



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Contacts:** Tita Santini, Skaters for Eugene Skateparks Event Coordinator, 221-1788, [titasantini@comcast.net](mailto:titasantini@comcast.net); Bob Chandler, Skaters for Eugene Skateparks, [chandler@skateeugene.org](mailto:chandler@skateeugene.org); Carrie Peterson, City of Eugene Park Development Coordinator, 682-4907, [carrie.a.peterson@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:carrie.a.peterson@ci.eugene.or.us); Representatives from the local skate community are also available for interview; please contact Tita Santini for details.

### **Art Show and Silent Auction to Benefit City Center Skatepark Construction**

Skaters for Eugene Skateparks (SES) is hosting an art show and silent auction to raise funds for construction of the City Center Skatepark. The main event will be on **Friday, June 5, from 5:30pm - 11:00pm at 790 Willamette St (on the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Willamette.)** This unique art show will feature customized skate decks, sculptures and other skate-inspired artwork created by local and regional artists. There will be a silent auction of all artwork, a raffle of items donated by local businesses, and music by Kenny Reed Trio as well as local DJ's. Food will be catered by Wild Duck Catering, and beer from Ninkasi Brewing and Crater Lake Vodka by Bend Distillery can also be purchased for those over 21. There is no cover charge to view the artwork, though sliding-scale donations are accepted at the door. Every dollar raised at this event will go towards the construction of the City Center Skatepark. Along with SES, sponsors of the event include the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space division, Wild Duck Catering, Tactics, Ninkasi Brewing, Crater Lake Vodka/Bend Distillery, Boardsports, and Garage Artists.

Skaters for Eugene Skateparks is a non profit organization with a mission "to create a comprehensive system of world-class public skateable terrain in Eugene, Oregon." SES is dedicated to making the City Center Skatepark a reality.

The gallery will also be open on Saturday, June 6th from Noon-4pm for art viewing.

### **Funding and Partnership**

POS is partnering with Downtown Rotary and SES to create an 18,000-square foot skatepark facility in Washington-Jefferson Park. It will be the largest covered and lit skatepark in the region, allowing year-round skating opportunities. The park is expected to be heavily used locally by after-school instructional programs and has the support of School District 4J, Eugene City Council, County Commissioners, ODOT, and more than 1,700 local petitioners who have passionately advocated for this skatepark since the early stages in 2004. Matching funds of nearly \$300,000 from the City are available for this project through system development charges. SES and Downtown Rotary have taken on the goal of raising an additional \$300,000 by the end of 2009 in order to bring the project to fruition. The Tony Hawk Foundation recently endorsed the City Center Skatepark and contributed \$5,000 to the project. Washington/Jefferson Park was identified as a preferred site for the City Center Skatepark due to the central location and the large expanse of cover offered by the I-105 bridge.

For more information please visit [www.skateeugene.org](http://www.skateeugene.org) or [www.eugene-or.gov/parks](http://www.eugene-or.gov/parks) and click on "City Center Skatepark."