

City of Long Beach Working Together to Serve

R-8 Memorandum Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell 4th District

Date:

May 24, 2011

To:

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:

Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District Vice Mayor Suja Lowenthal, Second District

Subject:

BMX/Mountain Track Site Development

The first official BMX (bicycle motocross) proto sanctioning body was established in Long Beach in 1970. Some of the earliest BMX riders were local residents who competed at Seventh and Bellflower.

As Long Beach is one of the first homes of BMX racing, it is appropriate that the City continue this tradition and explore the potential of BMX and Mountain Track facilities at our parks. Tracks that are appropriate for riding BMX bikes and Mountain Bikes are being added to or created as part of the development of park facilities across the country. Numerous parks in our City could accommodate a track, which are highly utilized and provide a new and exciting recreational activity.

The first step in this discussion is a review of existing park facilities, as well as new parks in development, in order to evaluate the potential of a BMX track development. Long Beach parks that should be included in a comprehensive review are El Dorado Park, El Dorado Park Adjacent and the site of the former Sports Park proposed site.

Recommendation:

Request City Manager to work with appropriate staff to review potential sites for BMX/Mountain Track facilities at parks citywide and report back to Council.