

To the Mayor and Council,

Re: Light Installation at Whistler Fitzsimmons Bike Park.

My Name is Mick Svajgr and I'm a full time mountain bike trail builder and have contributed to helping maintain the Whistler Fitzsimmons Bike Park. The last 10 years of riding and digging here I've become very involved with the biking community at the Bike Park.

In this Email I would like to talk to you about some changes that could be made to this skills park that would benefit the community using this area. We were hoping the Municipality of Whistler could install Lights in the skills park just like the skate park which has been proven a great success. I would like to mention that at the moment the dirt jumps are becoming more and more known globally as they are maintained at such a high standard by professionals in the community. Having good quality dirt and a watering system goes a long way in keeping the place running at a high standard.

The main reason for this proposal is because the safest time to ride the skills park is later in the day just as the sun is setting. This is because there is no wind during this time. The jumps are very dangerous if not impossible to ride during windy conditions throughout the day. Additionally, the area is exposed to the sun during the day which makes it unbearable to ride during the very hot summer days. Therefore the optimal time to ride is in the evening when there is no wind and it is cooler, although this only allows for a small window for safe riding. This gets reduced when the nights become darker earlier. Over the years, there have been many injuries due to those that continue riding after it gets dark. I understand as it's really hard to stop riding when everyone's having a good time and conditions are good. The jumps aren't monitored throughout the night, so more risk can occur during this time. The community has witnessed the benefits of the introduction of lights in this skatepark, with users being able to stay there without a time limit. This opened up more time for those to pursue more time doing skate park related sports. With Whistler being a mountain bike community, lights could allow more time for the local community to progress and ride for longer. I would also like to mention that the skatepark lights are on a 1 hour timer that gets reset by a button placed on one of the light posts. The purpose of the timer is to keep the lights off when the parks are not in use. To avoid any injuries, due to the lights turning off all at once while people are riding, they added one light post that turns off 1 minute before the rest to inform people the timer is about to run out. That way we can press the button again if we desire to keep riding for another hour. This system has also been proven to work very well and should be added to the dirt jumps.

For that reason I wanted to take the initiative to write you this email explaining the importance of the lights for the skills park. I have included in this email pictures of the suggested locations of the lights that would best benefit the park in the most efficient way, lighting up both jumps, landings and the pump track to keep any unwanted shadows/hazards. I believe it would be best to use the same lights as the skate park as they do an excellent job of lighting it enough to safely ride.

Also, I have attached a word document with a list of 150+ emails of people from the community who have been in agreement that this would be a useful addition to the area.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this email.

we look forward to hearing back from you :)

sincerely, Mick Svajgr and the biking community