

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
2025 Legislative Summary

Luke Easter Skatepark Project

BACKGROUND

DIVISION: Recreation

ORDINANCE NO: 1492-2025

LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE: The Department of Parks and Recreation respectfully requests the introduction of legislation authorizing the City of Cleveland to apply for and accept grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and to accept cash donations from the MGK Foundation and The Skate Park Project for the development of a new skatepark at Luke Easter Park through a design-build contract.

DESCRIPTION: The project will develop a modern, poured-in-place concrete skatepark at Luke Easter Park, designed to national standards and fully accessible through universal design. The facility will provide safe, inclusive recreation opportunities for youth, families, and individuals of all abilities and levels of skill.

TERM: Awarded Q3 2026

AMOUNTS AND FUNDING SOURCES:	\$500,000	Grant received from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Ohio Department of Natural Resources
	\$500,000	Cash match for the Grant
	\$250,000	Cash donation from The MGK Group
	\$ 50,000	Cash donation from The Skate Park Project

Total Project Costs: \$1,300,000.00

The project will construct a modern concrete skatepark at Luke Easter Park, one of the City's most heavily used parks and adjacent to the Zelma George Recreation Center. The need for this facility was identified through a structured three-month planning process that evaluated multiple sites, with Luke Easter Park selected for its accessibility, existing infrastructure, and role as a community hub in an underserved East Side neighborhood. Currently, Cleveland has only one major public skatepark downtown at Crooked River, leaving significant geographic gaps in access. Through extensive community engagement—including targeted sessions with local skaters, residents, and the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities—the project has been shaped to prioritize both high-quality skate features and universal accessibility.