

Councillor Paltiel
District of Central Saanich
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road
Saanichton, BC V8M2A9

Dear Councillor Paltiel,

I am writing to inquire about the potential of an outdoor pool and skatepark at the Hovey Road location of Centennial Park.

Since moving to the community two years ago, we have found ourselves heavily dependent on cars for the majority of our kids' extra curricular activities. Currently, there isn't a safe space in the Brentwood area for middle school or high school aged kids to hang out. We drive our two kids in Grade 6 and 7 regularly to adjacent outdoor community facilities such as the North Saanich bike park, Hartland, and the Sidney skatepark.

We are grateful for the convenience of two big community pools and recreation centres nearby (Panorama and SCP), but find ourselves supplementing the bus schedule with a lot of driving. There have also been many occasions where the bus has just not shown up on schedule.

Having a pool and skatepark centrally located means my kids and their friends can safely bike there, especially with the new bike lane upgrades along Wallace. It could provide kids a common place to gather with their local friends and be active together. It can provide the potential for future summer jobs at the pool, or summer skate camps that they would be able to get to themselves on bike, giving a greater sense of independence. It also gives them a summer of convenient outdoor activities that they can access without being dependent on rides.

The Brentwood Bay area has been a beautiful community to get to know - welcoming and family focused. However, it is missing central gathering space(s) where kids can play and age in place, not having to transit to adjacent communities. It's my hope that investments can be made to create these safe community spaces for kids in the future.

Thanks for your consideration,

Andrea Stronks
6785 Greig Court
Brentwood Bay, BC