

# Breaking News!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Skatepark Story


### Part 1: Directions

Use the news alerts below to complete the "What I Think Is Happening" column in the table that follows.



**Metro News** 25m ago


**Breaking News: Skatepark Closure**


Meeting agenda indicates Common Sense City Council in secret meetings to close skatepark. Will local skaters be left hanging? Officials have not yet been reached for comment.

 **Sam T**  
19 minutes


My uncle works for the parks department. He says skateparks cost a lot to maintain. He said the park will reopen but he thinks the city will start charging an admission fee.

 Like  Comment

 That's not fair! 😞

 **My Rights** @MyRights • 10m

Skateparks are the latest casualty in a community that doesn't value the outdoors. Here we go again!! Remember the rock wall!! What about our rights???



City council cites traffic concerns in 'No' vote for downtown rock climbing wall  
Metronewsonline.com, 11/20/2011  
💬 2

News Source	What I Think Is Happening	What's Missing or Inaccurate?
Metro News alert	The Common Sense city council is meeting to close the skatepark.	The skatepark is only closing temporarily. The city council was meeting to discuss the repairs that would take place.
Sam T's social media post	The skatepark might not be closing, but they are going to start charging people to use it.	The skatepark is closing but only temporarily, and it will remain free for everyone to use.
@MyRights' feed	The skatepark is closing, and the city doesn't care about people's rights to have outdoor recreation.	The skatepark isn't closing permanently, and the city has done other things to provide people with outdoor recreation.



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## Part 2: Directions

Read the news story below and work with your group to complete the "What's Missing or Inaccurate?" column from Part 1.

### Metro News Update: Skatepark to Remain

By Muriel Ryder, Metro News

Updated at 6:36 p.m. on Friday, August 20

**Metro City (Metro News)**—The Common Sense City Council shared changes last night in the construction plan for the 14th Street Skatepark. A leaked copy of the meeting agenda had park users fearing permanent closure. Last night's announcement clarified that the park would be temporarily closed from March to July while repairs are made to the facility.

"These repairs are part of our city's ongoing commitment to ensure safe spaces for our citizens to enjoy the outdoors," explained Raya Knox, parks commissioner. Knox confirmed that the park would not be expanded for at least two years due to budget shortfalls. "While we are not able to expand the park at this time, we are still dedicated to maintaining a free facility for our users." Knox also noted the city's commitment to outdoor activities, including the miles of bike and walking paths the city has added over the last three years.

## Part 3: Directions

Fill in the blanks below as the teacher reviews the **Critical Eye for Breaking News** tips.

Before reacting, slow down and ...

🔍 **Check** the source. Is the news from a reliable news organization?

★ If not, it may be questionable. See if other news organizations are reporting the same thing.

🔍 **Look** to see if there's more information to come. Does the article mention important details that aren't yet known?

★ If so, it may be better to wait for the whole story before deciding what to think or sharing.

🔍 **Analyze** for bias. Does the author or source organization have an agenda or purpose for talking about the story?

★ If so, look for a different source.

