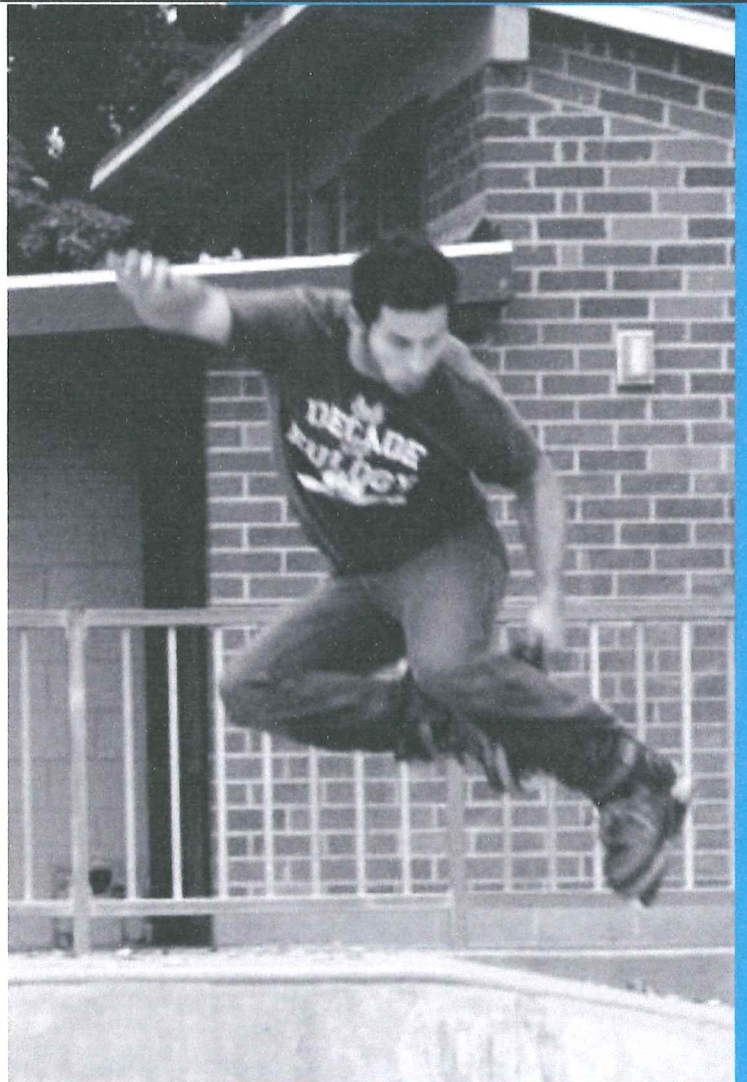


2022

# Renaming the Molalla Skate Park



Salena De La Cruz-Forsythe

5/25/2022

# RENAMING THE MOLALLA SKATE PARK

Molalla City Council

## OVERVIEW

I am pleased to submit this proposal to the Molalla City Council on behalf of my brother, Timateo De La Cruz, who recently passed away. My goal is to see the City of Molalla Skate Park renamed to the Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park.

### The Objective

- Need #1: Rename the current City of Molalla Skate Park to the Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park.
- Need #2: Rename any future skate park the same Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park.
- Need #3: Assist the City as needed in the renaming and have a grand renaming event.

### Support for this Endeavor

- Support #1: Timateo was raised in Molalla and graduated Molalla High School. He is and was well-known among the community and skaters alike.
- Support #2: Timateo was an integral and instrumental person in advocating for the development of the Molalla Skate Park.
- Support #3: What better way to get people to start talking about the skate park again and get more people involved then to rename it after a hometown boy that started the work.

## OUR PROPOSAL

### Background

In May of 1997, SkatePark Investors was given the opportunity to help local skaters; including the CEO's young brother, Timateo De La Cruz, make their dreams of having a skate park in town a reality. Salena De La Cruz, CEO, welcomed the chance to give back to a place she had called home for most of her life. Skate Park Investors has worked for more than four years to help make the Molalla Skate Park a success by donating their time, money and determination. I have

worked in conjunction with the City of Molalla and local skaters to establish a place where skaters can call their own and not worry about getting police called on them for various complaints ranging from noise to just good old fashioned FUN. SkatePark Investors recognized the need for such a place and facilitated the meetings between the city officials and the skaters. Though it wasn't an easy task, we eventually were able to begin construction of the park. With a lot of volunteer time, and energy the skaters now have a home to call their own. On June 24, 2000, the Molalla Skate Park opened up for blading and boarding.

After the dream took flight, SkatePark Investors was still actively involved in the skate park from minor complaints to promoting and hosting skate competitions until late 2007. Fast forward to 2022, where a new initiative is coming together to develop a new/better skate park. We are not trying to dissuade or hinder that effort. Our intention is to support and promote the renaming of the current skate park and any newly developed skate park as the Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park.

Timateo was one of the original skaters that brought this endeavor to city council. Had it not been for that first step we may not even have the current skate park we do. Timateo drove those initial conversations to get the ball rolling. He reached out to me to assist in moving this body of work forward. I handled the business and technical logistics, met with city representatives, coordinated with skate industry leaders. Timateo was a friend to all, skaters and community members. He had a heart. He had a smile for all. So, I am asking, pleading with you to rename the City of Molalla Skate Park as the Timateo Memorial Skate Park. Show him this town, skaters, all of us, appreciated those efforts.

## Project Deliverables

Following is a complete list of all project deliverables:

Deliverable	Description
Deliverable #1	Approve Renaming of the skate park
Deliverable #2	Promote Renaming Event
Deliverable #3	Host Renaming Event
Deliverable #4	Officially Rename skate park Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park
Deliverable #5	If new skate park is built, promote naming event

Deliverable #6	Host naming event
Deliverable #7	Officially name new skate park Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park

## Timeline for Execution

Key project dates are outlined below. Dates are best-guess estimates and are subject to change until a contract is executed.

Description	Start Date	End Date	Duration
Project Start-Molalla City Council Meeting	5/25/22	5/25/22	1 hour
Approval/Denial: Milestone 1	6/8/22	6/8/22	1 hour
Renaming Event: Milestone 2	9/1/22	9/1/22	2 hours
Phase 1 Complete	9/1/22	9/1/22	2 hours

## CONCLUSION

I look forward to an approved decision to rename the current City of Molalla Skate Park and any newly developed skate parks as the Timateo De La Cruz Memorial Skate Park. Renaming the skate parks support the original skater with whom the initial movement would not have been possible. I have enclosed some pictures and newspaper articles with provide historical context in Appendix I.

If you have questions on this proposal, feel free to contact me at your convenience by email at [sld41477@gmail.com](mailto:sld41477@gmail.com) or by phone at 503.509.2285.

Thank you for your consideration,

Salena De La Cruz Forsythe

## Putting youth first



Salena DeLaCruz, 22, of Molalla throws the first mound of dirt during the ground-breaking ceremony for the Molalla Skatepark on Kennel Avenue last Wednesday. DeLaCruz was instrumental in organizing local skateboarders and in-line skaters to convince the city council that a need for such a skatepark exists. The park is expected to open this summer.

Steven Wilkowske/Molalla Pioneer

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BOB HAWLEY JR/Molalla Pioneer

Molalla rollerbladers Josh Herbert, left, Daniel Beaudry, Richard Morgan, Tim DeLacruz, Nathan DeFrates and Mike Arrigo, kneeling, hope to raise enough money to convince the city to help them build a permanent skate park in Clark Park for them and skateboarders.

## Skaters raise money for park

□ Boys sell T-shirts, raffle tickets for new Airwalk snowboard

By **BOB HAWLEY JR**  
*of the Pioneer*

The Apple Festival fund-raising meet by local rollerbladers and skateboarders brought in \$254, said Selena DeLacruz, who acts as spokesman and coordinator for the group.

Thirteen contestants showed their stuff in the Church of Christ parking lot on Southeast Fenton Street during a sun break between an otherwise drizzly day.

In the skateboarding competition, Alex Parslow came in first, with Dennis Valesquez taking second and August Malumandrucoll taking third.

Mike Olson of Portland took first place among the rollerbladers. Molalla's Tim DeLacruz took second place and Daniel Beaudry took third.

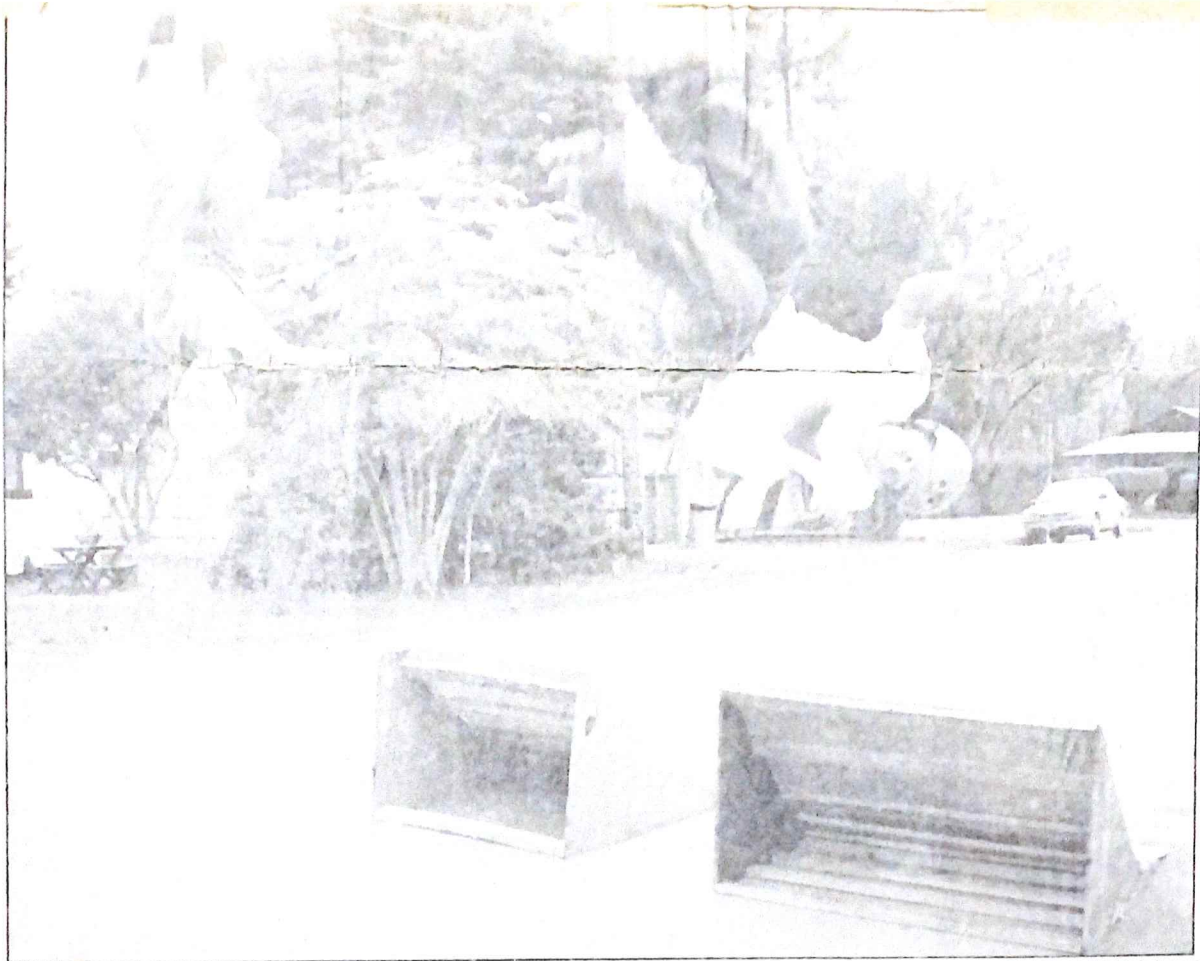
Ten of the entrants were rollerbladers, three were skateboarders.

The group, which is raising money in the hopes of building a permanent skate park in Molalla, is planning another meet in May. DeLacruz said she hopes to have some of the companies that provide endorsements at the meet so the winners will have a chance to become sponsored.

In the continuing effort to raise money, the group is raffling off an Airwalk snowboard. Tickets are \$1 each. They're also selling T-shirts for \$10 each that state, "I support the skate park."

Call 829-8625 for raffle tickets, T-shirts and more details.

DeLacruz intends to make another appearance at the Molalla City Council to give a report on the group's progress. City officials have indicated a willingness to work with the group in building a skate park, but have emphasized the need for voluntary donations of material, money and time since the city budget is lean.



Molalla rollerbladers Tim DeLacruz and Daniel Beaudry fly off homemade ramps in the 500 block of Southeast Fenton Street Sept. 10. Police have responded several times to complaints by a disgruntled, anonymous neighbor.

## Rollerbladers seek community help

□ Some complain as skaters leave downtown for homemade ramps near their homes

By **BOB HAWLEY JR**  
of the Pioneer

The rollerbladers are at it again.

No, they're not scaring shoppers out of their wits as they fly past within inches of upsetting people carrying bags of groceries.

They came to the Molalla City Council Sept. 10 to continue pleading their case — a case that they brought to the council several months ago.

Acting as spokesman, Selena DeLacruz, the sister of rollerblader Tim DeLacruz, asked the council for permission to close off a section of Shirley Street in front of the Buckeroo grounds Saturday, Oct. 4 for a public competition.

She said the boys hadn't received much response from the business community in their attempt to gather support for a local skate park, so they hoped the public meet would show the

community what they're all about and raise some money at the same time.

Although the council said it supported the boys' efforts, it was hesitant to close the road and suggested the newly paved parking lot at the middle school might be a better location.

Some councilors also said they were concerned about the liability issue.

After running into problems from skating on private property, three of the boys approached the council several months ago asking the city's help in building a skate park, similar to the one in Salem, only on a smaller scale.

The council and police chief asked the boys to research the project and contact local businesses to raise money, material and labor since the city had no money in its budget for such a project.

The boys spent the summer visiting other skate parks in the state, but haven't received much response from local businesses, they said.

Selena DeLacruz said Avison Lumber said it was willing to donate some lumber and Mark at Sentry Market said he knew a local man who

was willing to do the concrete work for the ramps.

Tired of waiting, the boys got together and built their own wooden ramps, which they've set up in the 500 block of Southeast Fenton.

Nearly everyday after school, the boys can be seen twisting and turning as they fly off the ramps, to the consternation of some drivers and neighbors.

Although most of the neighbors appear to be supportive, at least one neighbor is suspected of complaining to the police, another neighbor said.

Tim DeLacruz said officer Homero Reynaga came by last week and warned the boys that if the police received another complaint, a citation would be issued.

Selena DeLacruz said the Oct. 4 date was about the latest they figured they could hold such a skate meet before the rainy days of winter set in.

She figured they would charge entrants \$1 apiece and onlookers \$2 apiece to try to raise money for the skate park.

