



City of Biddeford

Lisa Thompson
Director of Recreation
186 Alfred Street
Biddeford, ME 04005

Office: (207) 283-0841
Lisa.Thompson@biddefordmaine.org

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Skate Park News Update

Today, Mayor Marty Grohman and I met virtually with the Recreation Director and Public Works Director from Portsmouth, NH. They were involved in the execution and installation of the new skate park located on Greenland Road in Portsmouth, NH. This meeting's purpose was to gather information regarding their experience and process with building the skate park.

Here are some takeaways that I had from this meeting:

- The Skatepark started as an idea in 2021, and officially opened in May of 2024. The Airfield, an indoor Skate Park located in Rye, NH had recently closed, prompting a group of citizens to start the discussion of creating a new skate park in the area.
- The Mayor of Portsmouth put together a “Blue Ribbon” committee in 2021 comprised of invested citizens interested in bringing a new skate park to the city. Their task was to be involved in the design and location of the park. It started out as a small committee and grew over time to a large community group.
- The project included civil engineering and geotechnology of the site.
- The project was designed by Pillar Design Studios: www.pillardesignstudios.com
- The installation was completed by Artisan Skateparks: www.artisanskateparks.com
- Concept plans, site work and civil engineering were done by Weston & Sampson.
- The cost for the project was \$2.7 million dollars; this was funded by the city of Portsmouth.

We have received plans for the park and will be sharing them with council.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Thompson, CPRP
Recreation Director