



Find your **FUN**, find your *smile* at [springfieldparks.org](http://springfieldparks.org)

### GENERAL OFFICE

**Bunn Park**  
2500 South 11th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703

[springfieldparks.org](http://springfieldparks.org)

Phone | 217 544-1751

Fax | 217 544-1811

### ADMINISTRATION

**Derek Harms, CPRP**  
Executive Director

**Jason Graham**  
Director of Parks  
& Planning

**Stephen H. Flesch, CPA**  
Director of Finance  
& Administration

**Lynn Saputo, CPRP**  
Director of Recreation  
& Marketing

**Amanda Weaver**  
Asst. Director of Recreation  
& Marketing

### TRUSTEES

**Leslie A. Sgro**  
President

**Robin Schmidt**  
**C.J. Metcalf**  
**Lisa Badger**  
**Kris Theilen**  
**Nancy Eck**  
**Mallory Beck**

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Amanda Weaver  
Date: June 14, 2021  
Phone: (217) 544-1751 ext. 1014

## SPRINGFIELD PARK DISTRICT TO CUT THE RIBBON TO NEW SKATE PARK AT ILES PARK WITH PROFESSIONAL SKATEBOARDERS



Iles Park, Springfield, IL 62703 | 2000 S 6<sup>th</sup> Street | GPS 39.7800254, -89.6467175

**[Springfield, IL]** – The Springfield Park District (SPD) is pleased to cut the ribbon to the Iles Park Skate Park, yet another component of the Iles Park redevelopment project. The redevelopment project includes the installation of a new 8-foot-wide ADA accessible walking paths, new parking lot on the east side of the park, art walk, renovations to existing baseball and softball infield, new fencing, large community sized playground, new site furnishings, litter cans, recycle cans, bike rack, picnic tables, benches, landscaping, native tree and bioswale installation.

SPD was a recipient of a \$400,000 OSLAD Grant administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. OSLAD matching grant funds are providing 85 park and recreation agencies throughout the state the ability to acquire open space, develop existing parks or improve recreational facilities and the Springfield Park District would like to recognize the privilege of receiving one of the grants! These OSLAD funds, combined with \$400,000 in Park District Capital Improvement funds will assist in completing a long-awaited redevelopment within and around Iles Park as part of the District's Comprehensive Master Plan.

The skate park was built as a centrally located skate park for skaters of all ability levels. It has multiple ramps, half pipes, rails, ledges, stairs, manny pad, and a flat bar that was designed in partnership with the local skating community. The SPD has planned to further this redevelopment and construct an adjoining plaza including a gathering area, seating area, shade structure and a spectator viewing area.

These renovations, expansion to the greenspace, and additional recreational opportunities will be a wonderful compliment to the most recently renovated Pickleball Courts at Iles Park. The improvements will enhance the experience of the patrons who walk, enjoy their lunch hours at Iles and most importantly, will have a profound impact on the families, children and neighborhood associations that surround this picturesque historic park near Springfield's southeast side.

**We are excited to cut the ribbon to this brand-new skate park at Iles Park on Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at Noon with the following Skateboarders: Randy Ploesser – Professional Skateboarder for Send Help Skateboards, Max Wheeler- Amateur Skateboarder for WKND Skateboards, and Alex Kehoe - Amateur Skateboarder for Send Help Skateboards.**



*Photo Courtesy of Michael Stanfield*

Immediately following the ribbon cutting from 12:30pm-1:00pm, there will be a Professional Skateboard Demo and General Public Session where the community is invited to come out and skate with these professional skateboarders.



Find your **FUN**, find your *smile* at [springfieldparks.org](http://springfieldparks.org)

*"This new skate park is a great addition to Iles Park. It will provide the neighborhood and community a wonderful place to enjoy the skate park together by having fun, making new friends, and developing new skills. We are excited to present this new skate park and invite the community to join us!"* – **states Leslie Sgro, President of the Springfield Park District Board of Trustees**

Plan to join us on Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 12pm to cut the ribbon to the skate park and test it out for yourselves!

###

For more information on this topic and any other Park District news related items, please visit our Website at [www.springfieldparks.org](http://www.springfieldparks.org)