

## **5. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT**

### **“WHAT’S THE BIG IDEA”**

Students from Room 11 at Parkview Primary School were in attendance to address the Board on their research project into the feasibility of a skate park in the Parklands area. The class began by brainstorming community issues in the Parklands area, resulting in data that showed the six most important issues. From here the class wrote to its local Councillors, Gail Sheriff and Carole Evans, who met with the class and the Parks Management Planning Officer. The class also liaised with Simon Fenwick, a landscape architect, who made a site visit and drew up concept plans for a skate park.

The class then interviewed 271 residents, of whom 250 supported the idea of a skate park. The class then wrote to the school principal and the Board of Trustees outlining its proposal and received positive responses from them. The next step in the process was to interview other children, 80% of whom were interested in skateboarding and the concept of a skate park in the Parklands area. The children concluded by highlighting four points in support of the facility:

1. That Parklands has the highest percentage of youth per capita in the city.
2. That graffiti is a problem in the area and a graffiti wall in the skate park would be a good idea too.
3. The idea is supported by the wider community.
4. The project is viable.

The Board was delighted with the thorough research undertaken by the students and congratulated them on their excellent presentation.