



## SKATE JONESBORO

---

### **2004 — The Downtown DIY Skatepark**

- In 2004, the local skating community built a skatepark in downtown Jonesboro.
- The project was entirely funded by community donations
- The park offered young people a legitimate, positive outlet in the heart of the city.

### **August 24, 2004 — The Destruction**

- On August 24, 2004, local businessman and property developer Chris Baugh drove a Bobcat machine into the downtown skatepark and destroyed it.
- Baugh owned property directly across the street from the park. He was also a member of the city's parking committee and a board member of the Downtown Jonesboro Association.
- Baugh was arrested and charged with second-degree criminal mischief (a felony) but later took a plea deal to knock it down to a misdemeanor in January 2005.
- The downtown skatepark was rebuilt in DIY fashion with no funds from the city or Chris Baugh. But was later demolished again by the city.

### **2006 — Allen Park Skatepark**

- The city moved to build a proper, permanent concrete skatepark at Allen Park, located at 3609 Race Street, Jonesboro, AR.
- The park was designed and constructed by Grindline Skateparks, Inc. — a nationally recognized Seattle-based concrete skatepark company known for high-quality bowls and street courses.
- Original build specifications:
  - Total area: approximately 7,000 square feet
  - 4,000 sq. ft. concrete bowl

- 3,000 sq. ft. street course
- Note: the original section built by Grindline in 2006 has not been maintained, updated or managed by the city since its construction in 2006.

## **2020-2022 Expansion of Allen Park**

- In 2020, the Allen Park Skate \park underwent its most significant improvement since opening: a major expansion that nearly doubled the facility's footprint.
- Total project cost: \$38,000
- This expansion was not done by Grindline Skateparks Inc. or any other professional skatepark construction company.
- Note: since its construction, the expansion side of the skatepark has not been maintained, updated or managed by the city since its construction in 2022.

## **Present Day (2026)**

- As of today, our skatepark is in dire need of repair, preventative maintenance or a total overhaul
- The difference you can see on the Grindline Skateparks Inc. section and the new expansion is night and day, even when the Grindline Skateparks Inc. section has been there for over 20 years without any maintenance.
- The new expansion concrete slabs are coming apart and chipping away in mass quantities, especially after this last ice storm in early 2026, which are signs that the concrete was not mixed and/or cured correctly.

## **Looking Forward**

- The hope is that skateboarding – once fought over, torn down, and rebuilt – could have a seat at the table in helping to make skateboarding a featured activity for our youth and healthy lifestyle choice for all community members.



**Scan for all of our information!**