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City of Chowchilla



Press Release

For Release: April 15, 2009

Area 15 Skatepark Opens to New Schedule Skaters now have more opportunities to use the facility

Chowchilla, CA, April 15, 2009: Following a review by the City of Chowchilla and the Chowchilla City Council, the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department has established new open and closed hours for the Area 15 Skatepark. Located in the City's Sports & Leisure Park at 625 N. Fifteenth Street, the skatepark will be open each week on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. The schedule is subject to change.

For the past few months the City had opened the skatepark and supervised it with City parks personnel while a determination was made as to how the City could best operate the facility. Prior to that, the skatepark had been closed much of last summer because of the high amount of graffiti, undesirable behavior and flagrant violations of the skatepark rules. In the last few months the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department staff has reached out to the skateboarders to seek their observance to the posted rules, recognize the value of wearing the required safety equipment and buy-in to the concept of caring for their facility. Staff formed many good relationships with the skateboarders who became regular users of the facility.

In the future, the Area 15 Skatepark will not be supervised on a continual basis by City parks personnel. Instead they will conduct drop-in observations to see that the facility is being used properly and that the skateboarders are following the posted rules. In the future the Department wants to create a comfortable place for skateboarders and spectators alike to sit and watch other skateboarders in action. In addition, when possible the Department wants to enhance the skateboarding experience with some special activities.

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It is important to note that the Area 15 Skatepark operates with specific rules posted at the entrance to the facility. These rules must be followed by all users of the facility. Of particular importance is that the skatepark is only to be used by skateboarders and in-line skaters. Bicycles of any type are not allowed in the skatepark. State and local regulations require proper safety equipment that includes a helmet along with knee and elbow pads, be worn at all times in the skatepark. Additionally, all skatepark users younger than 14 years of age must provide the City with a completed waiver release form prior to using the Area 15 Skatepark. The form is available at the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department office at 145 West Robertson Boulevard, at the Chowchilla Civic Center and online at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us. The waiver must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.

For more information on the Area 15 Skatepark contact the City of Chowchilla Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department at (559) 665-8640, or send an e-mail to parksrec@ci.chowchilla.ca.us.

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