



# NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 22, 2021

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## **SKATE PARK RELOCATION UNDERWAY; COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE ASSISTANCE**

ROCKPORT, TX – In preparation for moving the Skate Park from its current location at the Community Aquatic Center to a prepared pad site in Memorial Park, employees with the City’s Parks Department encountered a major problem. The infrastructure for the equipment was disintegrating, due to it’s age and the outdoor elements.

“After 15 years of use and sitting out in our temperate environment, the metal and wooden framework was falling apart and required a massive rebuild to ensure the safety and functionality of the equipment,” noted Parks Director Rick Martinez. “Not only was this a setback to our initial timeline, we had to undertake unplanned work with a depleted staff, and still continue to stay on top of the regular work schedule.

Fortunately, additional manpower emerged through the efforts of local residents Jimmy Wright Jr., Mike Bock, Leroy Galindo, Ryan Cortez and Jake Newberry, who volunteered to assist. Wright contacted Director Martinez and asked if he and others could be of any help to speed up the process and complete the work. After meeting with Martinez at the current skatepark site, Wright had more of an understanding as to why it has taken a while to complete the work. Wright then contacted some friends and co-workers, several of whom had welding experience, carpentry experience and provided much-needed assistance and scheduled a workday to move the project along,

Having grown up in Rockport, Wright had a special affinity for the Skate Park having spent hours skateboarding in his youth. Now a father with children sharing the same interest, he was moved to provide them with the same experience as well as wanting to help with assisting the City, so that others with the same interest could get back out on the skate park at its new location, which will be at Memorial Park.

“If it weren’t for their help, we would have fallen further behind in our schedule in rebuilding and relocating the skate park. Thankfully, it will be up and running in mid-March, or sooner” Martinez added.