

THE CITY OF NEWPORT

RESOLUTION

OF THE

COUNCIL

No.

- WHEREAS, the City of Newport demolished the skatepark at Easton's Beach in 2016 in hopes of developing a modern skatepark in a location more suitable for the sport and less vulnerable to the ocean, sand, and weather elements; AND
- WHEREAS, Newport's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Open Space Master Plan detail a lack of recreational facilities and the need to relocate the City's skatepark in the North End neighborhood of the city; AND
- WHEREAS, for years residents of Newport have been advocating for more recreational activities for our youngsters in the City; AND
- WHEREAS, the Friends of the Newport Skatepark (FONS) was established in 2019 to help organize the public's effort to bring a modern skatepark to the city; AND
- WHEREAS, FONS envisions a modern skatepark that will appeal to skaters of all skill levels and is dedicated to the fundraising for the skatepark itself; AND
- WHEREAS, the City of Newport was awarded a \$100,000 grant from RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) to build a basketball court, with bike racks and water fountain, at the Abbruzzi Sports Complex on Maple Avenue; AND
- WHEREAS, the City finds the location of the current Theodore Michaud t-ball field and surrounding open space at the Abbruzzi Sports Complex on Maple Avenue the most suitable location for a skatepark due to its walkability to the neighborhood of the North End, and accessibility to all of Newport; AND
- WHEREAS, the City would have the opportunity to create a three-sport complex: baseball, basketball, and skateboarding; AND
- WHEREAS, FONS has performed community outreach in the neighborhood of the Abbruzzi Sports Complex and has found support for a new skatepark and the City has received numerous correspondence in support the park; AND

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WHEREAS, the City wholeheartedly supports the programs of the Newport Little League, the City Administration and staff will find the best location for a new Theodore Michaud t-ball field to accommodate our youngest children interested playing t-ball; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the City of Newport will accommodate Newport Little League t-ball players at a new field in the City of Newport; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that The Newport City Council designates the use of the area of the Theodore Michaud t-ball field and surrounding open space at the Abbruzzi Sports Complex for a new basketball court and modern skatepark, and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that The Newport City Council will consult with the Michaud family to determine the best way to continue to honor the memory of Theodore Michaud and all that he did for the city's youth.

LYNN UNDERWOOD CEGLIE  
JAMIE BOVA

IN COUNCIL  
READ AND PASSED

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LAURA C. SWISTAK  
CITY CLERK