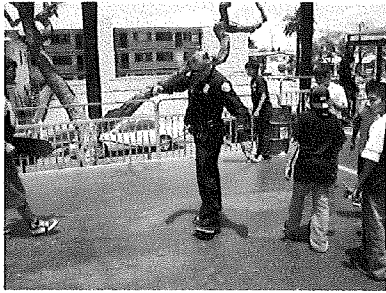


ask

ACTION. SPORTS. KIDS.

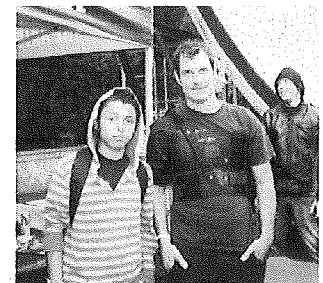
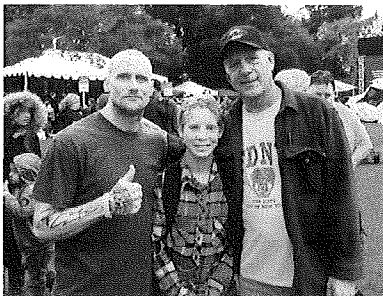
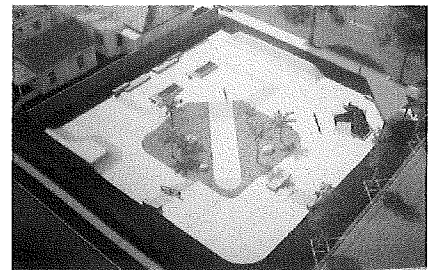
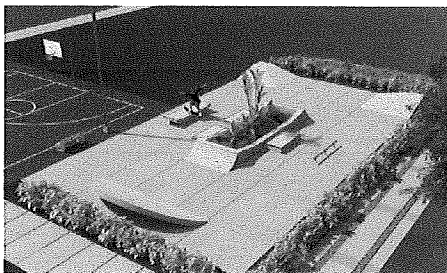
LONG BEACH

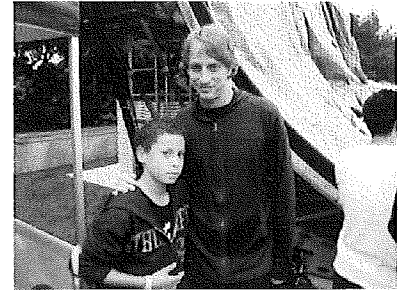
www.ASKLongBeach.org



MISSION

“Action Sports Kids Foundation” is dedicated to promoting Youth Activities as an alternative to the streets and gangs. We support skate parks as one alternative for all youth and encourage kids to engage in the community process to design, build, and maintain them. Our goal is to build strong, healthy, confident kids through sports and to provide safe environments for them to grow. Our partnerships with other Youth Programs in the community help promote our beliefs in Family, Friends, Fun and the Freedom to Ride.





2011 CALENDAR

June 3 – Jefferson Middle School Awards

June 11 – Skateside Contest, Westside Church

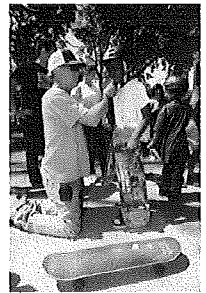
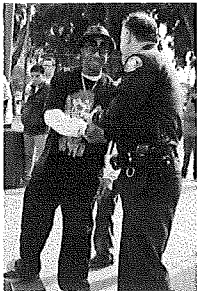
June 12 – Autism for Long Beach, Cherry Park

June 25 – 2nd Wheels Unite Skate/BMX contest
Mike Green Skate Park

July 9 – Cherry Park Skate Jam BBQ?

Aug 13 – Movie on the Beach, Cherry Park Bluff?

Aug 20 – Long Beach Skate Park Jam
Houghton Skate Park



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



ASK Long Beach Awards 56 Skateboards To Students

by Cristina De Leon-Menjivar

Staff Writer | Posted: Wednesday, June 8, 2011 12:52 pm

The challenge presented to eighth graders at Jefferson Middle School was simple: write a short essay about what the city can do to improve neighborhoods. Two students would each win the grand prize of a new Tony Hawk skateboard thanks to Action Sports Kids (ASK) Long Beach.

“We wanted essays unscripted, straight from the heart,” said Mike Donelon, founder of ASK Long Beach, a nonprofit organization that works to promote youth activities as an alternative to the streets and gangs.

Of all the students, 56 chose to participate.

Christopher Cuevas, 15, said he entered the contest because his mother could not afford to buy him a skateboard. Cuevas said he wrote that the city should invest in sports, skate parks and activities for youth.

“If kids are into sports, our neighborhoods are safer,” he said.

Donelon and his team said they organized the essay contest at Jefferson Middle School in an effort to learn about the youth they serve and get them to think about getting involved themselves, he said.

During the judging process, though, Donelon said they could not pick a winner.

“The essays were so touching and moving,” Donelon said. “Every single one of us was crying.”

Some of the topics students wrote about included their neighborhood’s gang problems, poor living conditions and a lack of activities and places to skate. Most of the students said they agreed that skate parks would help to eradicate some of the social problems that plague their neighborhoods.

These reasons, Donelon said, are the reason he founded ASK Long Beach in 1998. Since that time, ASK Long Beach has invested in youth sports activities by helping to create six skate parks throughout the city. Some of the parks that have skate parks are El Dorado, Houghton, Cherry and Silverado.

In addition to the city’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, the group also partners with the Tony Hawk Foundation. Currently, the organization is working with the city to build another two facilities by the end of the year, which includes a 9,800-square-foot skate park at McBride Park.

“We like to engage kids in the community as an alternative to the streets, and so far it has been shown to be very effective as a gang prevention program,” Donelon said.

In addition to promoting skate parks, ASK Long Beach involves itself in the community by working with other community groups and schools, which is how the essay contest at Jefferson Middle School

was created.

The essay contest was the first of its kind for ASK, and Donelon said that it is something the organization is looking to continue into the future. He also added that the essays would be bound and presented to the mayor and city council.

At an award ceremony last Friday, ASK and school officials gathered the 56 students to present the skateboards to the two winners. Little did they know, however, that thanks to a donation of \$5,000 from the Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau, all of them would be awarded a new skateboard.

The students gasped with surprise and awe when they learned the news.

Yesenia Carrillo, 15, said she was happy to receive a skateboard.

“Now, my brother can finally teach me how to skate,” she said.

For more information about ASK Long Beach, visit its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/asklongbeach.

Marisela Moreno

P.O. Box 41334

Long Beach, CA 90853

Dear Mr. Donelon:

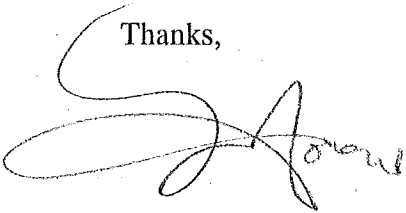
I wanted to write an eloquent letter to detail the effect you had at Jefferson Leadership Academies and the Class of 2011, but words can't even begin to express the impact you had on them. These 8th graders are having a tremendous year and they don't even know it, yet. As they mature and they experience the skateparks in Long Beach which you are putting in place hopefully they will remember the "Skateboard and Skate Park Guy" and have a hint of a memory from the afternoon you spent with them. I know I will.

Enclosed please find the original, uncut, uncensored letters written to you in hopes you will be a voice, an advocate, and a friend to middle schoolers, especially those at Jefferson. It is our desire to work with you in the future and be a facility for you to bring skating events to us. Please consider how we can partner together in the years to come as we will be watching the skate parks you are establishing throughout all of Long Beach, California.

YOU have a home at Jefferson, specifically, you have a home with all the students in Room 254. Pick us a winner for the best essays. I think there should be a recognition day. We can discuss this at a later date.

Good luck with all of your projects!!!! Congratulations on all your hard work.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marisela Moreno". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Marisela Moreno

Dear Mr. Donelon



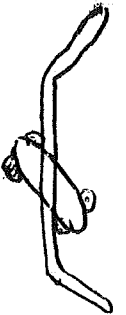
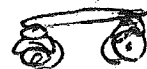
Hi my name is Michael Angelo I live on Temple and Anaheim. I'm 14 years old, I'm not that smart but I think that Long Beach need some things to change like for example I live on Temple and the scateshop is on lime and 6th street that's to far for me I think that if you could make more I know that is not that easy but I know you could.

I also think that you could do some BMS shop because there not only scates theres bikes.

I hope that you could do it.

I will really like to win that skateboard
Thanks for your and the bike time

Michael Angelo



Hello Mr. Donelon,

February 25, 2011

As a child in the United States of America, I believe that us children or teenagers or whatever you would like to call us, deserve something better for our community like a brand new skatepark that everyone can use to skate in. Please. At least something that we can use to get away from all of the problems that we have. You know its true that everyone has a problem that we are either trying to deal with or just haven't gotten over with yet. But anyways if you do this one favor for all of the young mature adults, you don't know how thankful we will be so please, think of the children and our needs. So yeah, please do this for us, and if you do, thank you very much I appreciate it with all my heart.

with Love and Respect,
Yvette Gomez

P.S. I am an 8th grade student from Jefferson Leadership Academies which is located on 8th and Euclid. Thank you for hearing my voice... I appreciate that also.

Dear Mr. Donelon

My name is Alfredo Madrigal I love to use my skateboard it is fun to use your skateboard you can do a lot of stuff with your bike. I live on 2225 east 10th street. I have lived in Long Beach for 14 years. Long Beach is a wonderful place to live you can go to the beach you can see the Queen marry and the Pacific Ocean. In Long Beach there is so many birds at the Ocean. At the after noon at the sunset it is beautiful you can see the city red it is wonderful. But Long Beach need more stuff like more bike routes. Long Beach needs more teachers and more supplies. Long Beach needs more officers there is a lot of trouble and we are a big city. I want to be an officer. I live with people that take your stuff. I want to have a skate park so I can use my skateboard I want to use it so badly. When I was moving in I had my skateboard token I was upset. I feel happy when some one is playing with me. I feel sad when I get picked on other kids. Thank you for reading my letter and if you could make a skateboard I would be pleased.

Sincerely,

Alfredo Madrigal


Alfredo Madrigal


→ Derd Mr. Donelon

Hi my name is Moises Hernandez I live in
1/4th and Temple ^{VR} I will like if there was
some Arkard ^{VR} never MX block so ^{some people} can
have fun. I want long beach to be a beter
plasse to live in and if you could. Patalaser
tag Placs in side the Arkard that will
be great. Will you say get me to tack to
my freret PRO his PRO name is SHIPDOWN
he plays in the MLC PRO Cerct that would
be a great oppertent for me to take to.

from Moises Hernandez

DEAR MR. DONEION

HELLO, MY NAME IS ALISON QUINTANILLA I LIVED IN LONG BEACH FOR 8 YEARS ALREADY AND I LOVE IT. THE PROBLEM IS THAT PEOPLE AND STUDENTS DON'T HAVE MONEY SOMETIMES TO GO IN THE BUS. MAYBE YOU GUYS CAN HELP THEM BY REDUCING THE PRICE WHEN YOU HAVE AN IDENTIFICATION OR ID. THE PEOPLE WOULD BE MUCH HAPPY INSTEAD OF WORRIED THAT THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY. THANK YOU FOR TAKING YOUR TIME  READING MY LETTER.

SINCERELY, ALISON
QUINTANILLA 

Dear Mr. Donelan,

I am a female named Crystal Garcia and I live on Newport Ave. I've lived in Long Beach all my life. On my free time I spend most of my time riding my skateboard with my cousins in Orizaba Park. I've seen that they're already building a skatepark but building that skatepark would be great for all the neighborhood kids in that area because in stead of going a long way from their house to another skatepark further ahead they can just have one right down the street. Knowing the area of where the park is it can help the young adults from getting into trouble when they can just go to the skatepark and relax themselves.

Thank you for reading my ideas!

: Crystal Garcia

Dear Mr. Donelon,

Hello my name is Kelly Puma. I live on Mira Mar and Stearns. I've lived in Long Beach for 13 years. The closest park near my house is Stearns, there aren't any skate ramps, so I was wondering if you could build some there for all of the other kids to participate in enjoying what they like to do. That is all I ask.

THANK

YOU!

Sincerely,
Kelly Puma ☺

Dear Mr. Donelon,

I live in a very bad and ghetto neighborhood filled with gang & violence. My neighbors told me that 2 years ago a kid was shot on my street. I believe that if you put a skatepark in Long Beach it would dramatically reduce crime rates. If you put a competition in that skatepark once a month and the prize was atleast 200-300\$ it would attract more teenagers and get more people to skate it will also get kids to stay away from drugs & gangs.

Sincerely,

Chey Kong

Brianna Gutierrez

Period 3

02/25/11

(Skateboard)

Dear Mr. Donelon

My name is Brianna Gutierrez and I am 13 years old. I live in Long Beach between the streets of Walnut Avenue and Cherry Avenue.

Long Beach is filled with little kids that love to play in the streets. There is a lot of gang violence and shootings. All this makes my neighborhood a bad area. The kids and teenagers like to skateboard, but they have to skate in the streets.

In the streets lots of accidents happen because kids need a place to skate and have fun. The kids would really like a skatepark near their home. They would have their own skate gear so they can have fun. They are always in the streets not being careful so they would really appreciate a nice skatepark for them to hang out and skate. Long Beach is a big city and no one knows what is gonna happen and when, so that's why a safe place to have your children is at a skatepark not streets. Thank you for your time, and I hope you consider to open a new skatepark for the neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Brianna Gutierrez

JUSTIN RILEY
Period. 1
Ms. Moreno

Skateboarding Community

Dear Mr. DeLeon (skateboarder)

What Long Beach can do to help us teenagers in the Community.

In the Long Beach Community us teenagers need place go, Instead of getting into trouble. We need More Recreation parks or fundraise. To help us help kids can do jobs or Community Service, and Cans & Bottles atleast it will help bring money to There's about 50% of skateboarders need SKATEPARKS!!! And we need more in better hoods.

Sincerely, Justin Riley

Skidwaria
2-20-11
per. 3

Dear Mr. Donelon,

I like skateboarding it's fun. I also like the skate parks, but I don't like my mom, or cousins to drive to Santa Ana, Laguna beach and other places to a skate park. I really would like to have skate parks in Long Beach so I don't have to drive out of the freaking city. Can you please make some skate parks.

Long Beach

Hi Mr. Mike Donelon my name is Martin Arzola and I am 14 years old. I live in 1530 Junipero Ave. Long Beach Cal. and I go to school at Jefferson Leadership Academies. I have been living in long beach for 11 years and I think is a great place to live because we have a lot of good people, and we have a beach close by. However, it can be a better city if u read my idea and make it happen.

Mr. Mike Donelon I have an idea to make Long Beach a great city. You should put more in the street because the biggest problem in Long Beach is GANG VIOLENCE. You put more police because I am tired of seeing do many innocent people dead. I also want to see more police in the street because I don't want to see any of my friends killed by Gang Members. I lost a family member because of Gang Violence his name was Jonathan Cordova you guys might have heard of him because he came out in the news. I also don't want any family to suffer as much as our family had to suffer.

Thank you for reading my idea and I hop you liked it. I would really appreciate if you make my idea happen so that every person in Long Beach could live a better life in this great city.

Sincerely
Martin Aertzola

- Fernando
Martinez

Period 5

was Goud "Mr. Dope" in words
to explain to you how can "Long Beach"
make a better life for me and my
bro's, Dance Crew. Will don't state or none
but its keep alot of kids out trouble and
if you make more state parks in our city
its can keep them very active safe. Like I told
you that im in a dance crew we always like
to go around a battle against other crews but
we always make a battle in the streets. And

I think it would be done for us to
have a place to take indoors also well
have alot of other centers in our
city to help a place to go to if they
want some. we can be a great city by
keeping all kids off the streets stop
them from doing wrong stuff by having
something they want in our city. Will be
better if long beach had safety all
around our city.

Dear Mr. Doan

Thank you for keeping the city of Long Beach and it's skateboarders safe by putting up skate parks. With the more skate parks more skateboarders want have to skate in dangerous areas. People in vehicles may not see or just dont care if they hit pedestrians on bike, skate boards or just walking. That is why we should have more skate parks so people could ride a bike or skateboard or just hang out. Equipment should be given to a certain amount of people who has good grades in school, help the community and the people in it. The skate parks will not just help the skateboarders but the community itself.

Sincerely,

Solomon Wina III

Pojo Jose
period 4

Date
2/25/11

State Board (Mr. Jones)

Hi my name is Jose and I want to change in long Beach. We need state parts in the same places. In long Beach we have some parts in which the people go to play and to exercise. The children go to the park to play with their friends different sports or with their family to pass more time with they. I like long Beach because I like go to the parks, and to the beach, or to the school. I live in the cherry-14th

Thank you for you attention.

Sincerely, Jose Pojo

Dear Mr Donegan,

I think the community needs to improve on skate parks. The reason why I think this is because children need them so that they can have fun. Sometimes people get hurt and break something. I think maybe that's why I think they should make knee pads, leg pads and a helmet. The skate parks are for people so that they can go with their friends and skate. I know the skate parks take a while to build, but those who like to skate can wait. The students must take a skate class to be safe, so in that case they can get awarded and get a helmet. Maybe doing work in the community, like cleaning streets, picking up trash they can earn the knee pads. I hope you listened to what I had to say

Sincerely,

Milka Valle

Dear Mr. Mike Jones:

I am not a writer but I know many different artists. See people who use a passion of an activity are all a artist. I wrote this letter because I need you to hear what I have to say.

Long Beach is my city, Long Beach is a great city, Long Beach does great things. I love Beach because its so beautiful and its people are all supportive and its schools are all different in their own way. Skaters/Artist have potentials to do many thing and become very famous and they could get their money. If you could do more for the skaters of Long Beach. I want to be a baker/Artist for the last 6 years. My idol is Buddy Lascaro and I know every one has a idol. We need safer places for the skaters of Long Beach. Dont you want Long Beach, CA the hometown of famous people. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,


Kaison Amari

Hello Mr. Donelson,

My name is Daisy Machuca, I have lived in Long Beach my entire life. I live on MiraMar and 7th Street. I was at your presentation you showed us at Jefferson Leadership Academies, and, my science teacher Mrs. Moreno said to write an essay saying on how to make Long Beach a better city.

I believe that Long Beach would be a better city if, people would stop littering and be encouraged or rewarded in some way to reduce-reuse-recycle. When people litter it stays in the streets, and when it rains it gets washed down into the drains, ~~at~~ sewers, and oceans that fish could die from contamination of fresh water.

So you will see the difference when people stop littering in our city, you'll see the fresh & clean beaches.

You will also see a change when we the people start reducing-reusing-and recycling. When you think green, you get more green in your pocket or you save green.

So please try to encourage people to not litter and to start reducing-reusing-and recycling. We the people will thank you lots! for encouraging others of this.

p.s. Thank you
for hearing my
opinion and being
concerned.

Sincerely,
Daisy Machuca. C

Jennifer Hernandez

Mr. Donlon we need you to make more skate parks so other people could have fun. There's not a lot of skate parks and almost all the parks should have that. We need you to make life better and have more fun. I hope you make more skate parks.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hernandez

Star Park

2-17-11

Dear Mike Donelon:

My ^{name} name is Halima and I wrote this letter to inform you about our city here in Long Beach, California. There are so many things here to do but the problem is that there are so many kids that are not willing to go or get active and also I seen in my neighborhood that so many kids riding there skateboard without any ramps. So, right now and right now I am telling you to make our living here and our city better with full of new excitement. Therefore, we should build everything from step to step and make it look like the kids should want to skate here. To me I had never seen that many skatepark, I seen only one in the behind they kept on it. It seems very fun but I never went to skate in the skatepark. I am willing to tell you about my ^{opinion} ~~opinion~~ about Long Beach. There are so many graffiti and I want to erase it because some of the graffiti can influence the young ones into doing it and also it can make our community we don't be better to be in spite of I wrote this letter so many times to you and I want my opinion all your time. I hope you can help me with this. I will be happy to hear from you soon.

Sincerely
Halima

Dear,

MR. Mike Donelon

I want to ask you please make
a skate park near my neighborhood
because i am seeing kids skating
on the streets while cars are passing.
I am also seeing kids riding their
skate boards near the schools. Also
there is no skate park where

i live but instead of a skate park
we have a park but there is
no skate riding around. All i want
is just a skate park by
Freeman ave. Please do it for the
Kids.

Sincerely,
Monica

Dear Mr. Donelon,

The city of Long Beach will be better if we had a sign by school that read "Slow down, there's a school near." Also, they should give student discount @ burger stand across from school during school days. I think that would make Long Beach better in my eyes. Thank you for taking your time to read my request to make Long Beach a better place.

Sincerely,
Brianna King

Dear Mr. Donegan,

I think the city of Long Beach would be
BETTER IF there was more places to occupy us,
and maybe if the skaters around my neighborhood
would stop try to say stuff so I don't have to
beat them up. Or go on like a mission
to get my friend skate board back. There is
a lot of violence in my life right now. I always
come out barely hurt or just fine. Well thank
god for that anyway. so yeh if there is more skate parks
I think it would benefit Long Beach because
it lowers the violence in the city.

Sincerely,
Dillion Lach

Dear Mr. Danelon

Thank you for coming to Jefferson Leadership
Academy.

I think you might need to build a little more
skate park's because when I walk around my block or around the
city sometimes I see kids fall off their skateboards and their skateboards
get crushed and destroyed by cars. I think the only skate
park on the street so I'm thinking why not make a little more
skate park if you don't think so but thank you for reading
my letter.

From: Jesus Zambada

Dear Danelon, Grandy

Hey my name is Ashley Vazquez.

I live in Ohio ave. and 17th Street.

I been staying in Long Beach for 13 years.

I go to Orizaba and Signal Hill parks.

I noticed Long Beach can be better if

there was less gang violence. Long

Beach can be better by making more

kicking places and skate parks. Making

more parks can more people be

open.

Sincerely,

ashleyVazquez

Dear Mr. Donelan My Name is Roberto
muñoz I would like to ask if you would like
to build another skate park at main Luther
King. we should have more ramps. You should
make more skate shop next to main Luther
King park. So that all I have to say
about the skate park. Thank for the
other park like the new park at Orzabal
the more shop.

Sincerely Roberto

Dear Mr. Danelon,

I'm from Jefferson Leadership Academies and proudly, I'm an 8th grader!! I saw you at the meeting in the Assembly in the Auditorium. You were very cool and your inspiration give me a good reason to write you this letter.

I seen Long Beach and how it looks because I live here for more than 6 years. Long Beach has been a very hard city to live in with the fights, gangs, and who knows what else, murders? And in my opinion, what I think will help Long Beach be a better city for everyone is if there was more skate-parks for kids so they don't have to hide down illegal places or places that is not even for skating. It really bothers me and its a dis-advantage for them too since if they don't skate correctly, they can get injured or possibly die if they fractured something important. So please listen to my opinion and think about it.

Sencery,

Linda Pal

Saul Pireon
Per

11/1/2014

Skate Board!

To Make the streets more safe for the Skateboards
Because most of the Parents Dont let
There kids go out with there skate boards
Because there has been alot of kids Ranek
over with there skateboard. Also alot of parents
want there kids to stay out of gangs, They rather
want them to skate. So please try to make
more skate parks in Long Beach. We also
want kids to have a chance to show there
skills and feel proud of themselves. My
Neighborhood is very Dangours alot of
smooting and gang fight also Drive
bys and alot of others I live in Spaulding. I always
see alot of my nieghboors riding skate boards.
I think my nieghboorhood needs alot
of help. I hope you can help. So please
Mr Damon Try to make Long Beach
a safe place for all the skate Baders.

Jerry Hy

Dear Mr. Donelon,

My name is Jerry Hy and there should be more skate park in Long beach, because there is lots of skateboarder and jerry biker in Long beach. We should have skate park so skater won't skate in private property or skate on broken glass or rocks you can fall.

Sincerely Jerry Hy

Carrillo, Yesenia
Period, 112

2-25-11

~~2-25-11~~

Dear, Mr. Donelon

My name is Yesenia Carrillo and I live on Temple. And I wish there was more parks for ~~the~~ the little kids can play in the playground. And why don't police do good things not bad things. And why don't they put free BUS PASSED And why don't they need more stores to buy more things at the stores. And why don't the pool be good to people.

I will like to see more parks and stores more parks for the kids

Sincerely, Yesenia Carrillo

Eddie Enclso
Per 1. 2/23/11

Skate Parks!

Dear Mr. Mike Donelon.

I think we should have skate parks in Long Beach because. It will help kids and teenagers stay out of trouble and keep them active. If we have skate parks people will start having more fun in Long Beach.

It would be a good idea to have skate parks. It's a good idea because skaters in Long Beach don't have a lot of spots to skate at. Well we do but skaters go skate where they are not supposed to skate at. We get tickets when we skate in city spots so it will help us if we get skate parks in Long Beach.

Jacob Ramos

Dear Mr. Donelan,

I don't skateboard much, but I think you doing the right thing. Skate Parks made violence alot. Beside I know many kids enjoy it. It is a good idea. Long Beach was a very violence place. There were many gangs and kids in them to. but when skateboarding was not allowed in the streets it was a good idea to make a skate park because in the streets people can get hurt or can get in trouble. Many kids at skate parks can be very talented. Like Tony Hawk, kids sometimes skate together and forget about something so what because they love skating. Skating means alot for kids and teenagers. Long Beach and Los Angeles both are great. In Los Angeles I think is more dangerous. but I think that there are skate parks there and that those skate parks help kids to be safe and probably stop of gangs. So every kid deserve it. So Hope you get what you want to be a loving man.

Sincerely Jacob Ramos.

Dear Mr. Donelon,

My name is Hugo Vasquez. I go to JLA and I have lived in Long Beach for my whole life. I believe Long Beach is an amazing city, but I think the city should open a new skate shop near where I live. I live on 10th and Redondo and the ~~only~~ nearest skate shop is really far and I do skateboard. I got my first board in 5th grade. I would really appreciate it if you do build a new skate shop near my area.

Thank you for reading. P.S. I wrote the extra stuff about me because you have to know a little bit about someone

before you do something. Sincerely,
Hugo Vasquez :D

for them.



Dear Mr. Donaland

Hello, my name is Rebeca Valle and I live on 14st and Junipero. I been living in Long Beach for 14 years. I go to Drizaba and Signal Hill parks. In the passed years I have noticed that there is alot of violence and gang related. To much drugs passing on through generation. It is ruining are lives and neighborhoods. I am shurly positive that if you guys do more stuff for the community. All the violence, not all of the viol^{ence} because some people are rellly bad and lost but some kids will be thankful. I am shure that I will be thankful for the rest of my life.

Sincerely, Rebeca Valle.

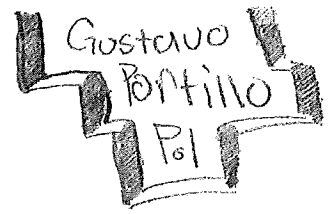
Dear Mr. Donelon

My name is Danny Vargas, I am 14 and I live on Cortner and 226th Street. It is right on the border of Long Beach and Hawaiian Gardens. I was born in Long Beach and lived here ever since I was born.

I skateboard and I also DJ. When I want to skate I usually go to El Dorado Skatepark to go skate and it is a good park. I like Long Beach because it's just a nice and fun city to live in. What I like most about it is that when I'm skating the streets, there's always a spot to skate up, and I like most of the smooth concrete to skate on the sidewalks.

I am not really sure what the yellow dotted square things on the corner of the streets but I'm guessing it's for so when it is raining people waiting to cross the street won't slip and fall. Maybe you can send fliers to educate us about it. I'm sure some of us are wondering what their for.

I think Long Beach can be better by having lights in the ground on the corner of the streets so when it's dark outside, people will know to watch out for the street and so they know it's the corners. I've also seen in other cities they have little red lights around the stop signs so it can make it easier to see the stop sign from a distance so you would know when to stop. These are some of my ideas so ~~let~~ hope it helps out the city. Sincerely, Danny Vargas.



There are many problems in Long Beach and one of them is skateboards. People built skateparks far away from people who really like skateboarding. So I think you should built skateparks in smaller streets. Then more people are going to skate.

Sincerely,
Gustavo

Carrie Jom
period 1
Feb. 23, 2011

Dear Mr. Donelon

The city of Long Beach can make life better for all of us if we have more skateparks around. I live on Stanley Ave. and there's people on my street who like to skate down the street but, they get interrupted whenever cars come to pass by. Having skateparks gets teenagers out of doing anything bad and staying above the influence. It can make the world a better place. Most people like to skateboard, ride bikes, and do triks, but most places they ride, they can't. These places are usually private property and the teenagers get kicked out. The people on my street have nowhere to skate because the streets are dangerous and some people ride and the sidewalk where a lot of people and kids walk. Making skateparks would make a great change. Long Beach is a good place but it can be better if we change bus prices and have more crosswalks on the busy streets. I think the bus is \$1.10, it should be changed to at least one dollar. Thank, you.

Sincerely,
Carrie Jom

1:23 Pm

2-26-11

Dear, Mr. Donelon

The city of Long Beach can have mandatory workshops for people who get in trouble with the city and for gangs. I say this will help I and my family because it will eventually keep them off the streets and my family and friends and the people I know won't be getting killed due to gang violence like it already has happened.

By workshops I mean telling and showing videos about gangs and how they will end up, and how they will feel about killing people and other gangs. When gang members kill it's either because their family members have been in gangs and had killed one because it's how they grew up and seen or it's because of the influence of other gangs. Gang members never think about the people they kill's family and how they're going to deal with it or how they are going to pay for their funeral. So that's my solution on how to make I and my family safer in the neighborhood.

Sincerely, Jonathan Toro
Jonathan Toro

Adorian P-3
Marcano

Dear Mr. Donelon,

Many of my friends are skateboarders and they always wanted a big skatepark cause they would think it will be cool. I think it will be a good investment if u make a big skatepark because it will get kids out of trouble , they won't do drugs, and will get better grades in school. I don't skateboard but I love watching it its cool and fun my favorite skateboarder is Andrew Renolds, I like when he olies over stairs and big stuff. But if you make a big skatepark many people will look up to you and will make basketball courts, football fields and ect.

From, Adorian Marcano

Dear Mr. Dunnellon,

My name is Karen Orozco I attend Jefferson leadership Academy, I am 14 years old, and live on Stanley and PCH. I have grown up in Long Beach my whole life and have seen many improvements over the years. Yet, it lacks the necessary steps to over all make Long Beach a better place. Long Beach needs more social places for us kids to interact with one another. Yes there are plenty parks all around Long Beach, but not too many where you are allowed to skateboard. There are many places where skate boarding is not allowed, kids get in trouble for skating or loitering. Long Beach needs more skate parks and public places four kids to hang out in. I appreciate the time taken to read this and hope to one day see a change in our community.

Thank you

Sincerely, Karen Orozco

Dear Mr. Donelon,

To start off, my name is Prajnia Sang and I am a boy. I've been in Long Beach all my life. I have things to tell you that can help out my community and Long Beach.

First, I would like to say is that the skate parks is really going to help out my community. The people who live around my area are skaters, most of them just skate on the streets and make ramps out of whatever they can find. But, now thanks to you they are going to have a legitimate place to skate and call part of Long Beach.

Next, I would like to tell you is that can you help us skaters persuade schools to let us bring skateboards. Not all us kids have bikes or families who can take us to school. So, we would be thankful if were allowed to bring our boards because it is way better then walking and many of us are for skating. All I can say is that I hope you are able to accomplish this for us. Thanks

Sincerely,

Prajnia Sang
P.S.

Dear Mr. Denelon

Hello, I'm Jasmine I didn't get a chance to see your presentation but I did hear about it by my science teacher;

I think that in Long Beach we need more school busses that will take us back and forth to school because people just like me, want to go to a school far away from my home but most likely they won't let me go because of where I live. I know that it may be hard to do because of the low-money that we have right now but it doesn't have to happen at this moment but 😊 I do hope that it happens soon.

Thank you for listening to me and my idea.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Oregon

Dear, Mrs. Dorelan

I know what you are trying to do for the community and I really do like it but I have some other ideas. Oh and by the way I am a student from Jefferson middle school and I am here to tell you my advice on this.

First of all lets put skateboards aside I would like to talk about places were you can skate around the city because every time I look up theres a sign that says no skates aloud and they really make me angry. So much that it encourages me to give up on ever finding a place were I can skate. I was wondering since you create parks how about one for skates and skateboards.

Sincerely

Joshua snell

Dear Mr. Donelon,

My name is Sammy and I'm an eighth grader that goes to Jefferson Leadership Academies. In this letter I am going to talk about the problems I see in my neighborhood and in the city. I'm also going to explain the solutions I have come up with.

Firstly, I'm going to talk about all the trash and food bits I see in the streets. Personally I don't like seeing people throw food in the streets because I don't want birds to start flying around and pooping everywhere like at my school.

Sincerely,
Sammy Nget

Dear,
Mr. Donelon.

February 24, 2011

My name is Jesus Valadez, and I got a few things to tell you. I think you should give free skating equipment to students who volunteer in their community and any where else. For some examples they can do some beach cleaning, they can help plant plants and flowers in the park, they can do service by going to the retirement home and a lot of other stuff. So are you willing to give helmets, knee pads, and elbow pads to people who care about are city?

Sincerely,
Jesus Valadez



Dear Mr Donelson,
 My name is Stephan Tipaz, I go to a middle school called "Jefferson". I wouldn't really want anything to change. I would like Long Beach to stay the same as it is. Its kinda annoying when they make a few changes in Long Beach or anywhere else. I like long beach just the way it is. Well thats all I got to say.

Sincerely,
 Stephanie
 Tipaz

On second thought, maybe you could think about:

2nd Thought:

- go to the movies for free on ~~Saturdays~~ if we make good grades.
- when you go to a fun place like ~~keets~~ or somewhere, when its your birthday you could go in for FREE! and buy anything you want for free - at least once a year for



Alex Flores

Dear Mr. Donelson,

2/25/11

My name is alex flores and I live in olive avenue. Its an OK place but its to much of a gang place. My family and I would like a more cleaner. Its dirty because a building across from me had a bug infested spot so it had to be de-bugged by gas. Me and my family have bikes but there is inardly any bike lane on the streets, so its hard to go by. Long beach would be better with bike lanes. One last thing is that long beach should have more community activities. Thanks for reading.

Sincerely,
Alex Flores

Karla Manzo 9)

Period 4

2/25/11

Dear Mr. Dabelon My name is Karla Manzo. And I attend to J.F.M. I'm 13 years old and I live on 2nd Street. I would like you guys to give us free buss Passes. That if we have good grades I take the buss everyday to go to school and to come back home. It would help us and are parents alot if we had free buss Passes. *p And I hope we do soon, because \$1.250 every time we take the buss is just to much. It would help us and are parents alot. Thanks! 9)

Sincerely:- Karla Manzo. =)

ZOR SOU
PERIOD/3
FEBRUARY, 25

Dear Mr. Doneion,

My name is Zor and I say we should have skate parks in Long Beach. Well my initial reason is that all skater will play in one place in stead of messing up private property or hurting themselves playing in the street. Furthermore people doesn't make a gang relative skate crew and hang out on public and probelly beat up other skaters who probelly goes to their property. My most significant reason is that so when you play in the skate park you dont fall by a rock or wood. I want real big skate park so all the skaters can play all together and do challengers, the reason why I want to get a skate park is because skaters dont get mad riding on the street and get mad of other skaters who goes to their street.

Sincerely,

ZOR SOU

Blanca, Deleon
PERH
02/25/11

MR. DONELON

Hi my name is Blanca, Deleon I live in Long Beach, in St. Louis and 10th. I been living in Long beach about 14 years, well seen's I was born. I was thinking that if you guys can make a skate park for the offen kids and give them free skate boards so they wont feel left out. most of the offen kids feel left out already because their parents abanded them and left them in a offen care for what ever reason they have, maybe is because their parents couldnt take care of ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~it~~ ^{or they were drug addicts} but see the kids want understand and always have in their hearts that nobody loves them of cares about them. But see if you guys make them a skate park they will know that somebody does care if their happy or not. You guys can do a play ground for the little kids and a skate park for the older kids. I hope you liked my paragrah and made you think about the offen kids. Thank you for reading what i had to say;) <3

SINCERELY,
Blanca, Deleon

Christopher Cuevas
Per 1
2-22-11

Skatepark

Dear Donelson

Today in Long Beach there have been a lot of crimes. Most of the criminals are under 18. So we need a solution. Also kids at home can do their homework but after that they go to watch tv until they go to sleep.

The skatepark can be a solution for criminals. One reason is that they might like skateboarding but there is nowhere to skate so they start to do some crimes. Also the kids that are in their house can be more active and go outside to do sports. Also in the skateparks they are a lot of kids so it helps kids get friendlier with different kind of people. That's how skateparks can help Long Beach and kids.

Those were some solutions why skateparks should be built. They can help kids stay off tv, and teenagers stay out of crimes. Again Long Beach can be a more better community if we work together as a community and help kids and teenagers do what they like. That is going to help me to stay off tv too.

Thank you for helping
Long Beach.

Sincerely, Christopher
Cuevas.

2-23-11

Dear, Mr. Donelon

Hello, my name is Sarah Margis. How are you doing today? I live here in the beautiful city of Long Beach C.A, right around the corner on eleventh and Raymond Ave. I can proudly say I have lived in my home for a little more than ten years now. So the reason I am writing this letter is to not just say hello, but to explain to you my ideas on how we can improve our beautiful, and amazing city. We need to have speed bumps added around our city. I say this, because I have seen the need more and more everyday down my street as I look out my screen door all the time. The reason my concern is so big is, because I know that many small children live down my street, and love to run around, but it is hard for parents to just sit back and relax when your children's lives are endanger of speeding vehicles while playing a nice little game of tag. Also, down my street it's difficult for skateboarders to skate. So most kids who enjoy boarding are unable to, because of the bumpy sidewalks and streets. So I ask you the man with all the power to help me and my idea make our city even more amazing then it already is. This will also make skateboarders happier to live in Long Beach where there streets aren't preventing teens from doing what they do best "Skateboard".

P.S: Thank you for your concern,
And I appreciate you caring to
Hear my opinion.

Sincerely,
Sarah Margis
8th grade Ms. Moreno 6th period ☺

2/25/11

Dear: Donelin

Hi. My name is Juan Arriaga. I'm a student from Ms. Moreno class at Jefferson Middle School. I have lived in Long Beach for 3 years. I saw people that use drugs and sell drugs in the skate parks. I think the parks need more security. Also, people throw trash on the ground. I want the parks to be clean and safe. Please put more security in the parks.

Thank you,

sincerely,

Juan Arriaga

Dear Mr. Donelon

I am Kentae Russell and I attend to Jefferson Leadership Academies. I was there at the presentation that you guys hosted at my school. We have a problem in Long Beach. Now it may not be the biggest problem we have, but it should be recognized. It's Street Vandalism/Graffiti. Now Long Beach is a very nice place but when there is tagging on our walls we don't look as nice. And it doesn't make any sense for the city to send people out to clean walls, when they can be fixing our streets & making them look better. Or building small parks close to your home so people can get involved in positive activities. So an solution so this can stop,

happening is maybe all teens around
Long Beach should serve at least 1-2 hrs
after school, maybe two times a week
to do positive things for the community.
And maybe street vandalism/graffiti
on our walls will decrease.

Sincerely yours,
Kentae R.

Dear Mr. Donlon

My name is Mayra Gutierrez I am 14 years old and I go to Jefferson Leadership Academy. I live on Locust and Pine and its a good area but people are not responsible. There is shooting and graffiti around so most of the time people are inside their homes. I want to make a difference and a change for Long Beach and teenagers. Some teenagers get in trouble by police because there graffitiing or stealing. So when I saw your presentation and I wanted to make Long Beach a better place for everyone. I think there should be a skatepark around Pine and Locust where teenagers can skateboard and have fun. Also they can show their tricks and try to do other tricks that they didn't know. They will learn lots of things each day.

 turn to the back

There shouldn't just be a skate park around my house there should be skate park in every body's neighborhood. I thought of an idea like there are bike lanes there should be skateboard lanes so they won't crash in people. Thank you Mr. Donelon and Tony Hawk for what you done for all of us we really appreciate it. We like the skate park you did and we hope we keep on doing some more.

Sincerely,
Mayra Gutierrez

Long Beach

Site

DEAR: MRS. TIVE DOWN
MY NAME IS TANIA GALINDO I AM 15 YEARS
OLD I LIVE IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH IN THE
STREETS OF DOWNSIDE I'VE BEEN LIVING HERE
FOR A VERY LONG TIME BUT THEN I MOVED
SOMEWHERE ELSE THEN I CAME BACK TO
LONG BEACH. HONESTLY I THINK LONG BEACH IS
A REALLY NICE CITY BUT WE CAN MAKE IT NICER.
LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOLS SHOULD HAVE
A LOT OF SECURITY. THE REASONS WHY IS
AROUND 13 TEENS START BECOMING POTHEADS.
THEY GET TOO ADDICTED TO DRUGS AND THEN
SOME TEENS DROP OUT OF SCHOOL OR
THEY GET KICKED OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE
THEY GET CAUGHT FOR BRINGING DRUGS
BECAUSE THEY WANT TO DO THINGS THAT
THEIR FRIENDS ARE DOING. THEY THINK IT'S
COOL BUT IT'S NOT THAT JUST GETS
YOU NOWHERE. THE SCHOOLS SHOULD HAVE
PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS
TO NOT BE FOLLOWERS, TO BE LEADERS.
THERE ARE SOME MORE REASONS WHY
SHOULD BE CHANGES IN LONG BEACH.
THERE SHOULD BE A LOT OF POLICE OFFICERS
IN THE PARKS OR ANYWHERE TO SECURE
THE KIDS BECAUSE THERE'S A LOT OF SICK
PEOPLE WHO RAPE GIRLS OR KIDNAP THE

The kids and teens. That way if there's Police in the Parks the sick people won't hurt the children. We should also recycle plastic bottles. It would also be good for all people to NOT throw plastic bags or trash in the ocean. It could affect the sea animals. They should have more recycling trash cans so the trash won't get in the ocean. Other problems in Long Beach is that there's a lot of drunk drivers.

There's a lot of drunk drivers. There's a lot of accidents going on. They should have more driving checks. People smoke a lot and it affects kids especially when you smoke in front of them.

There should be more laws to not smoke. If we put all our time and sweat in it we can make Long Beach a better and a safe place to live in. Imagine how many things we can do to help make our city. We can feel great about our city being nice. There should also be classes to support the kids who need help. That way kids can be distracted.

and they can get out of trouble.
long beach can be as pretty as
we imagine it.

- Sincerely Tania Galindo

MALIBU BEACH

A BETTER PLACE

TO LIVE IN:

[DON'T LITTER]:

"RECYCLE" ▼ "Reduce: Reduce:

RECYCLE ▼ LONG BEACH" ♥

I ♥ LB 43