

Skaters for Moore is a 501c3 charitable organization. Our mission is to advocate on behalf of the local community and build a permanent, safe, and fun public skatepark in Moore County, for the families, youth, action sports enthusiasts of the Sandhills & beyond, both young and old. We plan to provide a safe, fun environment to practice this Olympic sport along with other alternative sports, such as bicycling, rollerblading, and more. We will accomplish this with grassroots fundraisers, corporate sponsorships, grants, and other public funding sources.

We are a grassroots organization, that began in 2005, by parents, business owners, and skateboarders, united in the cause of advocating for the building of a skate park for Moore County & the surrounding areas. From 2006-2009, after rejection of the idea on both municipal and county levels, Skaters for Moore ran a not-for-profit skate park based in Pinebluff, NC that served over 300+ registered skateboarders and other alternative sports enthusiasts upon its close. It was run privately, by donations and admission fees paid for use of the park. Unfortunately, it closed in early 2009 after the economy collapsed. We have reformed, as we feel now is the time, to once again advocate for a permanent solution to this unaddressed issue in Moore County.

Starting in July 2019, a petition, circulated by local youth skateboarder, Jack Kelley, which has now garnered over 2000 signatures both on paper and online. With that in mind, Skaters for Moore has taken the initiative to host meetings, with our first being held in August 2020, to build a coalition of local citizens, youth and family members that want to see this built in our community. We are recruiting those outside the community, such as the Friends of the Skateparks Foundation, based in Fayetteville, NC, a non-profit instrumental in helping get the new \$1.2 million skate park at Rowan Park in Fayetteville built, in addition to parks in both Elizabethtown and Myrtle Beach. They bring expertise and contacts in the skateboarding community as well as contacts with professional contractors experienced in building skate parks across the country. Skaters for Moore representatives are also taking the initiative to reach out to community leaders, town officials, and others that would be responsible for helping in the decision-making processes that would help bring this to fruition. We have held multiple successful community fundraising events, sponsorship campaigns, and in November 2023 we received a \$200,000 matching grant from the Moore County Convention and Visitors Bureau, to see this project through to completion. We will break ground in August of 2024 with completion by December 31st 2024. Upon completion Southern Pines Park and Recreation will maintain the park. This time around, we will see a permanent, concrete structure built, that will serve Moore County and the surrounding areas for decades to come.

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