



# SURVEY 1 ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

September 2021



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	Pg 5
Project Background	Pg 7
What We Did	Pg 8
Who We Heard From	Pg 9
What We Heard	Pg 10
Appendix	Pg 35







# Executive Summary

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Parks Board) and the City of Vancouver are developing a long-range strategy for skateboard amenities in Vancouver.

**A skateboard amenity** is a feature, space or obstacle that is used by a skateboarder but open to a variety of users. Skateboard amenities can vary in size and scale ranging from a single skateable element like a bench, ledge or ramp, to several elements clustered together, to large scale destination skate parks.

Over two phases, the new Skateboard Amenities Strategy will be developed to provide a long-term vision for skateboarding and other wheeled sports in Vancouver, articulate and define service levels, provide a flexible “design tool kit” to support the growth of skatable spaces across the City and develop recommendations for implementation.

## Participation:

Phase 1 engagement included:

- 2,146 online survey respondents through Shape Your City
- 105 people engaged in-person at popular skate amenities and skate-related events
- 4,264 people visited the Shape Your City webpage
- City of Vancouver’s Social Media - Tweets, Youtube, Instagram
- Youtube Video - Soliciting survey responses

## Integrating Input:

Project staff and the consultant team will integrate feedback from this round of engagement with technical analysis to:

- Develop a preliminary city-wide skate network design, which will include different park sizes, access options, terrain types, and recommended locations for new skateparks
- Determine the quantity of new terrain needed; and

- Understand community sentiment regarding existing skateparks and spaces.

## Survey - Key Insights

The survey results demonstrate there is a vibrant skateboarding culture in the City of Vancouver that consists of a diversity of skate spaces - both formal and informal - that are well-used by a wide range of participants in wheeled sports. Over 2,000 skateboarders and participants of other wheeled-sports responded to the survey, with many involved in community initiatives, meetups, volunteering, advocacy, mentorship, online community groups, and DIY initiatives. Skateboarding is not only a major contributor to participants’ wellbeing (almost 9 in 10 stated they participate in skateboarding and other wheeled sports to stay active, relieve stress and hang out with friends/meet new friends), but it is also a widely used form of transportation (50% of participants).

Although Vancouver’s skate community is thriving, users of skate spaces raised several areas for improvement with the existing skate infrastructure.

- 1. Need for more skateable terrain:** Less than a third of respondents rated the amount of skateable space in Vancouver as being good or excellent. Respondents noted they were just as likely to use streets, public areas and DIY spaces as they were designated Park Board sites.
- 2. Need for covered skate spaces:** The need for more skateable terrain is likely to be heightened in the winter months given that only two skate spaces are currently partially covered (Plaza) or fully covered (Leaside). Comments in many of the questions expressed this need.
- 3. Lack of distribution across the City:** Only 2 in 10 were satisfied with the distribution of skate amenities across the city. More than half of respondents felt that skate amenities were not easy to get to.

# Executive Summary

Results from the survey provided clear considerations for a future skate network and the design of future amenities, including:

- Create more skateable terrain
- Create more covered skateable spaces
- Incorporate a variety of skatable terrain and consider movable/modular features where possible
- Embrace DIY skate locations
- Intentionally design skate features into public spaces and incorporate lots of green space around skate amenities
- Reduce conflicts between different types of users (through design, stewardship, signage)

Further engagement with the broader non-skate amenity user community is needed. Less than 6% (or 127) of survey respondents indicated they are not a skate amenity user.

Please see section below for the detailed results.

# Project Background

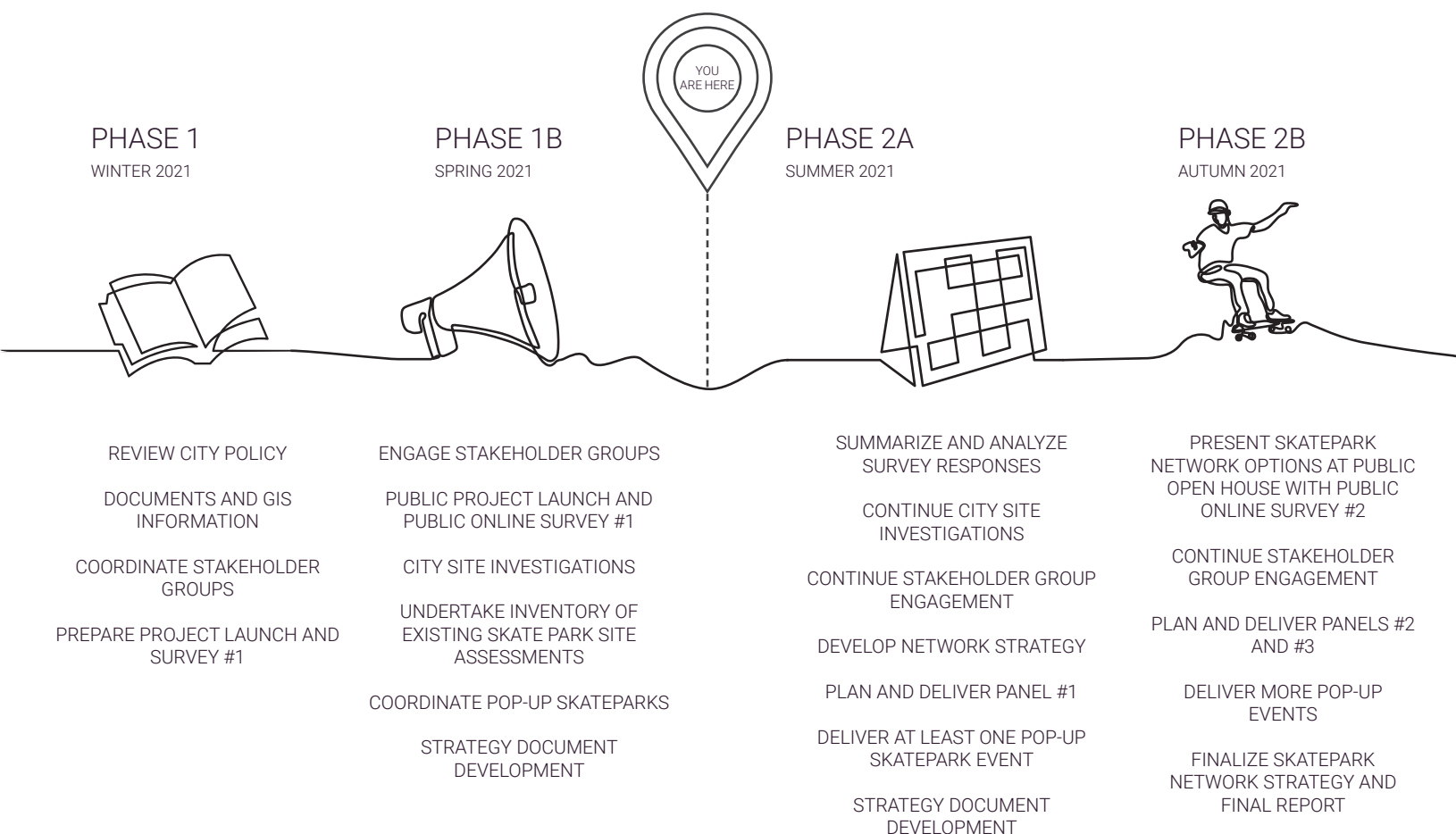
The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Parks Board) and the City of Vancouver are developing a long-range strategy for skateboard facilities in Vancouver. The strategy aims to increase participation in skateboarding and other related action sports by recreational users and athletes in skateboard venues and expand Vancouver's conception of where and how skateboarding and other wheeled sports occur in the City.

The new Skateboard Amenities Strategy will provide a long-term vision for skateboarding and other wheeled sports in Vancouver, articulate and define service levels, provide a flexible "design tool kit" to support the growth of skateable surfaces across the City and develop recommendations for implementation.

We are currently at the end of Phase 1.

This document provides an overview of how we engaged skateboarders, skateboard organizations and other groups participating in alternate wheeled-sports in skateboard venues, who participated, and what we have heard thus far in the process.

Please note that throughout this document, the term "user group" is used to refer to skateboarders and the other aforementioned wheeled-sport participants that use skate facilities. (scooters, BMX, inline skaters, roller skaters, longboarders, etc.).



# What We Did

## Engagement Activities

This section documents the engagement activities, and promotional tactics utilized to gather broad feedback in Phase 1.

The purpose of this engagement was to discover who skateboards and where. What do skateboarders like or dislike about current amenities? What can be done to improve these experiences?

### Online Survey

Between May 13 - June 13th, 2021, skateboarders and skateboard organizations, other groups participating in alternate wheeled-sports in skateboard venues such as, but are not limited to, roller skaters, inline skaters, BMX, scooters, and longboarders, as well as residents, business owners and other members of the Vancouver's diverse community were provided an opportunity to take an online survey.

The survey included a set of questions for skate amenity user groups to gather their perspectives on Vancouver's existing conditions and priorities for future skate amenities, as well as a set of questions for residents, business owners and other members of Vancouver's diverse community on their perceptions of skate amenities and perspectives on how skate amenities can be better integrated into the community.

### Paper Survey

Paper surveys (200) were also distributed to skate shops and community groups, such as Anti-social, Menu, Skull Skates, The Drive.

### In-Person Engagement

In person engagement took place:

- Thursday, June 3 at the Britannia Courts (15 people engaged)
- Saturday, June 5 at Quilchena Skate Park (40 people engagement, primarily youth and parents)





# Who We Heard From

- Saturday - Monday, June 19-21 (50 people engagement). A sign-up sheet to join the project mailing list, informal conversations about the strategy and invitation to participate in a future youth engagement workshop.

## Meetings with the Skateboard Advisory Group for Engagement (S.A.G.E)

Over the course of Phase 1, staff and members of the consultant team met with members of the S.A.G.E to gather feedback on proposed engagement approaches. Three meetings have been completed to date.

- Vancouver Skateboard Coalition VSBC
- Nations Skate Representative
- BMX Representative
- Rollerskating Representative
- Vancouver Queer Skate/LGBTQ+ Community
- Longboarding and Skate as Transport Representative
- East Van Skate Club
- UnderToe Skate Representative
- Late Bloomers/Takeover + adult skate club.

## VSBC - Stakeholder Consultation

- Consulted on Strategy related issues and ideas
- City Reps and Consultant team attended numerous VSBC meetings
- VSBC primary consultant for engagement related pop-ups through Fall 2021.

## Publicity + Outreach

Outreach efforts included:

- Project website [www.shapeyourcity.ca/skateboard-amenities](http://www.shapeyourcity.ca/skateboard-amenities) with 4264 visits;
- Flyers and posters were distributed on sanctioned street poles around the City in the following neighbourhoods:
  - Hastings-Sunrise
  - Commercial Drive
  - Main Street
  - Broadway Corridor (from Commercial to Alma)
  - Cambie Village
  - Kitsilano
  - Downtown (includes Yaletown/ West End/ Vancouver Public Library Central Branch area/ Business District)
  - Gastown/ Chinatown
- Flyers, posters and stickers were also distributed to skateboard shops around the City of Vancouver

## We heard from:

- 2,146 online and paper survey respondents through Shape Your City
- 105 people who were engaged in-person at popular skate amenities and skate-related events

For a detailed summary of the demographics of online survey respondents, please see Appendix A.



# What We Heard

Below is a summary of feedback from the two widgets on Shape Your City: the online survey and the Places Tool.

## Online Survey

This section reports out the key findings from each question from the online survey.

The online survey was intended to gather information on user group participation in skateboarding and other wheeled sports (who, what, where, when), user group perspectives on existing skate amenities, user group priorities for future skate amenities, and resident/business owner/public perceptions on skate amenities.

Note: Some totals may not add up to 100% because some questions allowed respondents to select more than one response or as a result of rounding. The number of mentions for open-ended questions may exceed the total number of respondents as participants may have commented on more than one topic.

## 1. What is your interest in the project? (choose the option that you most identify with)

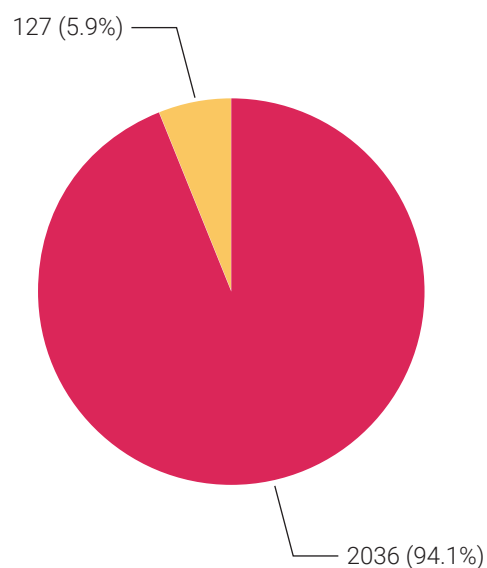
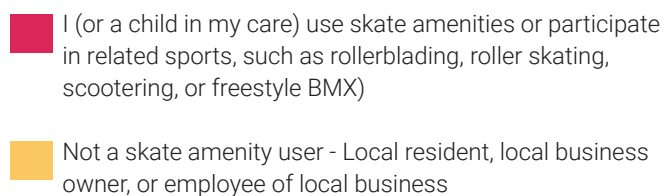
2163 response(s)

### Key findings:

- The majority of survey respondents noted they or a child in their care use skate amenities or participate in related sports - 2036 (94.1%)
- 5.9% of survey respondents were not a skate amenity user - 127 (5.9%)

### Key takeaways:

- High enthusiasm and interest in the Strategy from those already engaged in skateboarding and related wheeled sports. Need to further engage those not currently involved in skateboarding to ensure the Strategy considers other's perspectives



2. When thinking of the sport you (or your child) participate in most often (skateboarding, rollerblading, roller skating, scootering, or freestyle BMX) - what is your level of expertise?

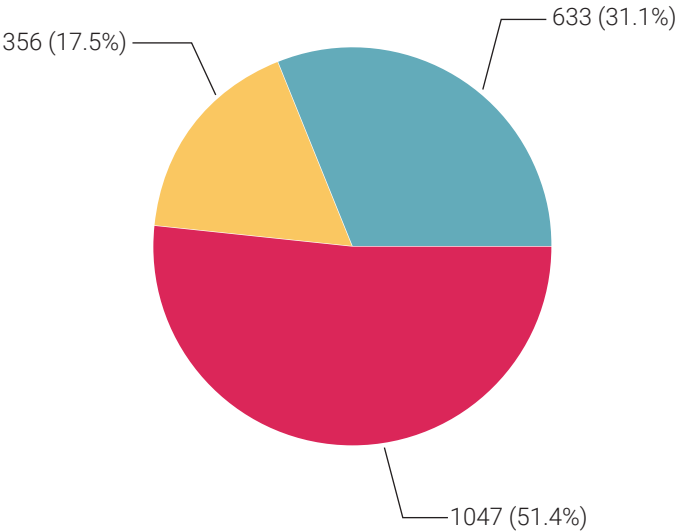
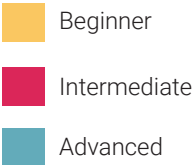
2036 response(s)

Key Findings:

- The majority of survey respondents state they are at an intermediate level - 1047 (51.4%)
- Over a third of respondents identify themselves or their child to be at an advanced skill level - 633 (31.1%)
- Beginners were the least likely to respond to the survey - 356 (17.5%)

Key Takeaway:

- Over half of survey respondents identify themselves or their child at an intermediate level. This means survey responses most commonly reflect an intermediate perspective.



# What We Heard

## 3. How many years have you (or your child) been skateboarding or participating in a related sport? (select one)

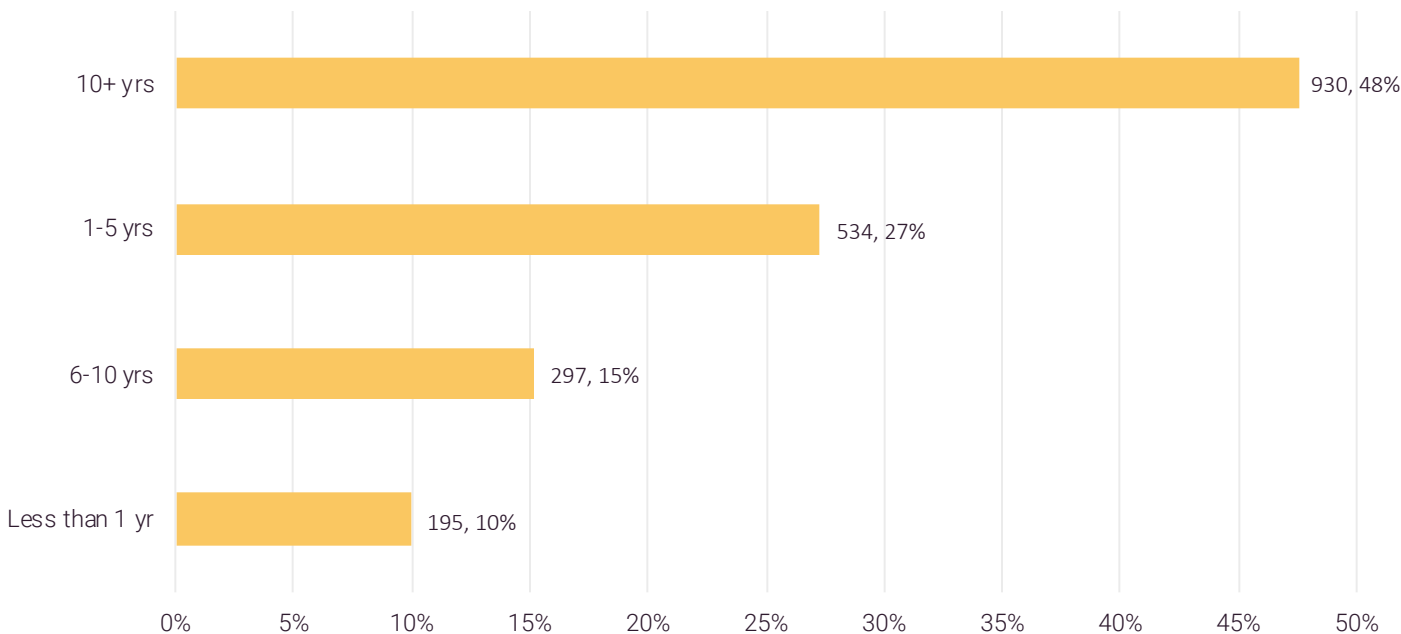
2036 response(s)

### Key takeaway:

- Survey responses most commonly reflect the perspectives of those with 6+ years experience.

### Key Findings:

- Most respondents noted they have been participating in skateboarding or a related sport for 10+ years - 930 (48%)
- The majority of survey respondents state they have been practicing skateboarding or a related sport for longer than five years - (63%) 5-10 yrs (15%) and 10+( 48%)
- One tenth of the respondents noted that they have been participating in skateboarding or a related sport for less than one year - 195 (10%)



4. If you skateboard or participate in other related sports, what are your reasons? (select all that apply)

2036 response(s)

Key findings:

- Most respondents noted the following reasons for why they participate in skateboarding or a related sport:
  - to enjoy the outdoors (87%)
  - to stay active (86%)
  - to relieve stress (86%)
  - to hangout with friends/meet new friends (85%)
  - to learn new skills (85%)
- Those who responded “other” cited they participate for fun, for their passion of the sport and culture, for the mental and physical benefits,

for skill-building, and a creative outlet.

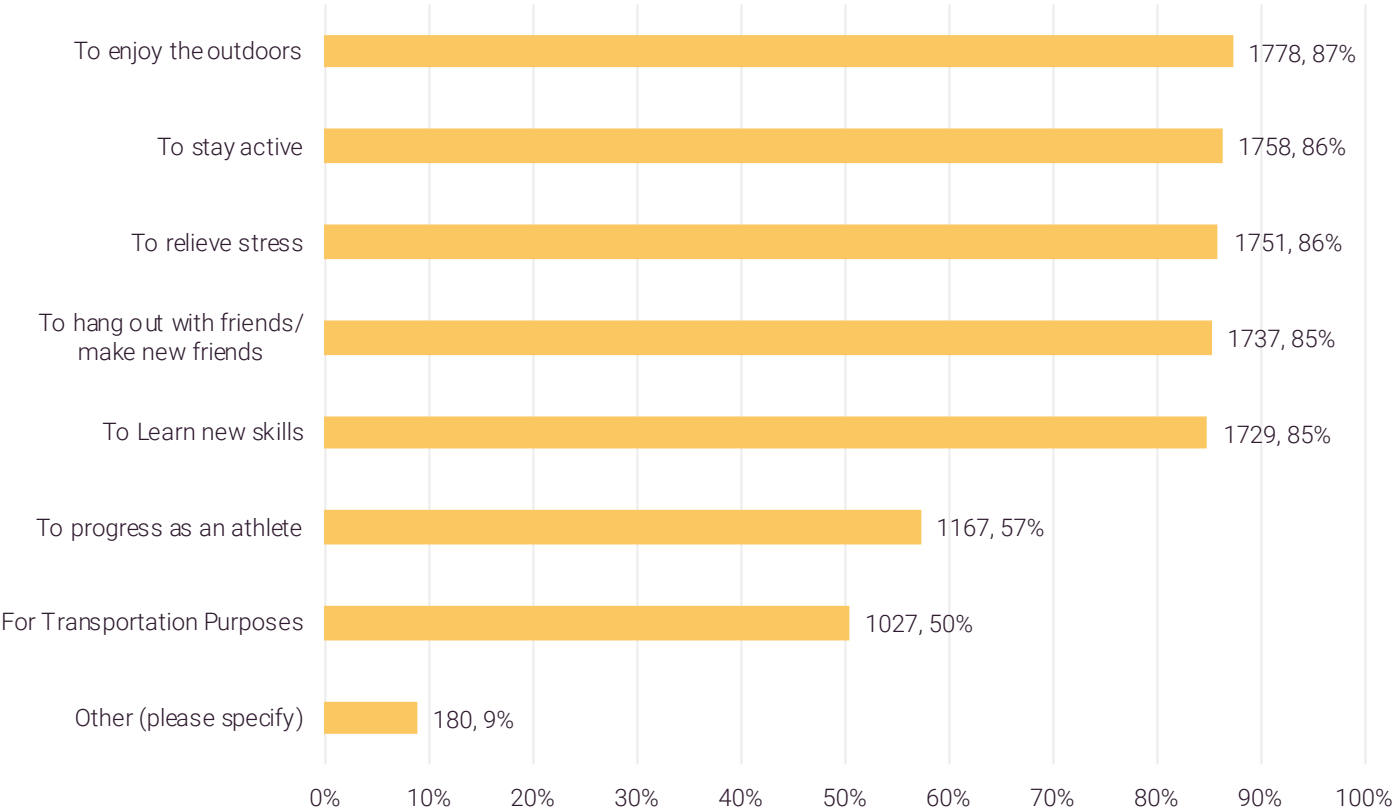
- 1027, 50% of respondents cited they participate in skateboarding or related sports for transportation purposes.

Key Quotes:

- “Skateboarding is like nothing else, it is our escape from the world around us.”
- “Because it’s fun!! And also, there’s an amazing community around it.”

Key Takeaways:

- Responses highlight the physical, mental and social health benefits of skateboarding and other wheeled sports to individual and community wellbeing that can be supported through a Skateboard Amenity Strategy.
- This finding calls to attention that people skateboard not only for recreational purposes, but also as a mode of transportation, noting it should be considered in transportation planning and active transportation design.



# What We Heard

## 5. What is your preferred style of terrain? (select all that apply)

2036 Response(s)

### Key findings:

- The most commonly preferred style of terrain is street style, which include features such as ledges, benches, handrails, and stairs - 1530 (45%)
- This was closely followed by transition, which includes features such as bowls, mini ramps, and quarter pipes - 1406 (41%)
- Those who responded to “other” noted their preference of large smooth flat ground for warming up and practicing new tricks, and utilizing modular skate features, such as those found at the Britannia tennis courts.
- Other suggestions included covered spaces, pump tracks, paths and greenways which incorporated singular skateable features such as a bank, bench, curb or public art.
- Respondents that had preferences for either street or transition also noted a desire for adaptable terrain such as modular features that could be reconfigured to serve various styles.

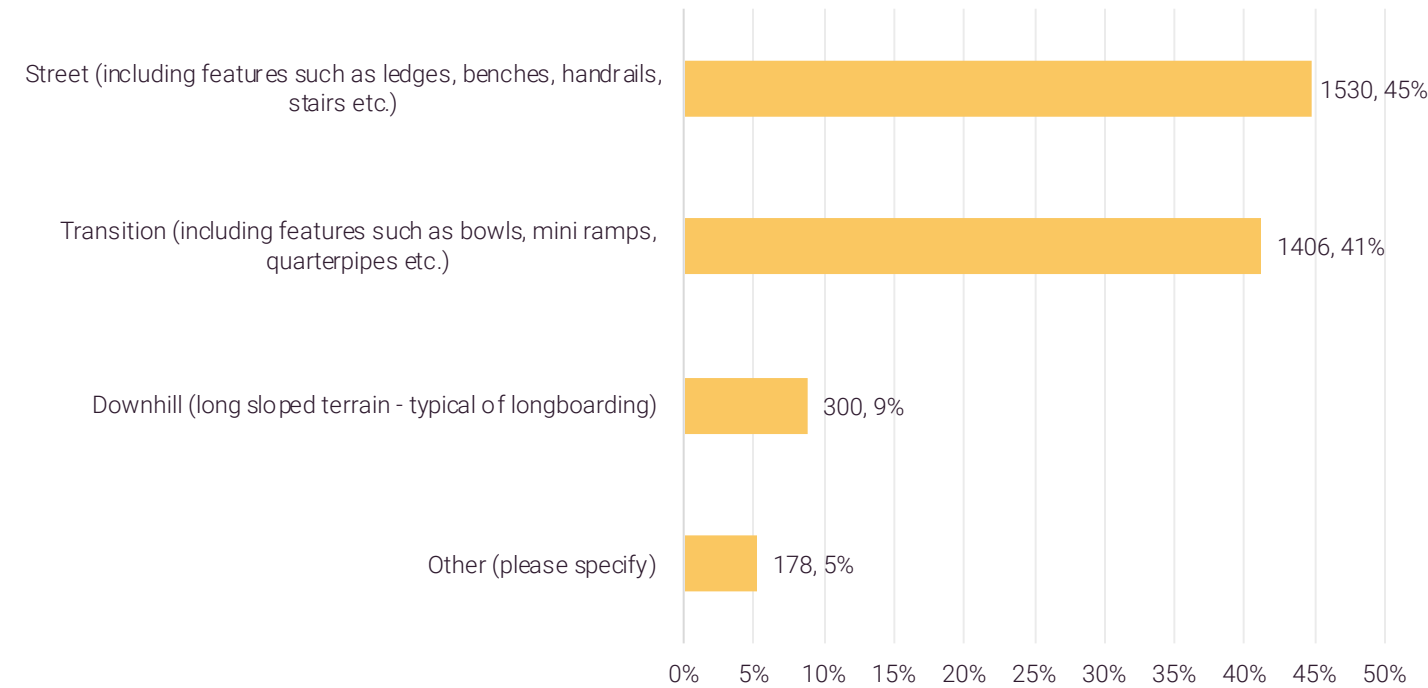
### Key Quotes:

- “Plaza style features that imitate street architecture.”
- “Flat space, smooth, no rocks, not otherwise used as a tennis/basketball/ballhockey court.”

“Mixed obstacles from street skating and a few transition obstacles to help the flow of the park but totally balanced space of both is the ideal.”

### Key Takeaways:

- These results show that preferences for features are widely varied both in design and size. Since the spatial requirements of these features are also varied, this means that there are opportunities to incorporate skateable features in a diversity of spaces large and small, not just in parks.





6. Please indicate below where you typically ride and how often you use these spaces:

2032 Response(s)

Key findings:

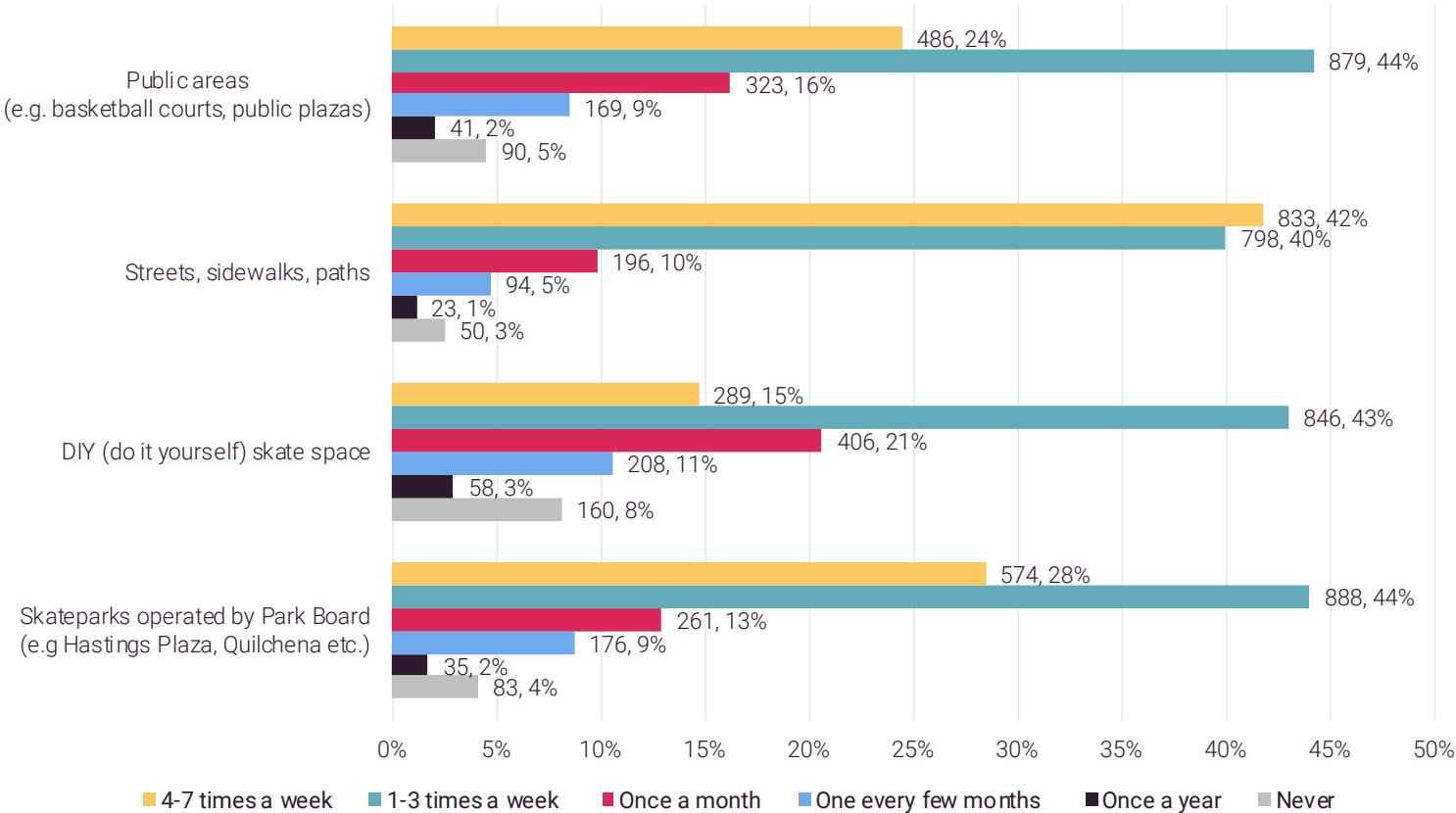
- Respondents most commonly ride 1-3 times a week. All locations received high response numbers:
  - Park Board Skateparks - 888 (44%)
  - In public areas - 879 (44%)
  - DIY spaces - 846 (43%)
  - Streets, sidewalks, paths - 798 (40%)
- Those who ride on streets, sidewalks and paths were most likely to do so 4-7 times a week - 833

(42%)

- The fewest responses were for riders that indicated they participate less than once a year and when they do they either ride in public areas or in a DIY location - Public Space 41, (2%), DIY space 58 (3%)

Key Takeaways:

- The results show participants use public areas, DIY spaces, and streets as frequently as they use designated Park Board sites. Streets, sidewalks and paths was the only category in which over 40% of respondents stated they ride these spaces between 4 and 7 times a week further emphasizing the use of skateboarding as a form of transportation and highlighting the high usage of non-designated spaces.



# What We Heard

## 7. What is your favourite space to skate or participate in related sports? Please explain why:

1821 Response(s)

Open ended answers were coded by theme and tabulated.

### Key findings

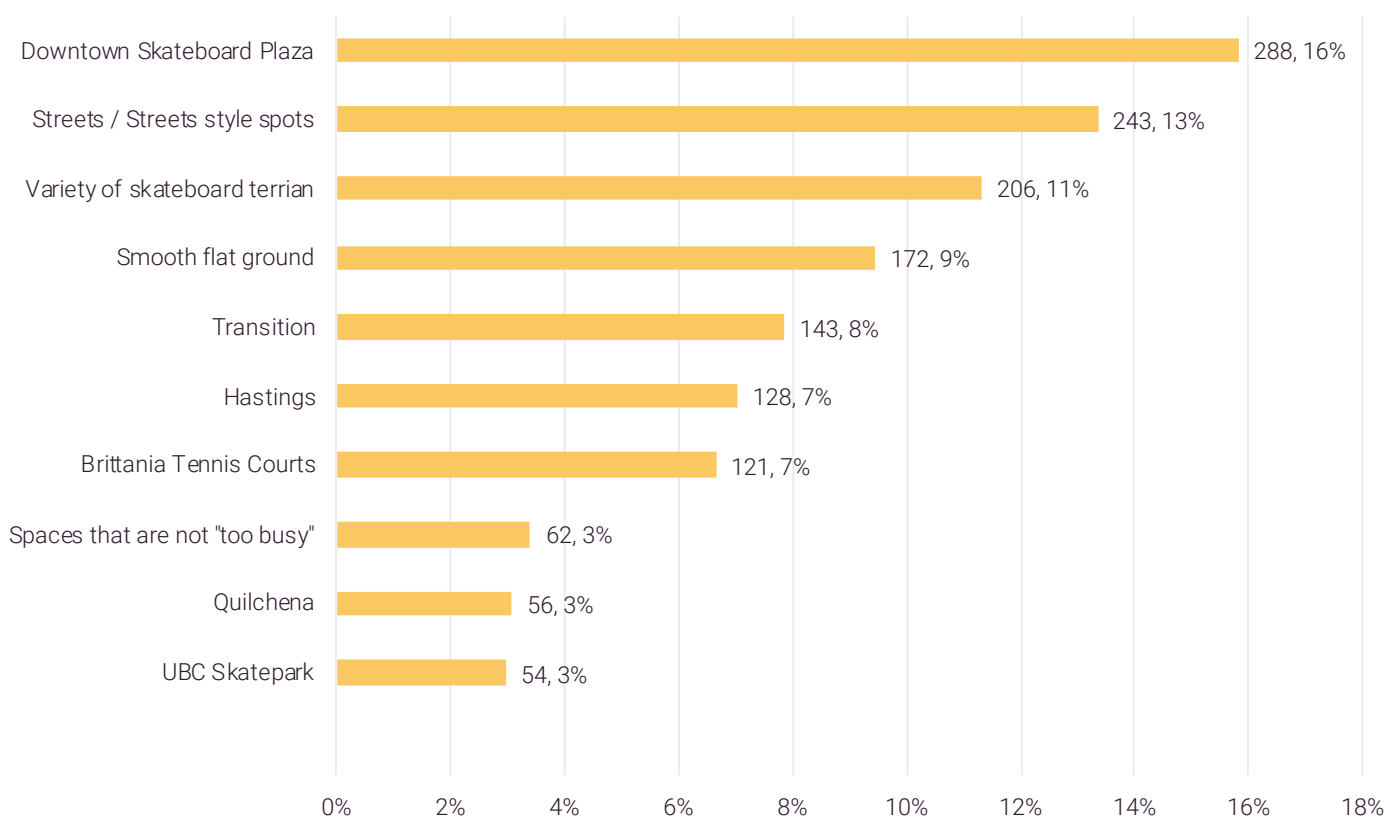
- The most common response was the Downtown Skateboard Plaza - (288; 16%) followed by streets/ street style spaces (243, 14%)
- Many preferred spaces that provided a variety of terrain including, flat, street, transition and bowls (206; 12%). These respondents suggested including more modular features to offer greater adaptability depending on the user.

The graph below shows the 10-most common responses to this question.

- There was only one common response that was not referring to a specific location or skateable feature, instead it was for any skateable place that was not busy (62; responses 3%) this can be linked to the high response from Q10 which noted that people who are not participating in skateboarding do it out of feelings of "intimidation". Trying to participate in skateboarding or related sports can be very challenging/intimidating when the space is crowded/busy.

### Key Quotes:

- "Downtown skate plaza, Britannia Tennis Courts: lots of variety and spacing in street obstacles, relaxed community spaces, lights for night use (very important time for low density, social distanced use), smooth ground, close to amenities."
- "Empty basketball, floor hockey or tennis courts, alongside plaza at Emily Carr - smooth beginner"



friendly learning environments.”

- “Sometimes the parks are too busy for beginners so I will often go with my daughter to a less crowded area to roll around, shes 4 and has been skateboarding for a year and I’m 40 and have been skateboarding for 28 years. I also enjoy going to parks like Quilchena when there aren’t too many people, in general the parks are quite small so when you get more than 5 people it feels really crowded.”

***“In general the parks are quite small so when you get more than 5 people it feels really crowded.”***

### Key Takeaways:

- Responses show participants enjoy a wide variety of terrain outside of designated skate spaces. There is an opportunity to incorporate various types of skate features across spaces in the City.
- Majority of respondents noted the Plaza as their favourite location and street style spots as their favourite type of space. This was followed by Hastings and transition style spaces. These findings are consistent with participants preferred style of terrain (Question 5).
- Results show a need for both destination parks (such as Plaza) but smaller neighborhood parks, skate dots, and spaces that are not as busy.

Vancouver Downtown Skateboard Plaza



# What We Heard

## 8. How are we doing with our existing skateparks?

### 2029 Response(s)

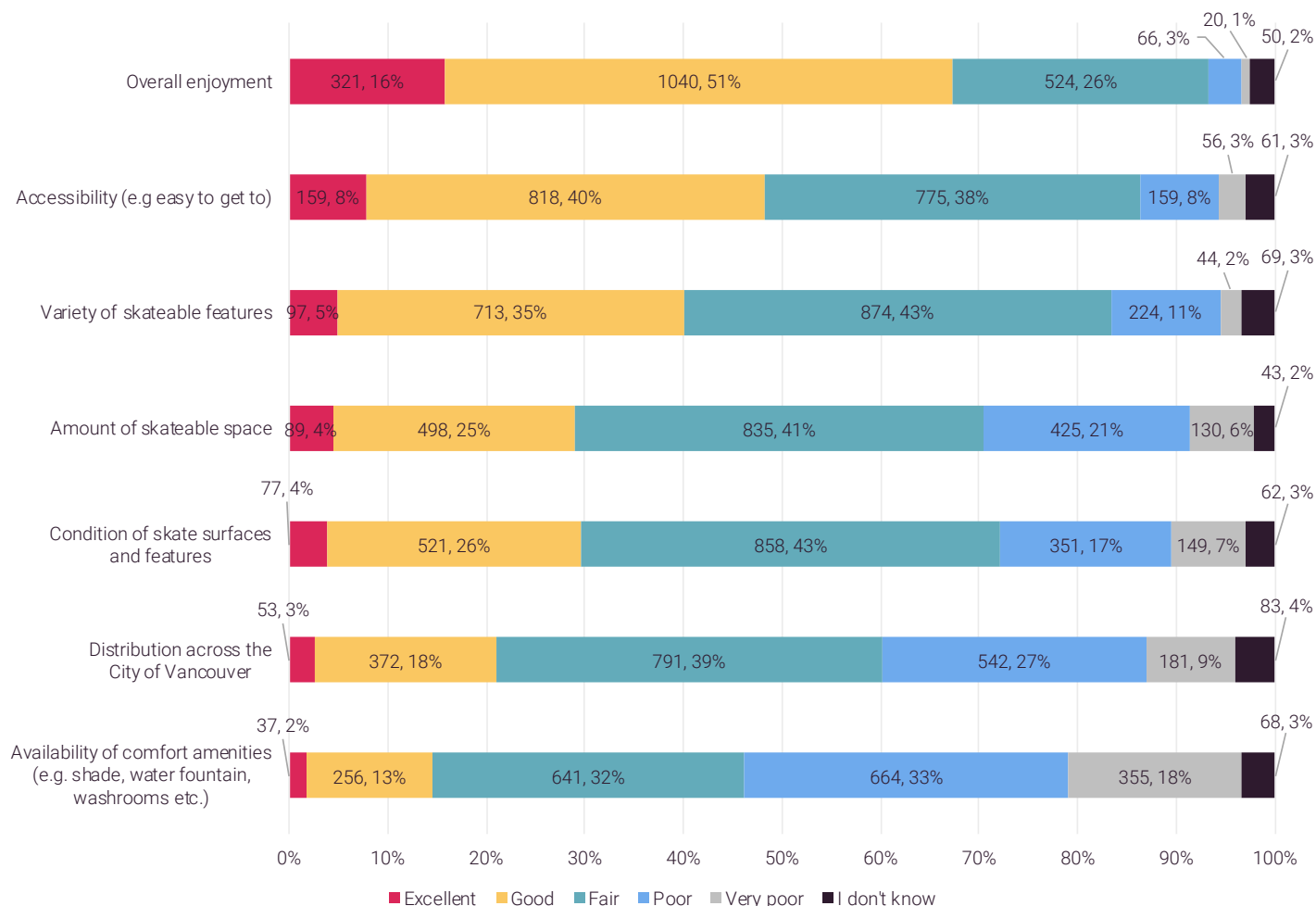
Respondents to this question were asked to for their input on how current parks in Vancouver are or are not meeting the needs of skatepark users.

### Key findings:

- The most-positively rated aspect of existing skateparks was overall enjoyment (67% rated good to excellent) followed by accessibility, ie. ease of getting to a skatepark (48% rated good to excellent).
- Availability of comfort amenities was the most poorly rated aspect of existing skateparks (51% rated poor to very poor) followed by distribution across the City of Vancouver (36% rated poor to very poor).

### Key Takeaways:

- These results show participants want more skateable spaces, and more options across the City that are easier to get to. One potential recommendation from these results is to create more neighbourhood-oriented spaces (Skate dots) distributed across more neighbourhoods.
- Overall, only one third of respondents felt that existing conditions of surfaces and features were good or excellent. This suggests the need for ongoing maintenance and repairs.
- The results show the need for additional amenities (shade, water fountain, washrooms etc) to improve the enjoyment of skate spaces.







Leaside skatepark  
By: Vans Park Series



Map of Existing Sanctioned City of Vancouver Skateparks



# What We Heard

## 9. What are the top two improvements you'd like to see regarding skate amenities in Vancouver? (Select your top 2):

2033 Response(s)

### Key findings:

- The top two improvements were more covered skateable spaces (1401; 35%) and to design new public spaces to permit/encourage skateboarding and related sports (1338; 33%).
- Those who responded “other” most often cited they would like to see improved facilities, including covered spaces, gender inclusive washrooms, garbage receptacles, lighting, and signage.

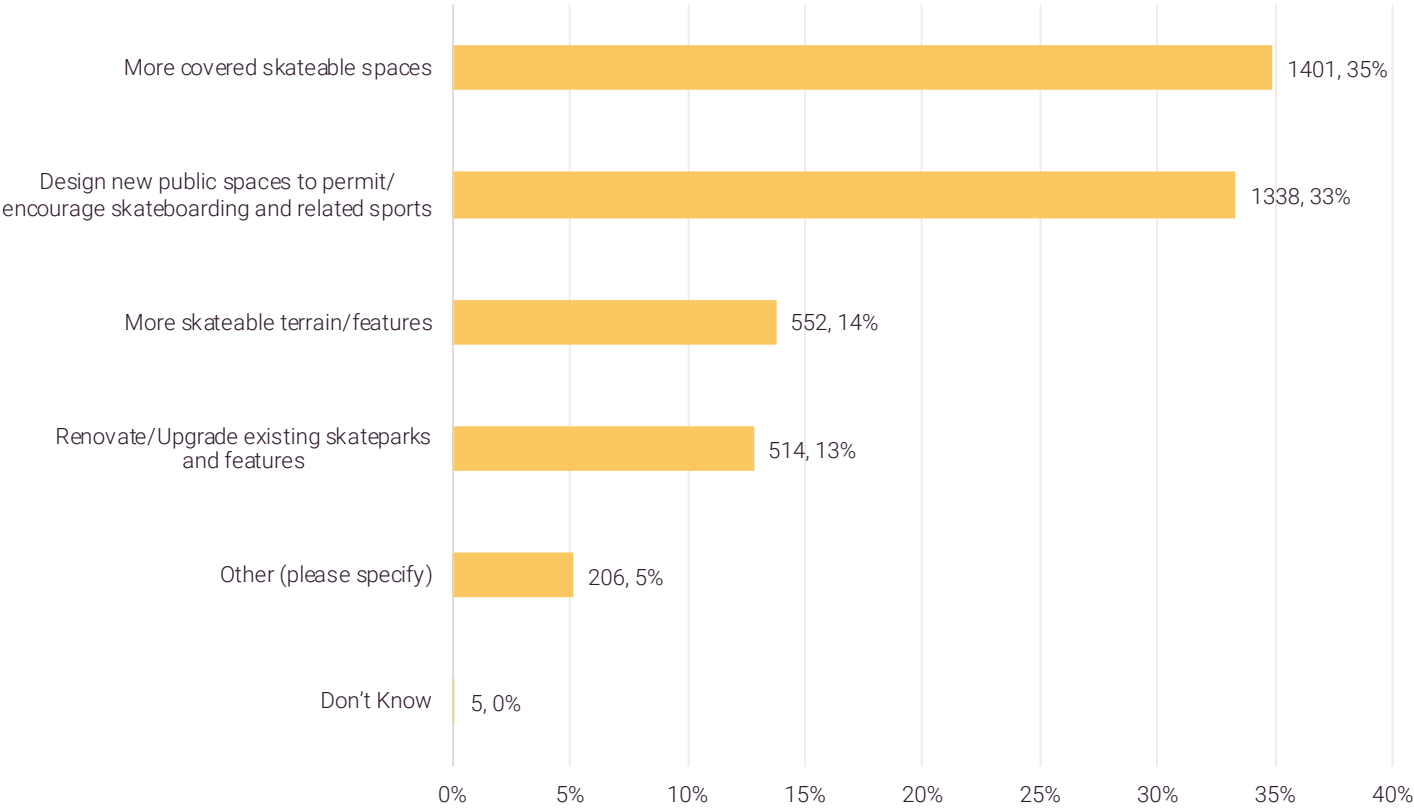
### Key Quotes:

- “More water fountains/washrooms/ garbage/ recycling near skate spaces.”

- “More covered spaces are 100% needed. As well as better lighting for night skating at parks.”

### Key Takeaways:

- The feedback illustrates the growing frustration skateboarders and other wheeled participants face during rainy days having only one fully covered skate amenity in the City (Leeside), which also lacks signage, and maintenance.
- Respondents articulated an overall need for new public spaces that consider weather conditions (rain, summer heat etc.) to permit/ encourage skateboarding, and provide appropriate maintenance and comfort amenities.







Leaside skatepark



Vancouver Downtown Skateboard Plaza



# What We Heard

## 10. Some people have negative perceptions of skateboarding and other related sports. How can we better integrate skate amenities with the community? Select all that apply:

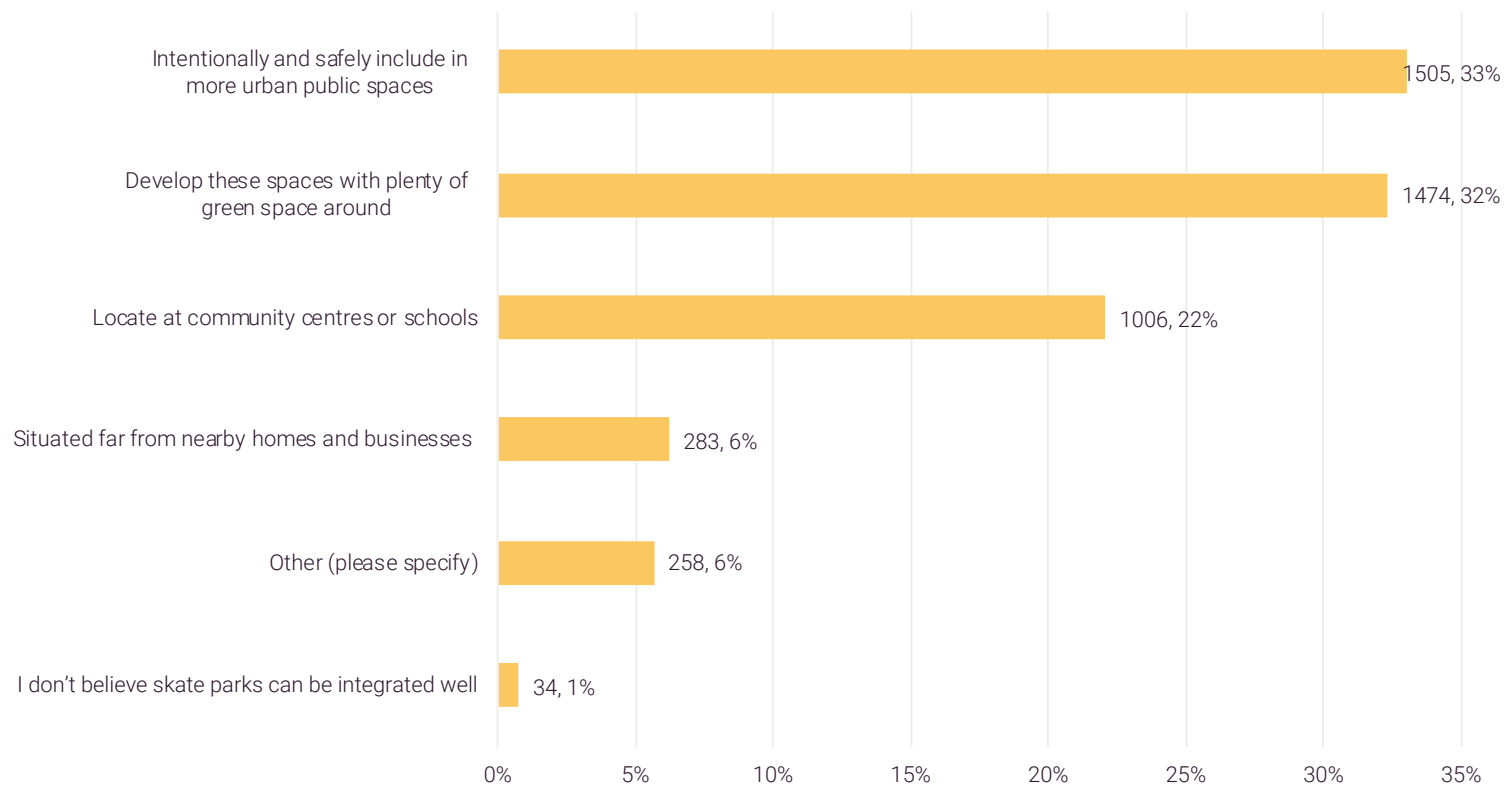
2033 Response(s)

### Key findings:

- Most common response was to intentionally include more skateable features/opportunities for skateboarding into public spaces (1505; 33%) followed by develop spaces with plenty of green space around them - 1474 (32%)
- Only 1% of respondents felt that skateparks cannot be integrated well in the community - 34 (1%)
- Those who responded “other” most often suggested public education efforts, including community events, contests and shows, as well as signage and pamphlets, or programming and mentorship opportunities to encourage community participation.

### Key Quotes:

- “In my hometown, art installations are included as part of the Skateparks, and they become part of the landscape in parks and waterfront areas. There are gardens and seating in the space around - the skateparks become a community space and helped with the perception of some as them being an “unsafe, undesirable” space. They soon saw that plenty of families utilize these spaces as well. Community events that attract families also help. Go skate day, community competitions, female skate days, “Skate with a pro”, where the city has some skaters come to help teach kids.”



- “Host inclusive events at skateparks and showcase that skateboarding is for everyone! events that invite the community to come participate in skateboarding and try it out for themselves! Bring longer boards and have volunteers and get the community together! A great example of this is the “We’re here” events that vsbc along with other community groups hosted. If the people in the neighbourhood see that skateboarding can be a tool of positive change and joy for all people they will be more likely to support it!”

*Host inclusive events at skateparks and showcase that skateboarding is for everyone!*

### Key Takeaways:

- These results show there is an overwhelming desire from skate amenity users to be welcomed and integrated into the City's public spaces, community centres, and schools. Only 1% felt that skate parks could not be integrated well, despite skateboarding's anti-establishment roots"



# What We Heard

## 11. Do you have any other comments about skateboarding and skate amenities in Vancouver?

1215 Response(s)

Open ended answers were coded by subject and tabulated.

### Key findings:

- Requests for more skate amenities to meet the growing demand - (20%)
- Requests for specific skate features, particularly transition features such as mini ramps and bowls, street features such as ledges and handrails, as well as smooth flat ground - (20%)
- Requests for covered spaces to promote year-round activity - (17%)
- Requests for repairs and upgrades to existing amenities, as well as regular maintenance - (13%)
- Requests for skate amenities in specific locations around the City of Vancouver, particularly in Kitsilano, Downtown/Stanley Park and South Vancouver - (13%)

### Key Quotes:

- “The activity is growing at a rapid pace. The parks provided need to be larger to accommodate more people”

- “Vancouver has seen a huge surge in numbers of marginalized communities coming together to learn how to skate, and when there are large meetups it’s easy to use the whole skatepark, but in a small group it’s hard to take space in a dense park where at any moment someone could ride from a section they’re skating in to where you are. Having MORE elements spread out over more space (even better integrated into the cityscape) makes it easier for these folks to take the space they need.”
- “There are large pockets of the city without a skatepark, the existing parks have become increasingly busy to meet the growing demand. For a place that rains so often, the lack of covered skate spots is mind boggling.”
- “Demand for skateparks is very high, teenage demographic is under served by park amenities and this is an excellent way to address this.”

### Key Takeaways:

- The responses highlight the pressures of overcrowding existing skate amenities faced with a growing skateboarding and wheeled sport user population.
- In particular skateboarders and related wheel sport groups are finding it increasingly challenging to access skate amenities that provide enough space to safely participate, have a variety of terrain, and are covered for year round use.



“

*it's hard to take space in a dense park where at any moment someone could ride from a section they're skating in to where you are.*

”



Mount Pleasant Skatepark



# What We Heard

## 12. If you are currently involved with the skateboarding community, please let us know how:

1004 Response(s)

Open ended answers were coded by subject and tabulated.

### Key findings:

- Participation in recreational skateboarding - (48%)
- Participation in community initiatives, including meetups, volunteering, advocacy, mentorship, online community groups, and DIY initiatives - (31%)
- Participation in the skateboarding industry, including working for or owning skate shops and retailers, working with skate brands, and skateboarding instructors - (13%)
- Participation in other small wheeled sports, including roller skating, inline skating, longboarding, BMX, scooter, and unicycle - (10%)

- Parents of children who participate in recreational skateboarding - (5%)

### Key Quotes:

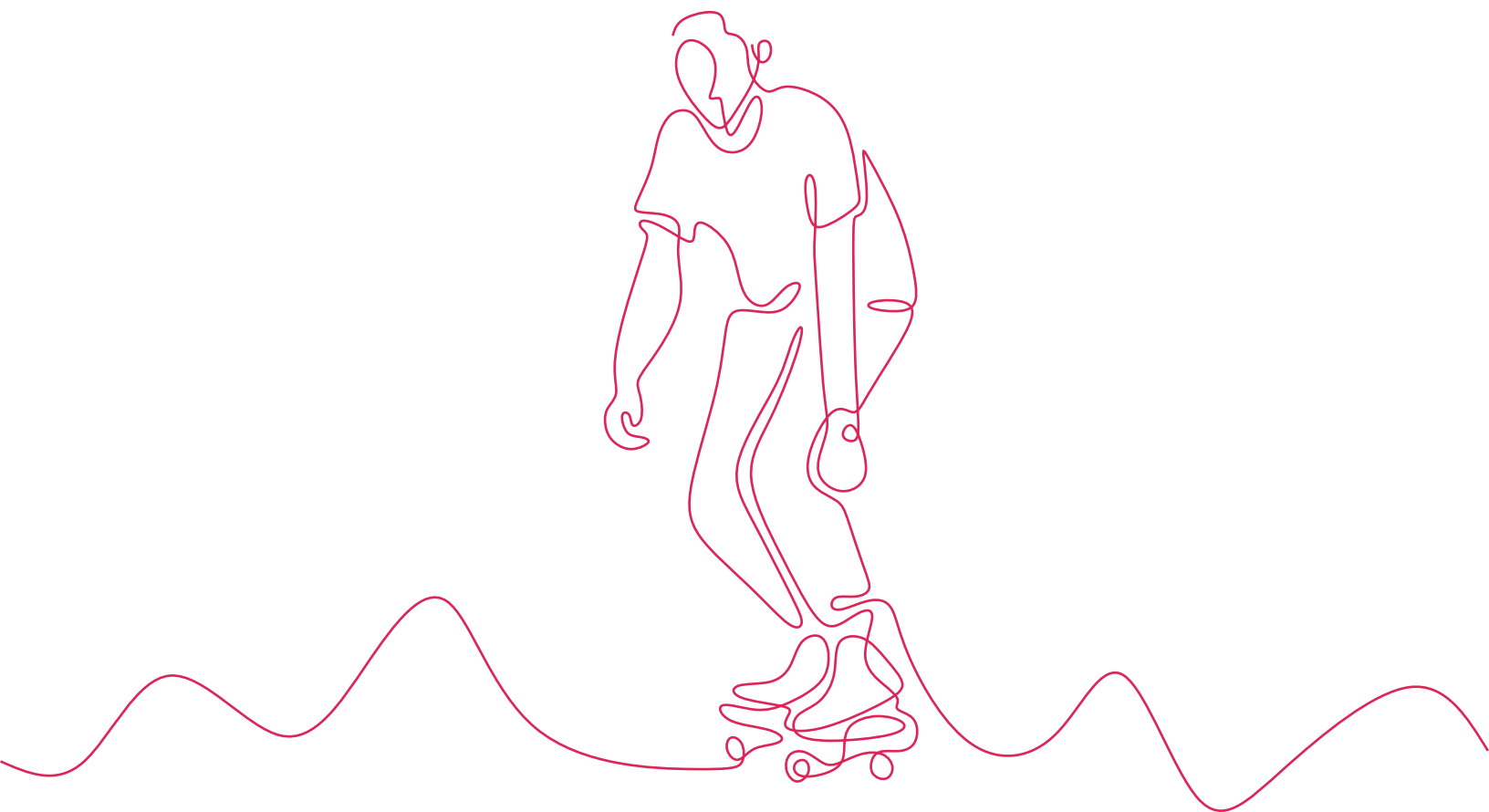
- "I have been skateboarding for the past 24 years. I live and breathe skateboarding"
- Just started skating in Vancouver. Great first impression. Looking to become more involved eventually.
- "I have been skating in Vancouver for 15 years; I have also taught skateboarding to autistic kids at UBC (summer of 2019). I attend the Go Skate Days. I also shop at local skateboarding shops."

### Key Takeaways:

- Responses noted that the majority of skate amenity users do not only utilize existing skate spaces, they also participate in related community initiatives including volunteering, advocacy, mentoring and DIY initiatives.



- Results also show a significant amount of non-skateboarding wheeled sport users in skate amenities. Considering the fact that different wheeled sports "ride" in different ways and prefer different features, there is a need for further engagement to ensure future designs mitigates conflicts between user groups when sharing spaces.



# What We Heard

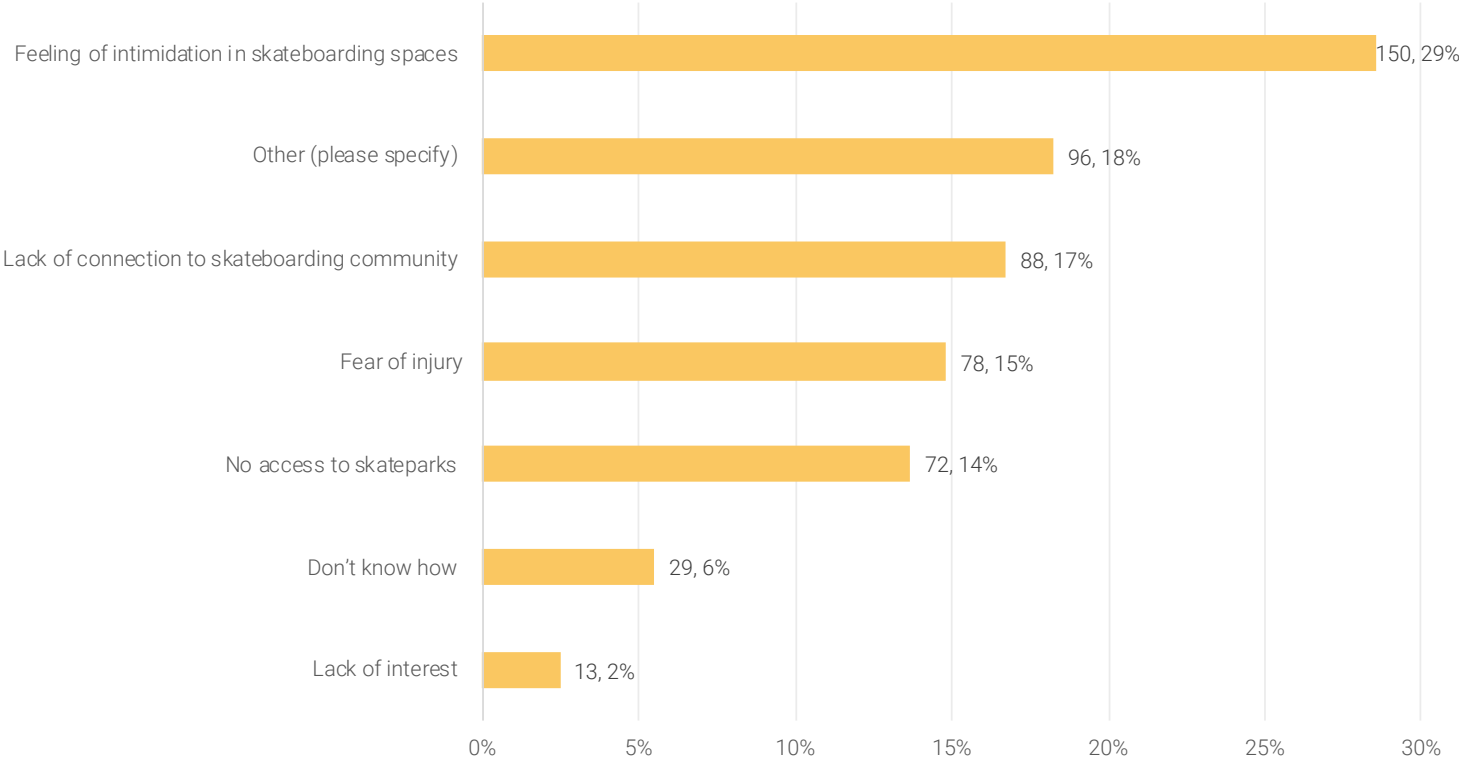
## 13. If you do not currently participate in skateboarding and other related sports, what prevents you from doing so? (Select all that apply):

349 Response(s)

### Key findings:

- The most common response is the “feeling of intimidation” (150; 29%) followed by a lack of connection to the skateboarding community - 88 (17%)
  - While 10% of survey respondents identify as beginners, beginners represent 52% of respondents that selected “feeling of intimidation” to prevent them from participating in skateboarding and other related sports.

- While 22% of survey respondents identify as women, women represent 40% of those that selected “feeling of intimidation”. Similarly, 3% of survey respondents identify as non-binary or gender diverse, but represent 12% of respondents that selected “feeling of intimidation”.
  - Overall, 71% of survey respondents identify as men, but only represent 46% of respondents that selected “feeling of intimidation”.
  - The highest number of respondents by age are 20 - 29 years old (38%), this age category also represents the highest number of respondents (46%) that selected “feeling of intimidation”.
- A lack of interest is the least common reasons for not participating - 13 (2%)





- Those who responded “other” most often cited they are recovering from, or afraid of, injury (5%); distances to skate amenities are too far (4%); skate features lack diversity and existing skate spaces are not inclusive of users of different gender and racial identities, beginners, families, scooters, BMX riders or roller skaters (3%). To address lacking diversity, respondents suggested gender-inclusive washrooms, distinct areas and features for beginner and advanced riders, as well as for scooters, BMX and roller skaters.

### Key Quotes:

- “I skate less and less as the years go on and while some of it is related to a growing fear of injury, a lot of it is intimidation of skate parks as my skills have diminished over time.”
- “I have chronic injuries that keep me from skating consistently. Having some more low impact parks, (eg. pump tracks and mellow transition) would be encouraging for myself to stay active as well as make getting into sports more accessible for beginners and intermediate users.”
- “I think the biggest hurdle is feeling support and love from an inviting skatepark. Put this into the design of your next park and it will thrive and not feel dangerous like the viaduct park.”

### Key Takeaways:

- Existing skate amenities/spaces are contributing to certain user groups not participating, in particular beginners and women have most frequently noted “feelings of intimidation” or “a lack of connection to the skateboard community”. This means the future city wide skate network will need to include a variety of spaces and features that allow beginners to try new things and learn in a safe environment. Further, more skateable spaces will mean less crowding at each space, which is a major contributing factor to feeling intimidated.





# What We Heard

## 14. How close are you to an existing skate amenity?

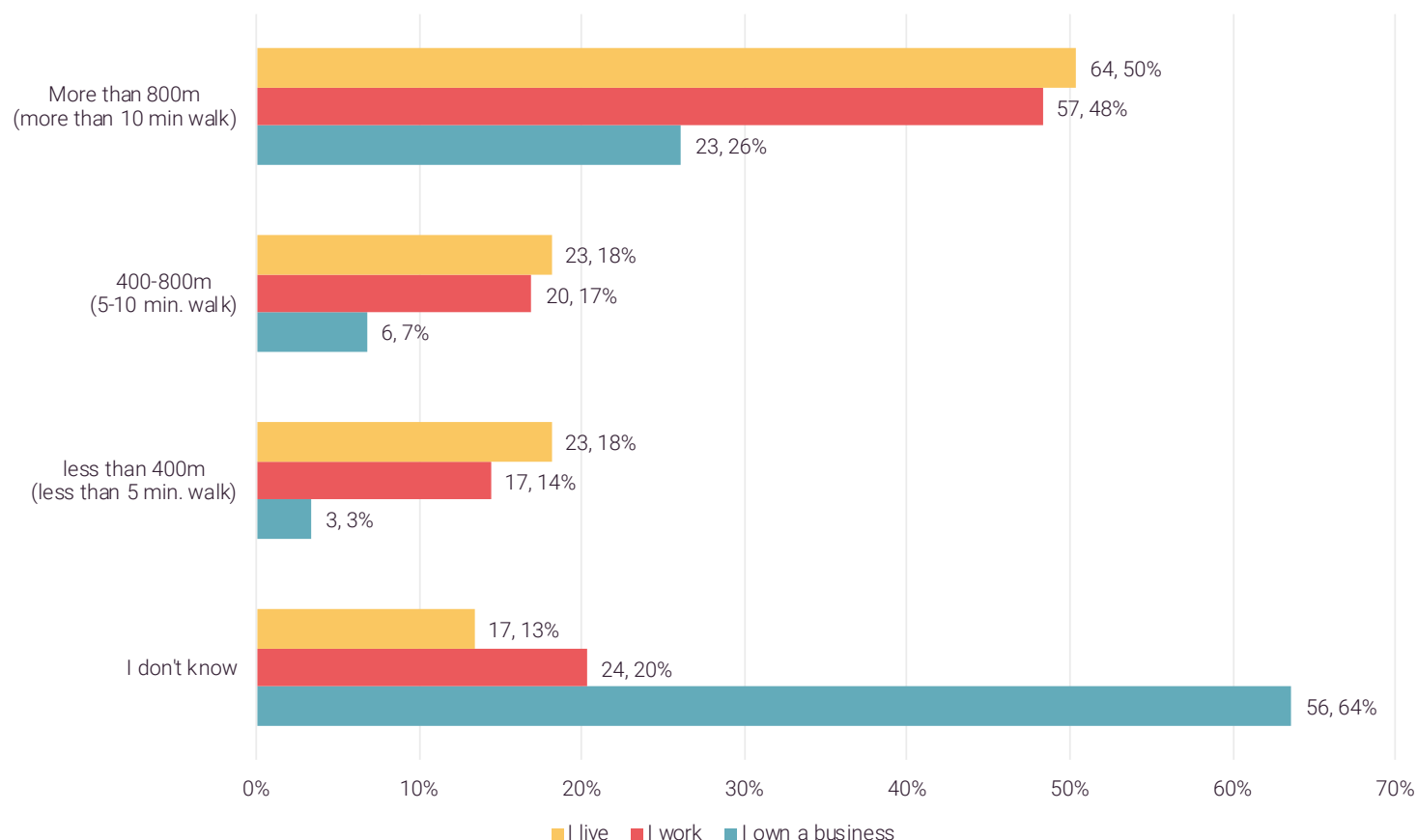
127 Response(s)

### Key findings:

- A high number of respondents cited that they work (57, 48%), live (64, 50%) or own a business (23, 26%) further than 800m away from an existing skateboard amenity.
- Most business owners were unsure how far they operated from a skate amenity

### Key Takeaways:

- This shows further engagement needed with non-user group residents and business owners who live close to (within 400/800m) of existing skate amenities to understand their experiences of interacting with skate amenities in their communities.







Kensington Skatepark



# What We Heard

## 15. What do you see as the benefits of skate amenities?

124 Response(s)

Open ended answers were coded by subject and tabulated.

### Key findings:

- Providing social and community benefits, including space for community building and contributing to the culture of the City - (50%)
- Providing outdoor recreational activity for all ages and skill levels - (37%)
- Providing dedicated space for youth to gather, play, and learn - (23%)
- Contributing to the safety of neighbourhood by providing safe spaces to gather and recreate, and increasing activity in the community - (15%)

### Key Quotes:

- “The skate community is one of the most supportive community’s I’ve been exposed to. I’m not a skater myself but have friends who are and have seen events and activities from the community. It’s a great way to engage youth, build character, and celebrate a city.”

*The skate community is one of the most supportive community’s I’ve been exposed to.*

- “A place for both children and adults to come together for social connection and gathering; to pursue a sport. To me, they support the same end as parks and recreation centres – it dedicated a space to promoting safe, happy, and healthy people and communities. I believe it is also aesthetically appealing.”

### Key Takeaways:

- The responses share a consistent view towards skate amenities being a tool for strengthening personal and community well-being by providing a safe space for exercise, skill development, play and building social connections.

## 16. What do you see as the drawbacks of skate amenities?

127 Response(s)

Open ended answers were coded by subject and tabulated.

### Key findings:

- No drawbacks. (44%)
- Concern for noise, particularly in residential areas. (12%)
- Concern for behavioural issues, particularly substance abuse and disrespect to neighbours and to community members. (8%)
- Concern for cleanliness of skate amenities. (7%)

### Key Quotes:

- “Nothing as such. Sometimes it may cause little bit of noise for residents nearby”
- “None, this is great for the city and the kids!”
- “I would not want to live near one as the noise is very disruptive and some of the boarders are not considerate of others and can make children nervous.”

### Key Takeaways:

- Only a few drawbacks were raised, they included noise concerns for skate amenities located near residential areas, worries about potential behavioral issues, and concern around lack of cleanliness.





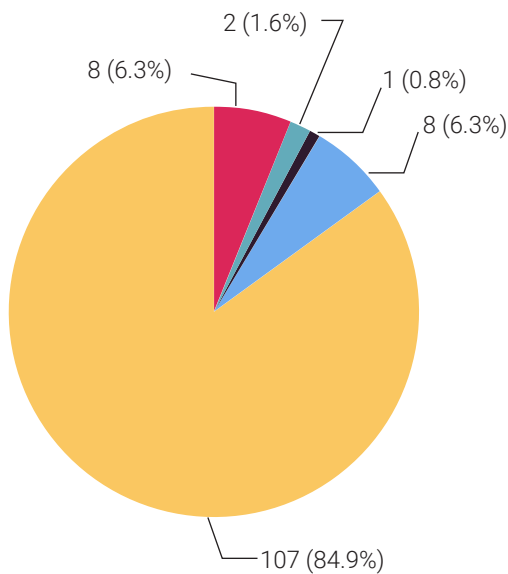
# What We Heard

## 17. Do you support or have concerns with the development of new skate amenities in your community?

349 Response(s)

### Key findings:

- Majority of respondents “strongly support” the development of new skate amenities in their communities - 107 (84.9%)
- 6.3% of respondents are strongly concerned



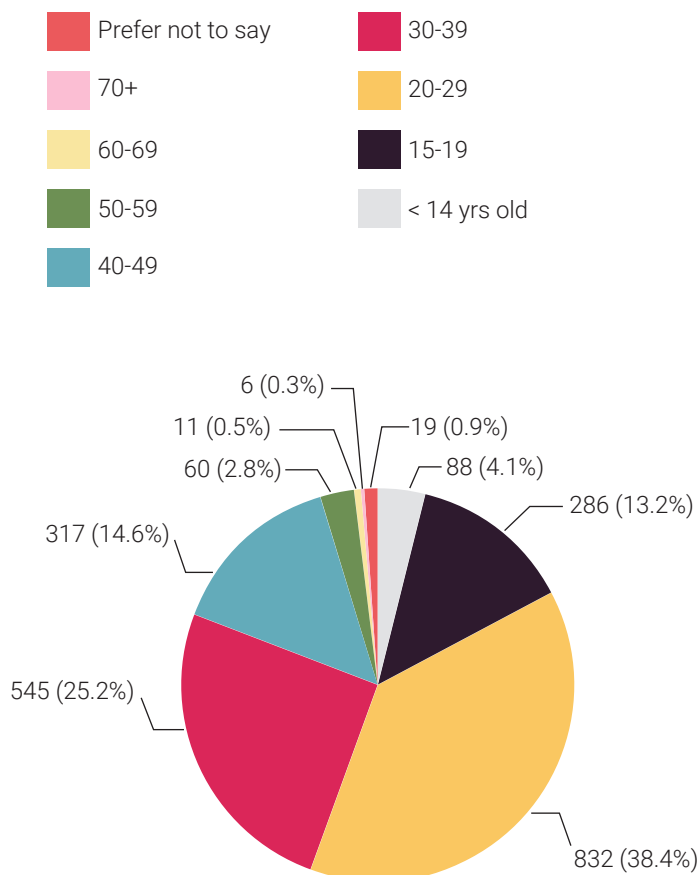
# APPENDIX 1

## Online Survey Respondent Demographics

### 18. What is your age?

2164 Response(s)

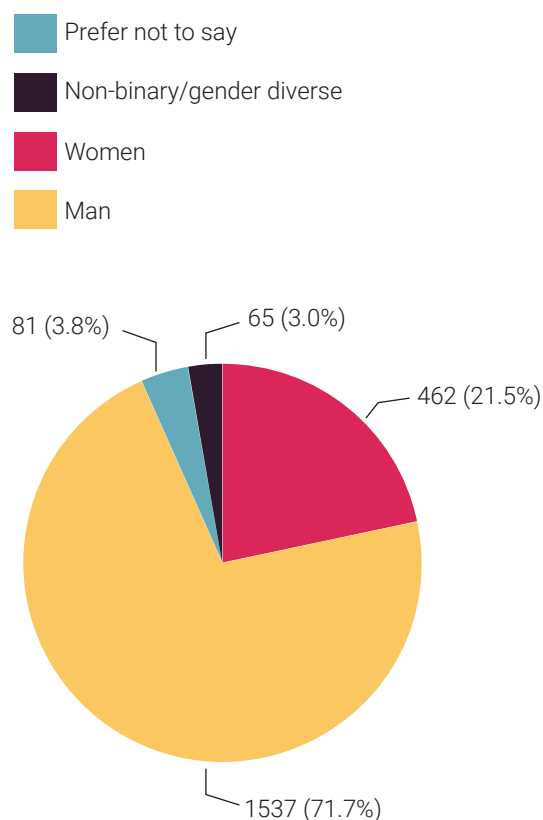
- The highest number of respondents by age were 20-29 year-olds (832; 38.4%) followed by 30-39 year-olds (545; 25.2%)



### 19. How would you describe your gender identity?

2145 Response(s)

- 71.7% of respondents identify as a man while 21.5% identify as a women
- 3% of respondents identify as Non-binary/gender diverse and 3.8% prefer not to share their gender

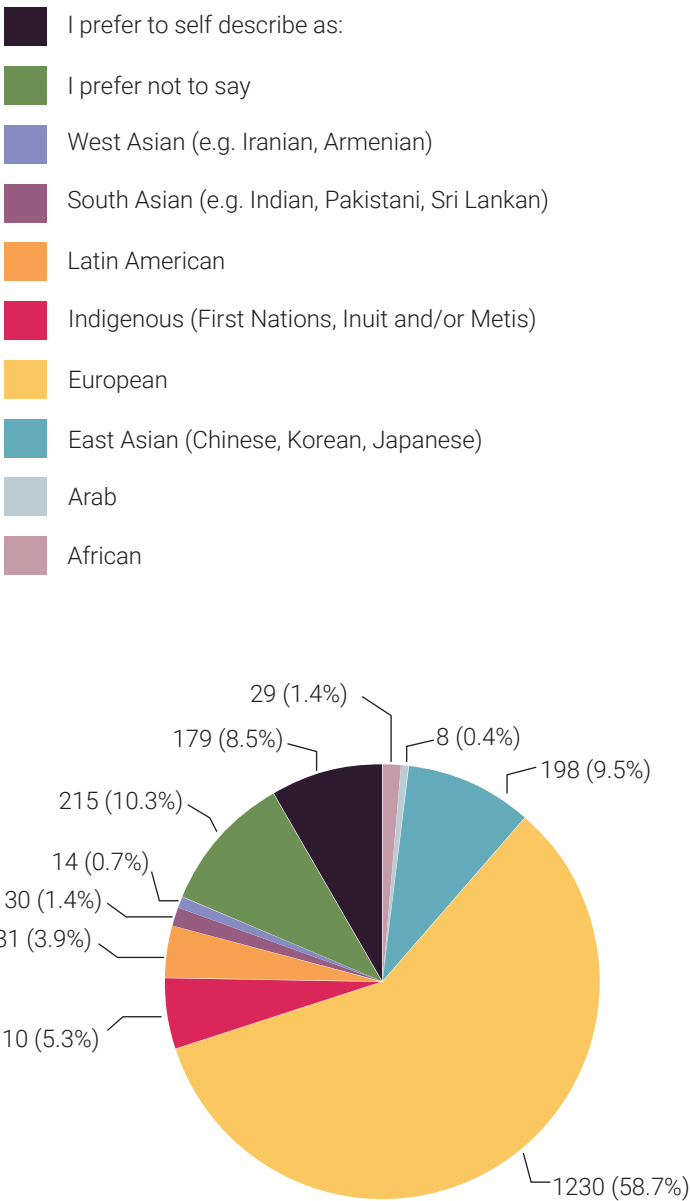


# APPENDIX 1

20. What is your main ethnic origin or that of your ancestors (grandparents or older)? These categories come from an identity question used in the Canadian census. (Select all that apply):

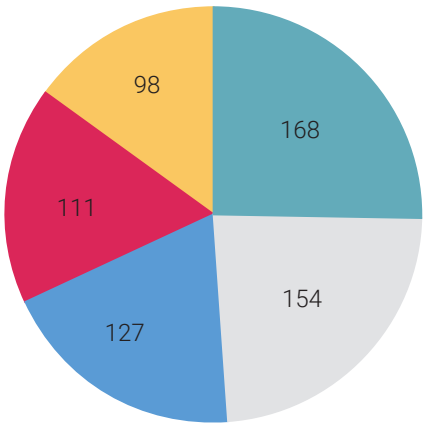
2145 Response(s)

Most respondents identified as being of European descent (1230; 58.7%) followed by those identifying as being of East Asian descent (198, 9.5%) 10.3% of respondents preferred not to say



21. Where do you live? (Please write the first three digits of your postal code)

- Hastings-sunrise
- Mt. Pleasant
- Kensington-Cedar Cottage
- Cambie Corridor
- Grandview-Woodlands



# Places Tool

68.5% of respondents were from Vancouver while 31.5% live outside of the city limits but are invested/participate in the Vancouver skate community. This shows the community draws in and connects skaters from across the region.

