

TOWNSHIP OF MONTCLAIR

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PUBLIC SKATE PARK

August 3, 2010

WHEREAS, skateboarding is a popular activity in the Township of Montclair and elsewhere and, according to a 2006 US Census survey on Sports Participation, the number of children between the ages of 12 and 17 who engage in skateboarding is greater than the number of similarly-aged children who play baseball or soccer; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of skateboarding in Montclair reflects the town's socio-economic diversity and is enjoyed by a broad range of youth and adults; and

WHEREAS, skateboarding is a positive recreational and physical activity which does not require participation as a team, so that young people who play organized sports and those who do not can both participate; and

WHEREAS, the absence of a suitable location designed for skateboarders limits the opportunities to participate in this activity, thereby requiring many young people to either forego the activity or to skateboard in areas where it is unsafe and/or not legally permitted, causing undesirable friction with merchants, law enforcement officers and others; and

WHEREAS, the Township provides facilities and support for other sports and recreational activities, and the Township Council believes it is worthwhile to continue to explore the possibility of finding an appropriate location, and the necessary funding, to develop a planned skateboard park or similar facility for people who engage in skateboarding; and

WHEREAS, being a community which values both natural beauty and public art and being aware that other skate parks have been designed to further such goals, the Township supports the efforts being undertaken by a volunteer coalition group to explore the development of a skateboard park or facility which would enhance the physical landscape, respect the surrounding community and provide an inspired artistic design; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Montclair, in the County of Essex, that the Township recognizes the desirability for, and supports the goal of, finding a suitable location and the necessary funding for development of a skate park or similar facility at an appropriate location in the Township in order to provide a safe and legal place for this recreational activity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council endorses the continued efforts to investigate this worthwhile public project, with the assistance and input of various groups and committees supportive of this effort, including the Montclair "Skateboard Coalition," the Montclair YMCA, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and the Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence (MFEE), while recognizing that further work needs to be done to identify an appropriate site and funding sources. To that end, the Township is prepared to support applications and requests for private funds, work to identify an appropriate site, and otherwise take steps to develop a specific proposal for action.

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE											
	YES	NO	ABS	N.V.	AB		YES	NO	ABS	N.V.	AB
Councilor Africk						Councilor Murnick					
Councilor Baskerville						Deputy Mayor Terry					
Mayor Fried						Councilor Weller-Demming					
Councilor Lewis											
X - Indicate Vote ABS - Abstain N.V. - Not Voting AB - Absent											

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing to be a true copy of a resolution adopted as introduced by the Council of the Township of Montclair, in the County of Essex, at its meeting held on _____, 2010.

 Linda S. Wanat
 Clerk of the Township of Montclair, N.J.