

Dear Councilwoman Guidry and Mr. Bart Everson, President of the Friends of the Lafitte Corridor,

My name is Gil Homan, I am 11-years-old, and I have lived in Mid-City all of my life. I am a big fan of both skateboarding and the proposed Lafitte Greenway. In fact, I have been on most of the Lafitte Corridor hikes since my first hike in 2007. I think that the city should put the proposed skateboard park along the Lafitte Greenway for the following reasons:

Skateboarding is good exercise and it is fun to do. There are not many activities for older children in my neighborhood. A skateboard park would be a lot of fun for me and my friends in the neighborhood. We would bicycle to the park.

I first went to an urban skateboard park when we went to Omaha Nebraska after the flood. I lived there six months. There I saw firsthand how the older children looked out for the younger children. They took ownership of their park and would not let anyone throw trash on the ground or spray paint. I have been to many similar parks in Baton Rouge and Covington. It would be nice to not have to leave New Orleans to visit a skatepark. Me and my friends would do our best to make sure the park stayed nice and to make sure the younger children just learning to skateboard were safe.

Finally, I went to the river to see the Red Bull skaters use the proposed equipment when they were on a barge. It was very exciting for me to watch them do tricks. I really hope you can put the park along the Lafitte Greenway. Me and my friends would use it very often.

Thank you,

Gil Homan