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Spenard gets skate park



After a year in the making, Spenard's skate park finally opened. (Shawn Wilson/KTUU-TV)

by Heather Balderson
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ANCHORAGE, Alaska -- It's been over a year in the making and today a popular new attraction finally debuted in Spenard. The Spenard skate park opened next to the Spenard Recreation Center.

The idea came after other Anchorage parks suffered from criminal activity and drug problems that the community hopes to change.



Jason Bergerson, president, Spenard Community Council (Shawn Wilson/KTUU-TV)

It has developed the Skate Park Leadership Advisory Team or SPLAT, which will set the rules for the new park and monitor activity. The park will also have regular security and the rec center hopes to install a webcam so parents can log on and keep an eye on their kids.

"It's incredibly important to have healthy, recreational activities available for the youth. This is an extension of the work that we're already doing through the rec center. It's hopefully the beginning of a series of new skate parks that will go up around the community," said Jason Bergerson, president, Spenard Community Council.

The entire project cost about \$330,000, which came largely from state funding. It also relied heavily on volunteer labor.

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