park is not what anyone wants. The better the park, the better the patrons will respect it and take care of it.

\* \* \*

I've lived on this island all my life (26 years), and there's not a lot for teenagers to do, so some of us have gotten in trouble with the local police. This wouldn't happen if we had a place to work off our energy and get some exercise. Some of my friends are fat, because there's nothing on this island to do. We're not interested in playing tennis, just like old people wouldn't be interested in skateboarding. They got their tennis court, how about giving us our skatepark like you've promised to do for YEARS!

\* \* \*

Although I was originally opposed to the idea of having a skatepark on Tybee, I have changed my mind. The Skatepark will provide something for the children to do on the Island.

When I was a child, there were many things to do. We had the roller skating rink, the other games and attractions on the boardwalk, as well as the amusement park. Later on we had a waterslide and miniature golf.

Now days Tybee has become condos and bars and there is little for kids to do.

I think that the skatepark will provide much needed recreation for our young people.

\* \* \*

My response to the first question is contingent on the ad hoc committee including the skate board park in their recommendations for appropriate uses of Memorial Park. If not, the park should be built in another location on the island.

\* \* \*

I HAVE WATCHED MY 2 SONS GROW INTO YOUNG MEN AS WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED AND PROMISED AND PROMISED THAT A SKATEPARK WOULD BE BUILT FOR THE YOUTH OF TYBEE. IT'S TIME TO MAKE GOOD ON THAT PROMISE, AS THEY STILL SKATE!!

\* \* \*

I don't want to live on an old "senior citizen" island....provide the skatepark for our kids! The rich and retired have moved here in the last few years....my family of wife and 2 children have lived here for 30 years! Don't let those few grumpy retirees rule our island!

\* \* \*

Tennis Courts - \$73,250

Jaycee Park Basketball Court - \$5,200

Memorial Park Basketball Court - \$6,500

Memorial Park Playground - \$175,000

Jaycee Park Playground - \$50,000

Jaycee Park Walking Trail - \$43,938

Lights in Memorial Park - 691.75/mo for 60 months

Lights- Jaycee Park - \$1,098/mo. for 60 months

and not one complaint from citizens on Tybee including TIRPOA and the newly elected council members. \$60,000 for the skatepark and all hell breaks loose. I'm not against any of the above mentioned items because I believe that a community needs to provide recreational opportunities for residents and visitors of all age groups. I do have a problem with the double standard displayed by some members of this community. Why the opposition to a skatepark when none of the other items have met opposition? Sadly the answer is politics and bigotry.

\* \* \*

The citizens who have worked hard to raise nearly \$20,000 of private funds did so on the City's four year promise to have a skatepark on Tybee. To remove the budgeted funds and possibly even remove even granting a site violates this promise and the City may face a lawsuit because of it.

\* \* \*

Re: Skate park - we must remember that this a community centered around recreation

\* \* \*

The mayor and the council need to stand by their commitment to the citizens and youth of the island. After consultation with the location committee, the police chief and others Memorial Park has emerged as the best location. Very careful consideration and planning should be used in placement of the skate park in Memorial Park to lessen the effect on neighbors and to keep the park safe.

\* \* \*

If the skate park was promised to the youth of Tybee Island then it should be built. We need to do more for teens and young adults. When I lived in Arcata, California there was a skate park a few blocks from my house. It was a great place for teens and adults to get exercise in a safe environment. I have a two year old and we LOVE the playground. We use it at least twice a week! A skate park would be a great addition to the other recreational facilities on Memorial Park. Why not give the older kids something too?

\* \* \*

You don't want to know....

\* \* \*

A skatepark on Tybee would serve as a progressive means of bringing additional tourism to the island as well as providing the island's youth a safe and public place to spend their free time. The amount of money that the area's skateboarders have raised independently and the fact that local skateboarders have been attempting to get a skatepark on the island for not four, but close to nine years, should speak to their dedication, competence, and persistence. Skateboarding is not a passing trend and it serves as a positive outlet for todays youth, and the new council should embrace its youth and their needs.

\* \* \*

I believe the new council should budget the \$60,000 for the skate park. It is such a SMALL part of Tybee's overall budget. Taking the \$60,000 out of the budget seems to me to be PURELY POLITICAL and supports the opinions of those who backed this council and the continued negative attitude of TIRPOA.

\* \* \*

PUT THE SKATEBOARD PARK UP PEOPLE  
THE MONEY WAS PUT ASIDE FOR IT  
EVERYONE I TALK TO WANTS IT  
WE ARE ALL EXPECTING IT  
WE WELCOME THE SKATEPARK  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

\* \* \*

WE WANT THE SKATEBOARD PARK!  
PLEASE TAKE THE MONEY THAT HAS BEEN PUT ASIDE AND USE IT FOR OUR NEW PARK  
WE ARE COUNTING ON THIS PARK AND LOOK FORWARD TO USING IT  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

\* \* \*

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE THE SKATEBOARD PARK  
PLEASE TAKE THE MONEY THAT HAS BEEN PUT ASIDE AND USE IT FOR OUR NEW PARK  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR GRANDKIDS USING IT AND PLAN TO BE THERE WATCHING THEM HAVE FUN  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

\* \* \*

I am 19 years old and have been living on Tybee Island since 2002. I attended St.Michael's school 7th and 8th grade. There certainly wasn't a lot of stuff to do for kids my age on Tybee, and still isn't. I love the beach, but after you live here for so long and have the beach as your backyard, the fantasy runs dry. I have a lot of friends that are skaters, and they're good people. They've been waiting for a decent skate park for a long time. This is definitely overdue. It needs to go back in Memorial Park and be done right this time.

\* \* \*

The kids need a safe place to skate.

\* \* \*

Tybee Island NEEDS a skatepark! It's blatantly obvious the kids down here have nothing to do and end up drinking and drugging and/or playing NINTENDO (very good exercise i hear...j/k) because there's nothing to do. Basketball IS played out...never see anybody playing or wanting to play or even talk about playing for that matter. Kids don't play tennis (as in the majority...as in probably noone). Jogging is for anyone but who wants to do that...where's the fun?...besides getting tired. Ha, I actually go jogging a couple times a week because I have been skating so long and there's no where to skate. I got addicted to exercise through skating without even knowing it and now I go "jogging" which is NOT fun but satisfies my craving to "do something". Woody's skatepark on the Southside is horrible...horrible. Emerson's ramp downtown is not something you can skate every day...how many times can you go back and forth on one ramp before it's just not fun. Hilton Head's skatepark is WONDERFUL and I skate there every Sunday but it costs me half a gallon in gas and 2 toll payments along with being a 45 min drive there and back. If we had a nice WOODEN park like Hilton Head has I would be there every day and I would be extremely happy with Tybee's progress in helping the youth develop something other than drug/alcohol/nintendo skills...come on now isn't it obvious how bad the kids have it down here? These days kids wanna skate because it's hip, fun, and isn't going anywhere like where basketball, baseball, tennis, and football went over the years. If a skatepark got built on Tybee Island the majority of the residents would agree that it is a good decision after seeing the effects it has brought to this place. Please do us this one favor and give us a park to skate.

\* \* \*

I have seen fabulous skate parks in beautiful cities all over the world: Grenoble, Paris, Beaufort. It does not detract from the beauty and it gives teenagers something healthy, fun, and wholesome to do! Last summer I traveled to the west coast and saw innumerable wonderful parks and skaters. Please allow The Tybee Skatepark to move forward

\* \* \*

Tybee has become just like most parents today. When the parents of today's world sends their children off to school their children are no longer their problem. The children are the problem of the schools or the authorities of the school. We have just the beach to entertain our children on Tybee. My children will be grown and with families of their own before there is anything put in place on Tybee. I don't understand how Tybee matched \$80,000.00 for play ground equipment but can't seem to find the money for older children's interest. Let's build ramps and such and put it inside the Solomon gym and there would be no wasted space there anymore

\* \* \*

As for the skatepark, leave the \$60,000 that has been budgeted in the past in the budget to be used toward this goal. The future users and supporters have raised and can continue to raise any other funds needed. This amount is substantially less than that spent on the various playgrounds in both parks. If we can provide fun for the little tykes, why not for our older youth? How many times do we complain that kids these days spend too much time in front of computers and cell phones, etc. and they are not getting exercise in a productive and healthy activity?

There has been a committee to work out the master plan for uses in Memorial Park. It seems there is room there, so that is what parks are for: recreational activities. Skateboarding is popular and growing as a healthy sport nationwide. It can also serve to draw people to Tybee in order to participate in using the skatepark. Unfortunately, many if not most of those people who have spoken against the skatepark have continued to use this as a political issue, which it should not be.

\* \* \*

I personally have contributed time and money and support for the skateboard park. I think it should be in Memorial Park. That is about center of Tybee. I have a lot of skateboarders come by my house daily. Tybee kids need at least a skateboard park. If it wasn't for the YMCA, there wouldn't be anything at all for the kids to do. The developers took care of that, Tybee had no interest in preserving something for the kids. Living here on Tybee 40 years, I wish I could say Tybee has gotten better. I'll take the Old Tybee any day than what we have now. There is so much Conflict of Interest going on in City Hall so what if someone donates money to a politician. Example: Tybee Island Sailing Team. That's all from me at this time. Hope the Skateboard Park prevails and I will do what I can to help it.

\* \* \*

One recent night I got the fright of my life. As I pulled into the parking lot of the post office, I saw three little boys skate boarding in the lot. They were coming down the handicap ramp, making a curve toward highway 80. It was almost dark and this was so unsafe. I could not help but think, what a shame it is we cannot even work together for the good of all our children.

Folks, they are going to skate board no matter what we do or don't do. If we don't build the park, it will be the street, parking lots, or the post office, but make no mistake - they will skate board. I would like to commend the group that has raised about \$20,000.00 for Tybee kids to have a place to skate. That's a lot of money and I'm sure it took a lot of time & effort. Thanks!!!

\* \* \*

The skate board issue needs to be resolved altho I guess the council already did that. I think it is disappointing that they would remove the \$60,000 which is pretty small as government amounts go.

I think a small one should be started somewhere with money already collected just to see how popular it actually is. If the results are great then go back to the council and say so. Don't know if that is possible but I do agree that spending government money (our taxes) on a project that may not be utilized a lot would not be prudent. The skate board issue needs to be resolved altho I guess the council already did that. I think it is disappointing that they would remove the \$60,000 which is pretty small as government amounts go.

\* \* \*

The fact that we haven't built the promised skate park is a black eye for Tybee. My sister and I have contributed for one and we expect it to be in Memorial Park. What better way to memorialize our island than with fun parks that attract youth.. far more interesting than dead soldiers. Parks are for the living to enjoy.

\* \* \*

All politics aside, \$60K has been included in the budgets of two previous councils, and a promise was made to Tybee youth and their families that the City of Tybee would build a new facility to replace the old one in Memorial Park. Skateboarders still have a 4,000 square foot slab in that location on which the old equipment was erected. Unfortunately, it holds water making it unusable for skating, and is situated near residences on Jones Ave. After spending eight months trying to identify an alternate site, the previous council voted to place the facility back in Memorial, and appointed a committee to overhaul the design of the park to accommodate it, plus the new Veteran's Memorial and other sites. The committee allowed as much space as was previously allocated the skatepark to more suitably locate and buffer it.

\* \* \*

I, for one believe that there is enough room on Tybee for all types of recreation...tennis courts for those who are tennis players/ basketball courts for all...sand volleyball....walking trails....beach renourishment....you name it, there is a "special interest" involved.....to discriminate against skateboarders is a narrow-minded look at a sport that has been around for years....supports its professional athletes....generates a business world of skate paraphernalia....draws enthusiastic fans to watch the challenging maneuvers of the skateboarders...

i also wonder if those opposed are aware of the local enthusiasm for a skatepart and the amount of money raised by private fundraisers.....no reason for this tybee island to become a hilton head resort island....

\* \* \*

Skateboarding is much more than a passing fad - it's one of the fastest growing sports in the country and a favorite of all ages. It offers personal challenges, builds confidence and physical stamina. Municipal parks are popular family oriented recreation facilities and tourist destinations year-round. Planners and designers have been working for months to create a beautiful, comprehensive plan with room for everyone at Memorial Park. Speaking as a member of the Ad Hoc Location Committee, I can tell you there simply was no realistic alternate location.

\* \* \*

In good faith skaters, advocates and supporters have already raised \$20,000, even before they had a designated location. For the new council to reallocate previously approved funds is one thing, but money or no, they still need to do the right thing, and allow the new Memorial Park plan which includes the skateboarding facility to be presented and implemented. A small professionally built, family-oriented, municipal skatepark has been proposed for a buffered corner of Memorial Park. This is a recreation facility to give skaters (of all ages) a safe place to engage in a healthy, exciting, confidence building activity at minimal costs to the community - one way or another, the council needs to move forward with this! It's a real shame this issue was politicized in the first place.

The skateboard park should go back in Memorial Park, regardless. I don't understand how this issue ever became so politicized, as it is nothing more than a recreation facility for kids and families. I have supported the project and also contributed artwork to several fundraisers.

\* \* \*

Stop discriminating against the youth!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

\* \* \*

Tybee city council has promised a skate park to our youth for years! The skate park should be in memorial park. Its time to take politics out of this issue and **DO THE RIGHT THING FOR OUR KIDS!!**

\* \* \*

I live next to Memorial Park and don't want the skatepark too close, but it is probably the most logical location. Once built though, we cannot escape the liability issues. We are already spending \$370,000 for lifeguards and ocean rescue, 138,000 for beach/bike patrols, and 48,000 for beach/restroom cleaning. When the first kid falls and breaks an arm or cracks his/her head open on the concrete, everyone will insist upon the presence of some supervision and medical assistance. To me, the ideal location would be adjacent to the gym with access only through the gym with each user required to have the necessary protective equipment. It would also need to be fenced in to keep some toddler from wandering off from a family picnic and falling in or falling into the path of a skater. Even if not legally responsible for an injury, many would feel morally responsible and obligated as with our lifeguards. It would also need to be patrolled just as the beach is. Trash and debris would have to be cleaned up,

trash receptacles provided, and probably a drinking fountain. And how about youngsters just learning to skateboard, would they have unrestricted access or would their parents have to provide a waiver of liability. Do a Google search for "skatepark liability" and you will find thousands of results with some very thought provoking ideas. If we build it, let us operate it in a safe, controlled, responsible, and profitable manner. Charge admission and carry liability insurance. Although opposed to certain aspects of it, we have already made a commitment and it could be an attraction and an asset if properly administered from the start.

\* \* \*

KIDS WITH NOTHING BUT TIME ON THEIR HANDS GET IN TROUBLE  
KIDS WITH A SKATEBOARD PARK TO GO TO ARE TOO BUSY HAVING FUN TO CAUSE PROBLEMS  
KEEP KIDS OFF THE STREET CORNERS AND GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO DO  
GO CHECK OUT THE SKATEBOARD PARK IN WINDSOR FOREST CALLED WOODY'S RAMPS & RAILS  
WOODYSRAMPSRAILS.COM  
THIS IS VERY FAMILY ORIENTED, THERE'S NO CURSING GOING ON, IT'S A FUN SAFE PLACE FOR EVERYONE  
AGES 3 AND UP  
BUT IT'S A LONG LONG WAY FROM TYBEE  
THERE ARE ADULTS THERE SKATEBOARDING  
KIDS WITH PARENTS  
TEENS  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE  
THEY SELL SNACKS AND DRINKS  
YOU PAY TO SKATE AND CAN RENT BOARDS & PADS & HELMETS  
WE LOVE GOING THERE BUT LIKE I SAID IT'S A LOOONNGGG LONG WAY FROM TYBEE.  
THE MONEY WAS PUT ASIDE FOR THE SKATEBOARD PARK AND THAT'S WHERE IT SHOULD STAY!  
IF NOTHING ELSE & AS A LAST RESORT,  
USE THE MONEY FOR THE PARK AND PUT IT ELSEWHERE ON TYBEE  
I DON'T SEE WHAT THE PROBLEM IS  
BUT EITHER WAY USE THOSE FUNDS AS THEY WERE INTENDED.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

\* \* \*

I support the skatepark and hope that council will keep the \$60K in the budget REGARDLESS of where the skatepark is built.

\* \* \*

THE MONEY WAS PUT ASIDE FOR THE SKATEBOARD PARK AND THAT'S WHAT IT IS TO BE USED FOR.  
THIS IS SOMETHING EVERYONE CAN ENJOY.  
AS A GRANDPARENT, MY HUSBAND & I SPEND EVERY WEEKEND WATCHING OUR GRANDSON, WHO IS 8,  
SKATEBOARD AT WOODY'S RAMPS & RAILS.  
WE PAY FOR HIM TO SKATE THERE AND ENJOY THE DAY TOGETHER  
UNFORTUNATELY IT IS IN WINDSOR FOREST AND ENTIRELY TOO FAR TO DRIVE WHEN I CAN BE RIGHT  
HERE ON TYBEE  
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THERE IS EVEN A QUESTION ABOUT IT.  
USE THE MONEY FOR IT'S INTENDED PURPOSE AND I BELIEVE ANY NAY-SAYERS WILL BE PLEASANTLY  
SURPRISED WITH THE RESULTS. A NICE PLACE FOR ALL TO ENJOY.  
YOU WILL BREAK MY 8 YR. OLD GRANDSON'S HEART IF THE SKATEBOARD PARK ISN'T PUT UP  
I CAN'T AFFORD TO DRIVE TO WINDSOR FOREST EVERY WEEKEND AND THAT'S THE ONLY PLACE  
AVAILABLE TO GO TO. I ENJOY WATCHING MY GRANDSON SKATEBOARD & SPENDING TIME TOGETHER.  
WE BUY A FEW PIZZA SLICES, SOME DRINKS AND WATCH THE MORE EXPERIENCED SKATERS DO TRICKS &  
STUNTS. IT'S AMAZING SOME OF THE THINGS THEY CAN DO.  
I SEE LITTLE PEOPLE THERE.... 4YR OLDS SCOOTING AROUND ON THEIR SKATEBOARDS, IT'S THE FUNNIEST  
THING. SOME OF THEM ACTUALLY STAND ON THE BOARDS AND SKATE. PRETTY AMAZING TO WATCH.  
THERE ARE ADULTS THERE. 20'S, 30'S, AND 40'S SKATEBOARDING  
KIDS WITH PARENTS, FAMILIES WATCHING, TEENAGERS,  
ALL IN ALL IT'S A FUN CLEAN ACTIVITY FOR EVERYONE  
PUT THE SKATEBOARD PARK UP AND USE THE MONEY AS IT WAS INTENDED  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME,  
A PROUD GRANDFATHER

\* \* \*

PLEASE TAKE THE MONEY THAT HAS BEEN PUT ASIDE AND USE IT FOR THE NEW PARK  
I'D LIKE TO KNOW MY GRANDKIDS ARE AT THE PARK HAVING FUN IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND NOT OUT  
RUNNING THE STREETS.

I DITTO MY HUSBANDS COMMENT ABOVE AND WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT MY GRANDCHILDREN VISIT US EVERY WEEKEND AND THIS PARK WOULD BE A WONDERFUL BLESSING TO US ALL MY FAMILY WANTS THE SKATEBOARD PARK AND THE FUNDS SET ASIDE TO BE USED TO BUILD IT

\* \* \*

YES TO THE SKATEBOARD PARK  
PLEASE TAKE THE MONEY THAT HAS BEEN PUT ASIDE AND USE IT FOR THE NEW PARK  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR KIDS USING IT AND PLAN TO BE THERE WATCHING THEM HAVE FUN  
THANK YOU

\* \* \*

PLEASE TAKE THE MONEY THAT HAS BEEN PUT ASIDE AND USE IT FOR THE NEW PARK  
I'D LIKE TO KNOW MY GRANDKIDS ARE AT THE PARK HAVING FUN IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND NOT OUT RUNNING THE STREETS.

\* \* \*

Tybee is the best "kid friendly" community I have ever seen and it needs to continue to be proactive in children and young adult activity. I comment Tybee leadership for what it has done in the past and encourage even more.

\* \* \*

### **Mixed Comments on the Skate Park**

How are you going to care for the injured skaters now that Memorial is cutting back and selling their helicopter?

\* \* \*

Insofar as the skate park is concerned, I have made my position known to the Mayor and members of the previous council. I have not been in favor of the park in the past, but acknowledged the council's general commitment. My lack of support comes from the position that Tybee's population of children under the age of 18 is rapidly diminishing due to the high cost of housing on Tybee. Young families, in general, can no longer afford to live here. However, I have suggested that the skate park should be built using modular equipment from "Skate Wave" (I provided brochures) that guarantees their equipment rather than digging a more permanent hole in the ground; and that it should be located at the north end of the 14th street parking lot. That location would make the facility more of an attraction for visitors, not just residents. It would be open to public view, but fenced and open from 9 a.m. to sunset. I provided photos of signage for control of the facility as well. This effort was based on research of two successful facilities in PA and discussions with the directors. In the event that the facility proved to be unsuccessful here, the fencing could be removed and the area involved reverted to parking.

\* \* \*

Regarding the Skate Board Park. My second choice would be to allow it but locate it away from Memorial Park. The gym was the first mistake in Memorial Park, let's not take anymore of the scarce public greenspace in Memorial Park

The city should leave the money alone until a vote can taken by Tybee property owners as to whether there should be a skate park at all and if our tax dollars should be allocated to it. The Mayor's" promise "to a young child should have no bearing on this issue.

\* \* \*

The skatepark has been far more divisive to this island than the issue merits. It became a hot political football in 2007 and a way for people with their own personal agendas to work against people with interests and records that are in the best interest of the community. Let's move on.

\* \* \*

I do not believe that taxpayer money should be used for a skate park. However the land could be donated by the City to the skate park. The skate park however must conform to all regulations the City has.

\* \* \*

### **Comments Against the Skate Park**

I live on Memorial Park and, in my opinion, there is already way too much building in the park. The skate park would support an unhealthy element not just to the park, but to the island. When they were having a small skating demonstration in the location of the old skate park, most of the people skating were over the age of 25. It will become an area where parents drop off their kids to skate and when they get tired of skating, they will roam around the island getting into trouble.

\* \* \*

Space allocated in Memorial Park should be limited to family-oriented activities; skateboarding isn't one of them.

\* \* \*

The skatepark has been a public thorn "for at least 4 years". The only equitable solution is to place the question of the skatepark on a referendum in the November election (as we should have done with the seven million dollar trailer park). Let the voters/taxpayers make a decision and end this incessant bickering.

\* \* \*

With older kids using the skate park, it's just a matter of time before there are drugs and drinking going on. The noise factor alone is enough for me to oppose the park. It was noisy enough the first time to force me to shut my house up during the evening when I like to have the windows open or sit outside.

\* \* \*

I believe the City should work with the County to get the funding and create a budget for the building and maintenance of a skate park. This should be a County project since it will be used by skaters throughout the county.

\* \* \*

If we are going to use tax dollars, spend it on something more than just a limited amount of people can enjoy. I think we need an indoor Olympic swimming pool. More people would use a pool than a skateboard park.

\* \* \*

The skate board park is a terrible idea. It would be a drop off place for parents, and kids surely would be un-supervised. We are too small a city to support a skate park. Who would be responsible for garbage, noise, and all the kids and teenagers that would be coming in from Savannah, Wilmington Island etc???? I voted in favor of this council because the morjority opposed it. Let the city of Savannah build one and the few kids from Tybee can go there. And when the kids are done skating, where do they go for the rest of the day???? Our children's playground?? NO..... No skate park.

\* \* \*

A skate park is simply not a good use of either Tybee tax dollars or Tybee land. We've got a great beach and will need to keep it renourished on a regular basis. Tourists come to Tybee for the beach not a skate park. Those from the surrounding area who want a skate park should put it in their own back yard.

\* \* \*

Thank goodness the new Council is keeping its promise to be fiscally responsible. Tybee needs a lot of things more beach renourishment, renovation of existing facillities, not to mention reduction of the debt incurred by the last Council. For those who say this became political: yes it did. It became political when the precious Council tried to allow a quarter of a million dollars to go for a skate park. Thank goodness it came to all of our attention.

\* \* \*

Let skate park supporters purchase land in C-1 district and construct and operate a for profit business.

\* \* \*

Tybee should be more of a retirement island, not a Disneyland off the coast of GA. It is not a kid friendly island like it was in the 1940s when I was a kid. A shame there are no plays in the Post Theater or ballroom dances for seniors out there.

\* \* \*

no skate park!!!! we do not have the space or capacity to fund this project also this age group is statistically more prone for mayhem then supporting income

\* \* \*

We don't need this survey. The real survey was done in the last election. Read the 20 pledges that the new council signed.

\* \* \*

If people are determined to have a big skatepark it should be located on Wilmington Island where more children and adults can used the park. Maybe Chatham County and Tybee could support this venture if it is built on Wilmington. I would never agree that it should be placed in Memorial Park. We need the green space. The City does not have that much land on the books.

\* \* \*

Is there really a need for a skate park on such a small island as Tybee? Is this really a demand issue? Seems like the money could be put to better use. Memorial Park has very little space left for such a expensive idea scape. I would like to see the green spaces kept open for families to enjoy. A skate park seems a limited idea--- skaters are a small amount of the population, where as families are in the majority. Why not keep the area open for the majority too enjoy.

\* \* \*

I'm not opposed to activities for our youth. A skate park does not serve the majority of our young citizens. Also, we simply don't have enough space for this type of facility.

It really probably belongs on Wilmington --they have lots of kids --plus the CAT bus goes there -- kids from all over the area

could have access -- if on Tybee only kids who have private transportation would have access -- that doesn't sound fair to me.

\* \* \*

A skateboard park should only be on Tybee if it is on private property financed through private funds. If it were such a good idea, there would be savvy business people trying to do just that!

\* \* \*

Do not want anything that has caused so much negativity.

\* \* \*

I do not want to see a skate park on Tybee. I think it will bring in a lot of young boys/men who will not only use the park but when they get together they may be a destructive element, i.e. vandalism, gangs, etc. The park will draw non-Tybee young people who do not appreciate our way of life. We do not need these unsupervised young people on our island.

\* \* \*

Tybee Island is too small and too densely populated to allow a skateboard park. Construction and use of a concrete skateboard park on Tybee would detrimentally affect the quality of life of neighboring residents. (Just ask those who live in the area of Memorial Park, where the skate park used to be. Almost all will tell you that their quality of life was diminished because of the park.) In view of the fact that the majority of Tybee residents do not want this park on Tybee and in view of the fact that the majority of individuals who would use this park do not live on Tybee, it's a no brainer. No to a skatepark on Tybee.

\* \* \*

There are not enough Tybee residents that would use the Skate Park. The last time we instituted a Skate Park, the City could not enforce the rules and regulations, the age range was too great and it plain didn't work!!

\* \* \*

Neither public funds or public property should be used for a skate park. If there is enough interest it can be built with private money, and does not have to be at Tybee.

\* \* \*

We have other, more important things, that the funds should be spent on. Such as drainage. This island has NO drainage. That was evident just this past year when we had the Labor Day Floods and the October rains. I still haven't recovered from them yet. Let's take care of the important issues first and foremost, and then we can DISCUSS the skate park, which in my opinion, we don't need. I have a 14 year old who doesn't skate. Lets find something ALL the kids on Tybee can use. As you well know there is nothing for any of them to use now.

\* \* \*

While the skate park is a wonderful idea in theory there does not appear to be a location on Tybee Island suitable in size and location that can accommodate one.

\* \* \*

Tybee should absolutely not allow a skate park on the island. The island is much too small for this sport. Tybee should concentrate on how to make the beach and the businesses more appealing then worrying and wasting time about a skate park. There are many many other areas in the Savannah area where a skate park could and can be built. Stop going around and around on this issue for goodness sake....how long has this been out there 18 months, 2 years? Concentrate on something more pliable and profitable for the island.

\* \* \*

How many times do we have to say WE DO NOT WANT A SKATE PARK!!! There are better uses for the money and I don't think Tybee has that many resident skateboarders.

\* \* \*

I do not believe that the relatively small population of Tybee should bear the burden or expense of a skate park. A larger entity such as Savannah or Chatham County should handle that, possibly on Whitmarsh near the baseball fields.

\* \* \*

The skate park should be constructed and managed by a private firm on private land. The city does not need to get into a private sector's type business. People have come to expect government ... at all levels ... to take care of their wants. We continue to enable people. Governments exist to take care of peoples' needs: Security (fire and police), safe drinking water, sewerage, governance (enact laws that keep citizens bound together and free from fear and harm).

\* \* \*