

Facts & General Information

The Ames Skate Park serves as a wonderful example of what can be accomplished when individuals, civic organizations and the private and public sector combine their efforts to pursue developing an outstanding facility.

In 1998 the Iowa Legislature understood the need to accommodate two growing sports -- skateboarding and in-line skating. At that time, legislators passed a law limiting a municipality's tort liability if they constructed Skate Parks. In 1999, local business leaders, the youth of the Ames community and City staff all began working together to determine where a Skate Park could be located in Ames, what it would look like and how it could be funded.

In 2000, skaters met with design consultants from Purkiss/Rose, RSI architectural firm of Fullerton, California. This firm has designed over 50 skate parks in six western states. The skaters identified specific features that they wanted incorporated into the design for the City of Ames Skate Park. In June, 2002, MLS Landscape and Design, from Granville, Iowa were contracted by the City of Ames to construct the Skate Park. The facility opened on September 6, 2002 and features 10,500 square feet of concrete stairs, ledges, sloped banks, fun box, pyramid and rails.

Total cost for the Ames Skate Park was \$218,692. Funding for this facility came from the following:

City of Ames: \$130,000
State of Iowa Department of Natural Resources Grant: \$50,000
Noon Rotary Club: \$15,000
Prairie Meadows Grant: \$5,000
Noon Kiwanis Club: \$3,200
Police Association: \$2,000
Wal-Mart Foundation: \$1,000
Midnight Madness: \$850
Lions Club: \$750
St. Johns Episcopal Church: \$500
ISU Community Credit Union: \$500
US Bank: \$250
Ames Skaters Unlimited: \$200
Many Individual Contributions: \$10-\$150

The City of Ames Parks & Recreation Department manages the facility that is located on land leased to the City by Iowa State University.