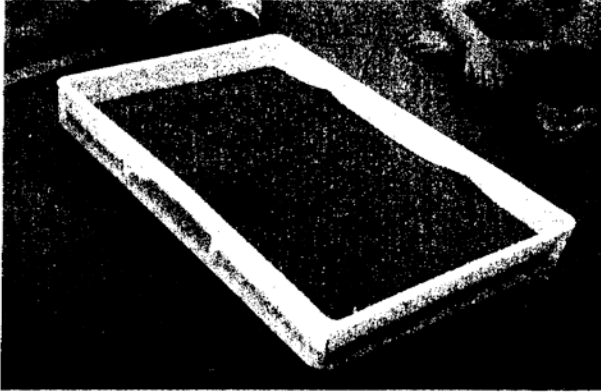
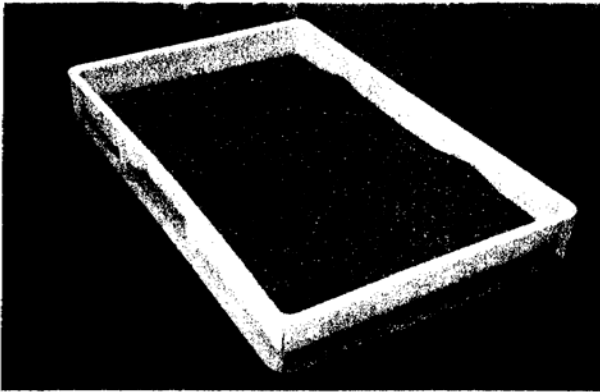


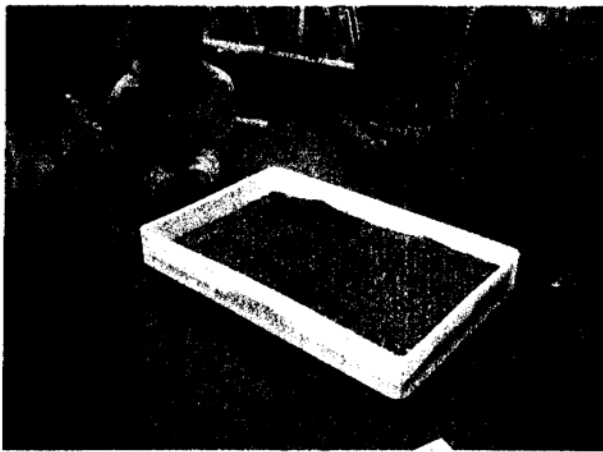
## Junior Focus Group



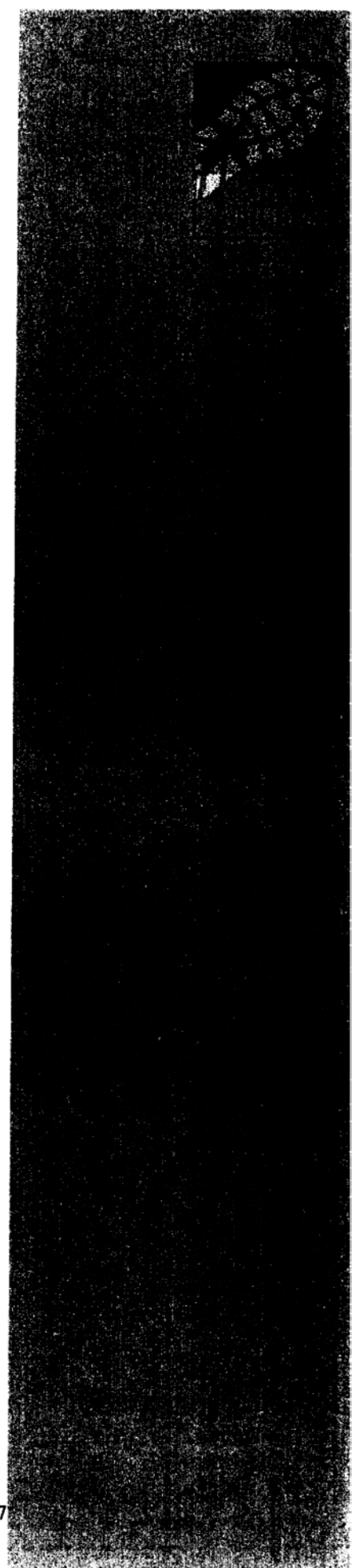
▲ The most important skate park feature was seen as being a ramp. The group explained that it was important that the ramp was not located in the centre of the skate park but at one side. This enabled other skate features to be included and provided plenty of 'run up' space (distance for the skater to pick up speed before going on the ramp).

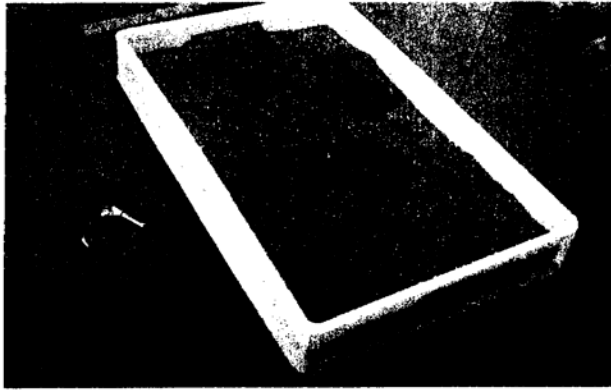


▲ A rail was selected as the next most valuable feature in the skate park. The group stated that the rail should not be positioned in the middle directly behind the ramp, as "small kids can't do it". They said the ramp should be positioned at the back of the ramp to one side.

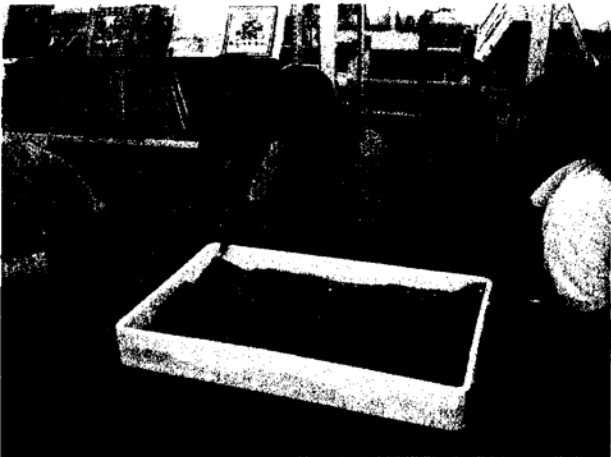


▲ The third most popular feature was the 'skate pad' (a raised concrete pad with a beveled step). This was positioned by the focus group on the side of the skate park so skaters could gain a run up.

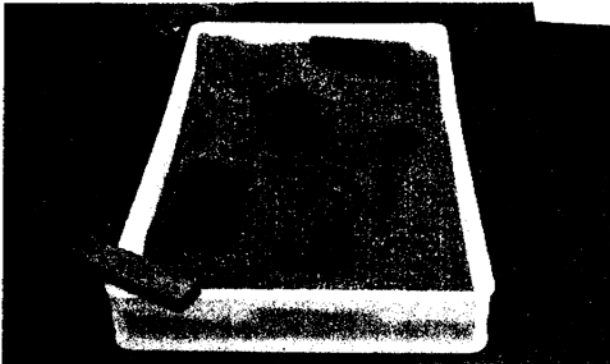




▲Next the focus group turned its attention to shaping the skate parks contours. Undulations and bowls were added with run in ramps. These ramps enabled the skaters to pick up speed when entering into the bowls or going up contours. One of the ramps had low sides so skaters could "grind down" it.

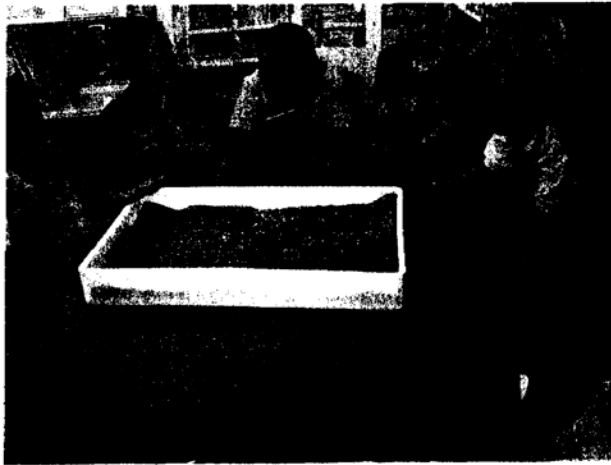


▲The next most important feature was seen as being a 'safe' sitting place with a shade cloth and drinking fountain. The areas must have good views of all the skate park features (should be elevated). 'Safe' was defined as being free from the risk of being struck by skateboards and bikes (one of the participants is pointing at the best sitting place). It is interesting that the group raised this as a key issue as none of the provided stimuli (red blocks) represented such features.



▲A set of steps with a side mounted 'grind rail' was the final feature added. This feature was located at the side of the skate park so plenty of 'recover' space was available once skaters came off the rail.

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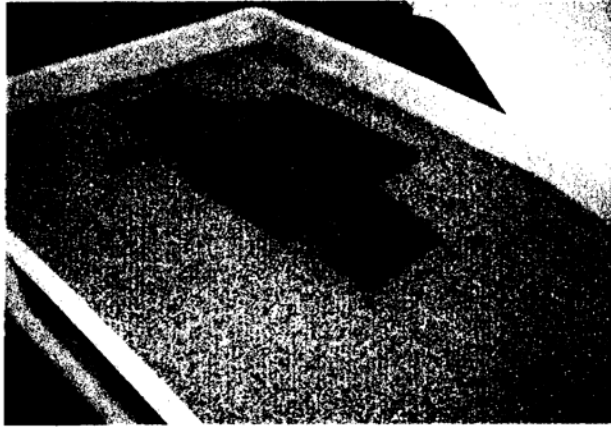
▲ The focus group discussing aspects of the skate parks design.

**Note:** the block at the top left hand corner of the sandpit represents the focus groups 'ideal' safe sitting place.

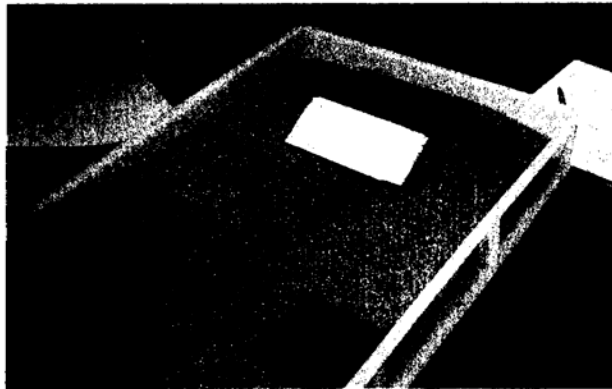


▲ The junior focus group with their final skate park concept design layout.

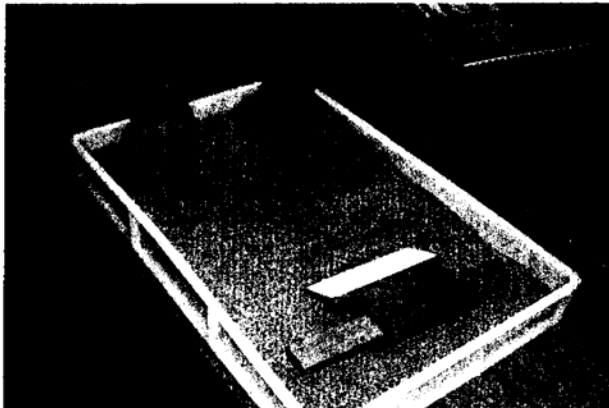
## Senior Focus Group



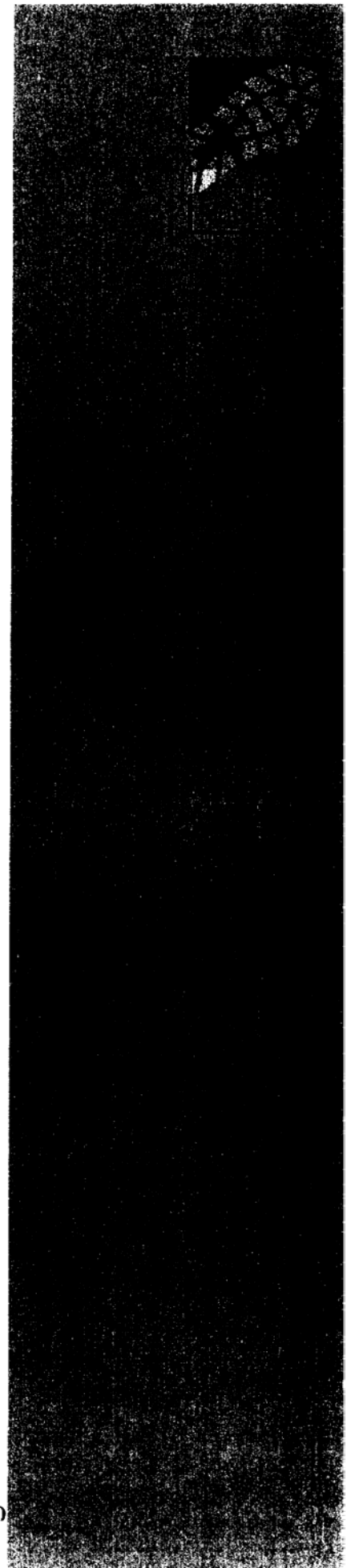
▲The most important feature was seen as being a 'Fun Box'. It was important that the 'Fun Box' had rounded corners and a central rail for 'grinding'. The focus group spent a significant period of time designing the feature with functional entry and exit ramps.

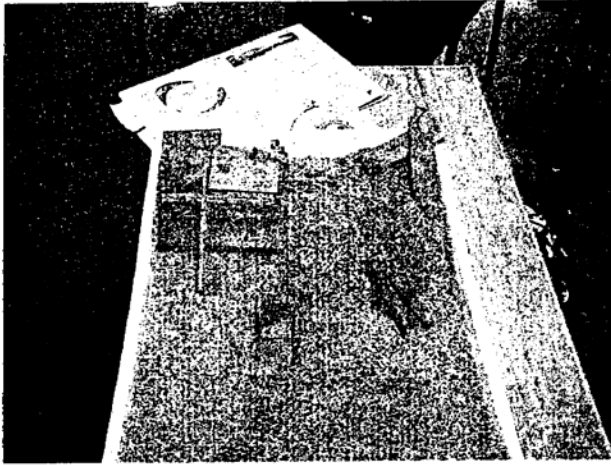


▲A 'speed ramp' (top of picture) was seen as the next most important feature in a skate park. The 'speed ramp' is a small ramp used by skaters for picking up speed before entering another feature. The group felt the speed ramp needed to be approximately 8m from the 'Fun Box' (or similar feature).



▲The 'corner speed ramp' (top of picture) was also seen as important (especially in small skate parks). The feature is used in the same way as the larger speed ramp. It also enables maximum space utilisation as skaters can maintain speed without the need for large run up or lead in space.





▲ A corner stairs feature (top left corner) helped maximize space in the park. Well positioned 'grind rails' were seen as an important attribute on stairs.

The group also highlighted the need for a drinking fountain and a sitting area (ideally with a picnic table). None of the provided workshop stimuli were designed in the shape of such features. Thus highlighting the importance of passive leisure features to skaters.



## Key Focus Group Findings:

### 1. Safety

Both focus groups showed concern for safety issues. The older skaters showed concern for the younger skaters and wanted to avoid collision risks. They stated that younger skaters learned from older skaters so their needs must be met at the skate park.

The younger skaters stated they wanted to avoid getting in the way of older skaters but still be in the same area. It was clear that the younger skaters felt 'cool' by association when with the older skaters.

Both groups identified that one part of the skate park should have features that required a lower skill level. In this way all age ranges could be together at the same skate park but be safely separated with younger skaters gravitating towards the lower skill (risk) area.

### 2. Rest Area

Both groups commented that rest area should be provided. These rest areas should have seating, good views over the skate park, shade cloth and a drinking fountain. Both groups stated that this was very important and was often overlooked when skate parks are designed.

### 3. Features

The most popular skate features with the younger focus group were (in ranked order)

- Small ramp
- Grind rail
- Skate pad
- Contoured ramps (contoured undulations)
- Safe sitting place (seating, drinking fountain, shade)
- Stairs with grind rail

The most popular skate features with the older focus group were (in ranked order)

- Fun box
- Small speed ramp
- Small corner speed ramp
- Low skill 'kids' features (for younger skaters)
- Stairs
- Safe sitting place (seating, drinking fountain)

## Study Recommendations

- 1.) Construct a skate park at Ceramco Park.
- 2.) Separate low and higher skill level skate features out so that safety and functionality is improved.
- 3.) Construct a sitting area with shade cloth (and a drinking fountain if possible).
- 4.) Construct the most popular skate features first.  
Suggested example:
  - Small ramp x 2
  - Fun box
  - Grind rail
  - Skate pad
  - Stairs



Waitakere City Council  
Te Tatao o Waitakere



## SURVEY FOR SKATEBOARDERS

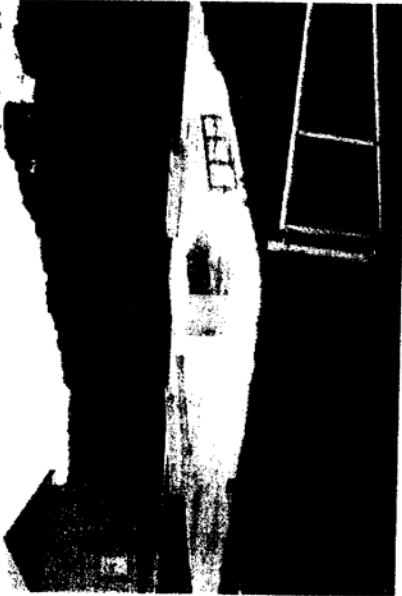
The Ceramco Skate Park Half Pipe has been taken away for safety reasons. Waitakere City Council is getting ready to build a new skate park for skateboarders in the same place. We need YOU to tell us what type of Skate Park you want by answering these questions.

Please answer by ticking the boxes

1. **ARE YOU A** Boy  Girl
2. **HOW OLD ARE YOU?** 8-12 years  13-15 years  16-18 years
3. **WHERE ARE YOU SKATEBOARDING AT THE MOMENT?** (You can tick more than one box)  
On the road  On the footpath   
At skate parks  At shopping places

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4. **TICK THE ONE TYPE OF SKATE PARK YOU WOULD MOST LIKE BUILT AT CERAMCO PARK**



Street Style Park



Mini Ramp Style Park

**THANKS!** (Now hand back to your teacher!)

## Appendix 2:

### Gender of respondents:

Gender	# responses	%
Boy	187	87
Girl	40	14
Total	227	

### Age of Respondents:

Age Group	# responses	%
8 to 12	172	75
13 to 15	53	23
16 to 18	3	1
Total	228	

### School Responses:

School	# responses	%
Konini Primary School	40	18
Kaurilands Primary School	50	22
Glen Eden Primary School	44	19
Glen Eden Intermediate	47	21
Green Bay High School	22	10
Kelston Boys High School	25	11
Total	229	

### Respondents Present Skating locations:

Location	# responses	%
Footpath	147	33
Road	90	20
Shopping Place	144	33
Skate Park	62	14
Total	443	

### Where Respondents Skate Presently by Age:

Age	Footpath	Location # responses			Total
		Road	Shopping Place	Skate Park	
8 to 12	102	79	32	101	314
13 to 15	39	22	27	37	125
16 to 18	3	2	2	2	9
Total	144	103	61	140	448

### Preferred Style of Skate Park for Ceramco Park

Style	# responses	%
Street Style	168	74
Mini Ramp Style	58	26
Total	226	

### Preferred Style of Skate Park for Ceramco Park by Age

	Style # responses		Total
	Street Style	Mini Ramp Style	
8 to 12	116	55	177
13 to 15	50	2	52
16 to 18	2	1	3
Total	168	58	226