

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Palouse Skatepark, Inc.

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Palouse, Wash.-- Thermometer fundraising efforts for the completion of the Palouse Skatepark this summer have been steady and generous, with 87% of the projected \$13,000 needed from the forecasted budget in January now received. However, most of the concrete projects have been DIY, resulting in a significant cost savings for the project. To honor the donations already received and to preserve the quality and integrity of the building process, the Board of Directors has decided to complete the build with volunteer labor and delay the grand opening until Spring of 2017, allowing for donations and work on the skate gardens to begin this summer.

"It is sort of sad to not have the park open this Summer, as many people, including myself, have been really excited to see the progress being made and wanting to get to skate," said Aaron Flansburg, who has been working alongside volunteers as often as able for close the last year and a half now. "But, we have seen significant materials cost savings for concrete at just 1/3 of the budgeted cost by hand mixing on site and doing pours and finishing work ourselves. If we can take the pressure to open by a certain date off of ourselves and stretch the dollars donated even further, then let's do it, and let's start to build a garden at the same time!"

Marie Dymkoski, Garden Transformation Team Co-Chair, is pleased to begin fundraising for the garden project. "There has been much community excitement about the garden project and now we can actively engage those who want to volunteer and donate money to this space. No donation is too small and all monies will help to establish this garden as a space of peace, education and as a gathering place for family, friends and acquaintances." Now that the official nod has been given to fundraise, a plan for creating the "Parisian Avenue," at the garden plateau will be made. This design idea came from the very first Garden Transformation Team meeting and is the description given to the design vignette for the downtown overlook stretch that will be built directly behind the fence that the committee selected late last Fall. Classic-styled seating benches with arms, evenly spaced planting beds and European Hornbeams will set the tone for this formal-feeling area of the plateau garden space.

The Garden Transformation Team of the Tony Kettel Skate Gardens plans to host a silent auction event near the end of August, and monetary donations are welcome via the paypal link on the project website www.palouseskatepark.com. Dollars collected online will go toward the building and maintenance efforts of both spaces. "It's a shared pot of funds, but with earmarked dollar values that will be tracked and spent accordingly. We will report the fundraising efforts and expenses for building efforts

separately, but ultimately the Palouse Skatepark, Inc. is responsible for the building and maintenance of both the garden and the skate park as both parcels were gifted to the same 501 (c) 3," says Connie Newman, Palouse Skatepark, Inc. Board of Directors. An impressive list of business sponsors and project partners can also be found online. For more information on becoming a project partner, a financial contributor, or making a donation in memory of a loved one, please email palouseskatepark@gmail.com.

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