



Partnership in Progress: Lewis Park ..4 March 2008

Knox Council's decision to review the future of the Lewis Park Skate and BMX site is a win for democracy, and a great opportunity to provide the best mix of facilities for local residents. Council's position has always been to provide high quality facilities for the local skating and BMX fraternity. Previously, that involved an evaluation process that led to an already popular facility in Gilbert Park.

Although the new site was intended as a replacement facility for Lewis Park, skaters recently demonstrated their concern with plans to decommission the older facility. Council listened to those concerns and recognised that many people have a strong historical connection to the Lewis Park site. The position of holding one regional facility at Gilbert Park was reconsidered and a review process begun to consider the best possible way forward.

A reference group of users, residents and others will assist Council's Recreation and Leisure Liaison Group to recommend a future approach to the evolving needs of skate and BMX facilities.

What was most pleasing about the recent process was the professionalism, courtesy and sense of decency that was displayed by those keen to maintain the Lewis Park facility. Council looks forward, now, to the review process and welcomes the input of the skaters, riders, industry representatives and others to make the Lewis Park Skate and BMX Facility Reference Group a progressive partnership that provides quality assets and opportunities.

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