



Folsom City Council Staff Report

MEETING DATE:	6/24/2025
AGENDA SECTION:	New Business
SUBJECT:	Resolution No. 11407 – A Resolution Rescinding Resolution No. 7193, Removing Site Supervision of the Cummings Family Skate and Bike Park, and Denying Petition to Modify Safety Requirements
FROM:	Parks and Recreation Department

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

Staff along with the Parks & Recreation Commission recommend Folsom City Council approve Resolution No. 11407, to take the following actions:

1. To remove the supervision at the Cummings Family Skate and Bike Parks and to place signage for compliance with Health and Safety Code 115800 and FMC 9.69.
2. To deny the petition submitted to Modify Safety Equipment Requirements at Cummings Family Skatepark.

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

Members of the community expressed interest in removing the use of safety equipment at the Skate and Bike Park at Cummings Family Skatepark. A petition (attachment 2) was submitted to the City of Folsom to modify safety equipment requirements at Cummings Family Skatepark that asked the City of Folsom to rephrase language that would encourage the use of the safety equipment but not mandate its use. The language and requirements for use of safety equipment at public skateparks come from the California Health and Safety Code 115800 (attachment 3). This request prompted the Mayor and Vice Mayor to have staff consider the existing staffing model at the skate and bike park. The request for the petition and staffing model was agendized for a future Parks and Recreation Commission meeting for May 2025.

The Cummings Family skatepark opened in November of 2003. During the initial park development, and before opening, staff conducted an extensive survey of over 30 skateparks throughout the state to determine the following: should the park be supervised or unsupervised,

fee or no fee, and hours of operation. Pursuant to Section 115800 of the California Health and Safety Code, helmets, elbow pads, and knee pads are required while utilizing the skatepark.

115800. (a) An operator of a skateboard park shall not permit a person to ride a skateboard or other wheeled recreational device in the skateboard park, unless that person is wearing a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

Below you will find the original staff recommendations from September 9, 2003:

Based on staff's assessment of over 30 similar skate park facilities and the advice of the city risk management advisor, staff recommended the Parks & Recreation Commission to operate the new skatepark at Cummings Family Park without supervision.

While it was the original recommendation of staff not to monitor the park, on September 9, 2003, the City Council decided after much discussion to monitor the park by resolution No. 7193, to ensure a family-friendly atmosphere, while providing an extra level of security and safety that meets the needs of our community.

Since 2003, over 184,000 participants have visited the Cummings Family Park for skating, biking, and scooting purposes. During this time, staff have continually monitored the park to ensure the safety of participants, enforcement of helmets and pads, while maintaining the family-friendly atmosphere that our community has come to expect. Along with the skate and bike park operations, Cummings Family Park is also home to Fido Field dog parks, a party pavilion, a basketball court, and a large grass area with a small play structure.

In 2018, the Parks & Recreation Commission unanimously recommended to the City Council to continue to monitor the skate and bike park with staff as a preventative safety measure as well as the continuation to keep the park a family-friendly park amenity. During the October 2018 City Council meeting the City Council voted to continue monitoring the Cummings Skate and Bike Parks.

At the May 6, 2025, Parks & Recreation Commission agenda item and presentation by staff on staffing at the skatepark and recommendation to deny the petition.

POLICY / RULE

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.68 Use of Park Facilities

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.010 As used in this code "Use of Skate Parks" [Ord. 1159 (2012)]

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.020 Purpose.

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.030 Definitions

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.040 Skate Park-Safety Equipment.

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.050 Skate Park Regulations.

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.060 Closing Skate Park.

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.070 Signing and Posting.

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.080 Enforcement.

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.090 Penalties

Folsom Municipal Code, Section 9.69.100 Enforcement Procedures

ANALYSIS

Currently, the Folsom Parks & Recreation Department supervises the Cummings Family Skate and Bike Park 7 days a week, 363 days per year (Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day). During the summer, the park is open 55 hours per week, while during the school year the park is open 29 hours per week. Over the past 4 years of operating the skate and bike park, the average monthly attendance totals 589 visitors. Parks & Recreation staff who are trained in CPR & First Aid are scheduled during posted hours of operation and provide the initial response to all issues that arise at the park. Over the past 22 years staff has handled hundreds of issues ranging from upset parents and participants, reported suspected drug dealing, concealed weapons, fights, and provides the first response to all major and minor injuries within the park.

Providing staff to supervise the skate and bike park provides community benefits that help mitigate against unwanted activities, ensures the park is safe for use, creates community engagement with visitors, and provides the park site with general oversight that greatly enhances the environment for community usage. The annual part-time staff costs that are invested to supervise the skate and bike parks help to prevent more staff resources and dollars spent on damage, vandalism, graffiti, and other park issues. The presence of staff provides the skate and bike parks with a family-friendly experience for all users to enjoy.

In February 2025, the City of Folsom was presented with a petition to modify safety equipment requirements at Cummings Family Skatepark. The petition signed requested the City of Folsom to change the requirements of safety equipment that is outlined in the California Health and Safety Code 115800 that all skatepark users must wear a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads. The City Council should note that of the 19 petitioner signatures, that only 3 petitioners indicated an address in the City of Folsom. Additionally, the total number of petitioners represents less than 4% of the total monthly average of visitors to the park over the past 4 years. The submitted petition is requesting the City of Folsom to not comply with the current California Health and Safety Code 115800. In both supervised and unsupervised skate parks, park users are required to comply with the safety equipment requirements of the California Health and Safety Code.

Should the Folsom City Council take action to remove supervision of the Cummings Family Skate and Bike Park, staff are prepared to install new signage at the skatepark and bike park and no longer schedule staff effective Tuesday, July 1, 2025, beginning at 8:00am. The park would

be available for use from dusk until 9:00 pm with the installation of Musco Lighting Control-Link System that allows staff to schedule the lights to turn on and off. Visitors may submit notifications of problems at the parks through SeeClickFix and call 911 for emergencies. Park Maintenance staff would continue with their regular scheduled duties and maintain the park to the best of their abilities with cleanliness and safety. Should a major issue arise, that would deem a park unusable then staff would close it down until repairs could be made. Parks & Recreation Department Staff identified potential concerns for consideration when staff are removed from supervising the parks. These items will need to be addressed by the users of the park and self monitoring. Some of the items that were discussed with the changes include:

- Increased response times for trash pick-up and vandalism;
- Increased response times for closure of the park during unsafe conditions (wet during inclement weather);
- Risky behavior or poor conduct; and
- Mixed use of skateboard, scooters, bikes, E-bikes and other wheeled, motorized vehicles or devices not in line with the current rules of the park.

At the May 6, 2025, Parks & Recreation Commission heard a presentation by staff on the history of staffing at the skatepark, information about the Health and Safety Code and reviewed the petition. In addition, several speakers spoke in support of removing staffing from the skate and bike park. During public testimony, individuals stated the community would be responsible for taking care of the facility and ensuring responsible behavior following the Health and Safety Guidelines.

The Parks & Recreation Commission took formal action to recommend to City Council to remove supervision of the skate and bike parks and take the necessary steps to ensure the facility is in compliance with all Health and Safety Codes. The Parks & Recreation Commission asked for a report back in one year on the transition of the skate and bike park from supervised to unsupervised.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact in denying the petition to modify safety requirements. The savings in the Parks & Recreation Department's proposed Fiscal Year 2025–26 General Fund (Fund 010) operating budget from removing the site supervision of the Cummings Family Skate and Bike Park will be utilized to offset the cost of installing park lighting upgrades.

The City has spent on average \$41,300 each year to cover the cost of the park attendant position. Eliminating the supervision at the Cummings Skate and Bike Park will lower the staffing costs to the general fund by that amount. Savings from not staffing will be used to install Musco Lighting Control Links at a cost of \$14,550 to the lights over the skate and bike parks to allow for scheduling of lights for nighttime use throughout the year and as seasons change.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

There is no environmental impact.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 11407 – A Resolution Rescinding Resolution No. 7193, Removing Site Supervision of the Cummings Family Skate and Bike Park, and Denying Petition to Modify Safety Requirements
2. Petition to Modify Safety Equipment Requirements at Cummings Family Skatepark
3. California Health and Safety Code 115800

Submitted,

Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director