

# 2020 Winter Town Hall

## Breakout Sessions - Public Park Advocacy Notes with Caitlin Pontrella ([caitlin@uspk.org](mailto:caitlin@uspk.org))

Interested in the design and construction of public spaces, parks, and policies that support parkour.

**Goals:** Gauge interest in park building, understand current challenges/blocks, identify most valuable forms of support USPK can offer as well as resources that can be created to support initiatives to build.

**Current State:** Who is interested in this? What specifically are you interested in doing? Is there an active initiative in your town to build a parkour park or interest in such an activity?

### ***What would you like to accomplish?***

- See the construction of a park / multi-use space
- Preserve spaces that are good for parkour
- How to connect with other cities & get projects started/communications started
- Who to contact
- How to find funding

### ***What resources do you already have? Biggest opportunities***

- Lesser used spaces such as under freeways
- Get programs into schools
- Build partnerships with government / establish a positive relationship with the city
- High school parkour clubs



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### *Park Advocacy cont.*

**Biggest Challenge:** What feels like the biggest challenge to getting a park built, from a community perspective?

- **Media representation of parkour;** misunderstanding of what it is or who actually participates
- **Intergenerational design is still 'new'** / not accepted / not typical; Teen & adult play is not prioritized by cities or funders/spaces/designers.
- **Niche** - Limited numbers of participation to get behind a project / too niche
- **Need for Security in design** (homeless use or misuse of space); Not understanding how to design for security and multiuse
- **Lack of education / awareness** / understanding by designers & architects
- **Aiming too high too soon** - trying to get a big space built before the community understands what it is / making a right-sized ask

**Biggest Unknown:** *What feels like the biggest unknown as someone organizing? Where do you feel like you have the biggest gap of knowledge when trying to get a park built? What kind of expertise do you wish you could have access to?*



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*Park Advocacy cont.*

**Government Communications & Design Process Insight** - Who to get in contact with? How to communicate effectively with government entities, timelines, and how to follow up.

**How to leverage your community to conduct outreach / garner support?** What methods to collect and represent data helpful? What data already exists? What communities are a part of the “Movement Market” (obstacle course, ninja, calisthenics, cross-fit) (Identifying The Need: The Movement Market - Play: Work)

**Types of Support:** *What type of support could USPKA and our community network provide to support that effort?*

- **Knowledge Community** - Group dedicated to supporting park initiatives nationally
- **Public Park Design Guide Series**
- **Advocacy Support** - Sample presentations about parkour parks & approaches, emails/letter templates
- **Process Education** - 101 educational presentations on government design processes, park design approaches



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