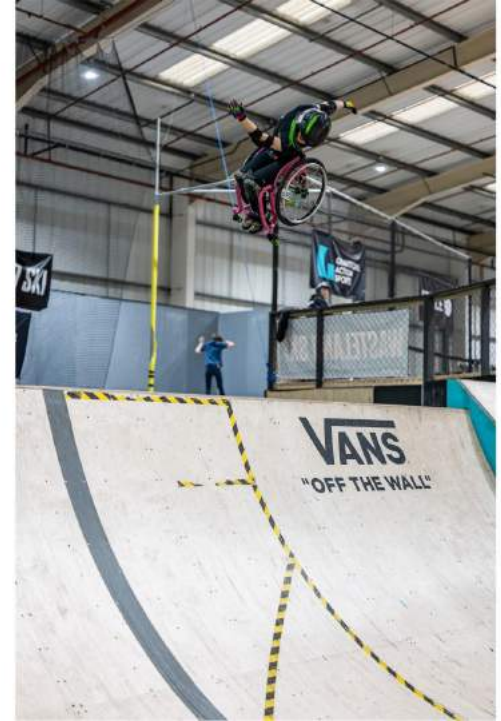


Accessible Skateparks

2020 Survey Evaluation and Results



OVERVIEW

- From May to October 2020 Goodpush, Drop In e.V. and SEHstern e.V. did a worldwide online survey
- Key question: “How to make skateparks more accessible for everyone?”
- We especially reached out to skaters and WCMXers with disabilities
- 73 people all over the world took part



PARTICIPANTS

- 73 people from 15 different countries
- From 8 to 59 years old
- Years of skating from “just started” to 53 years
- 33 people stated to have a disability
- Mostly WCMXers took part - reflected in results



RESULTS: SKATEPARK OBSTACLES – WCMX

- Problems:
 - Difficulties getting up ramps / out of bowls (19x)
 - Ramps and obstacles too high/steep/challenging (5x)
 - Rails inaccessible without a kicker (4x)
 - Accessibility in general (not able to access all parts of the skatepark) (4x)
 - Platforms and ramps not wide enough for wheelchairs (or platforms missing) (3x)
 - No toilets (3x)
 - Lack of speed / no starting point to get speed (2x)
 - Bad condition of skatepark (2x)

SOLUTIONS – WCMX

- High starting points to get speed (5x)
- Banks / inclines leading up to the top of ramps or out of bowls (3x)
- General accessibility (2x)
- Distance between obstacles not too wide (to keep speed) (1x)

“[Entire skatepark] sunk into ground, with concrete / tarmac surround, with a low slope ramp to get back to ground level.”



RESULTS: SKATEPARK OBSTACLES – VISUAL RESTRICTIONS

- Problems:
 - Obstacles are not long enough (2x)
 - Not enough or bad light (x2)
 - Too much distance between obstacles being disorienting (1x)
 - Missing tactile lines on the floor (1x)
 - Lack of high contrast colors (1x)
 - Unsafe platforms (1x)
 - Unable to hear other skatepark users such as scooters or BMX (1x)



SOLUTIONS – VISUAL RESTRICTIONS

- Tactile orientation in and around the skatepark (3x)
(ex. different material on the ground)
- Wider / longer obstacles (1x)
- Miniature Skatepark replica (1x)
(like fingerboarding skatepark)



SOCIAL ASPECTS – PROBLEMS

- Lack of awareness about disabilities (especially when a disability is not visible) (4x)
- Not always feeling included or welcome ie. when there are too many people (3x)
- Lack of beginners area (2x)
- People distancing themselves when they find out about disability (1x)
- Unpredictable things and noises (1x)
- Feeling overwhelmed when not in their local skatepark (1x)

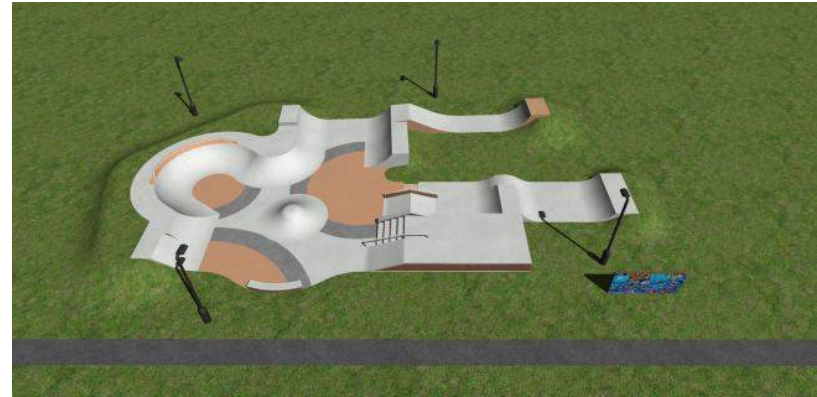
SOCIAL ASPECTS – SOLUTIONS

- No direct solutions to improve problems on a social level
- The following key statement might influence atmosphere:
Mixed skatepark for all abilities (level / street / transition)
- Further research needed if more information or rules could be helpful



ENVIRONMENT – PROBLEMS

- Lack of wheelchair access from road to skatepark (10x)
- Long travel (9x)
- Lack of parking (3x)
- No toilets (3x)
- Anxiety / feeling unsafe on public transport (2x)
- Other difficulties accessing skatepark from the road (2x)
- Poor or no lighting (1x)



ENVIRONMENT – SOLUTIONS

- Clean, barrier-free toilets (8x)
- Wheelchair accessible pathways (7x)
- Good public transport connections (5x)
- Green space/nature (5x)
- Rest area with shade (4x)
- Water fountain (3x)
- Parking (2x)
- Sensory safe zones (2x)
- Good lighting (1x)
- Central location (1x)
- Assistants on-site to help get on ramps (1x)



DREAM OBSTACLES

- Mixed skatepark for all abilities (level / street / transition) (7x)
- Rail to ride on (ex. Rainbow rail) (8x)
- Roll-ins (5x)
- Foampit (with big ramp) (4x)
- Pump track / snakerun (3x)
- Bowl with tunnel / door / easy exit (3x)
- Manual pad with up-ramp (1x)
- Wider stairs with enough space for a wheelchair (1x)



FAVORITE SKATEPARKS

- Fontana Skatepark South in Fontana, California / USA (3x)



FAVORITE SKATEPARKS

- Venice Beach Skatepark in Los Angeles, California / USA (2x)



FAVORITE SKATEPARKS

- Adrenaline Alley in Corby / UK (2x)



“Skateboarding has always amazed me due to the fact that it tears down barriers. No matter the age, race, gender or sexual orientation if you skate (or ride) you become part of a family. When I discovered and got involved with WCMX this thought evolved in a way I had never considered. It is both extremely humbling and inspiring to have children with disabilities skating alongside kids that are able bodied, both having just as much fun as each other sharing the same experience.”

