From: Michael Young
To: Council Clerk
Subject: Proposal for a Bike Pump Track Installation at Mingo Park
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 3:56:26 PM

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Dear Members of the Delaware City Council,

This is the third comment I've made in just as many months, thank you again for your continued commitment to listening! Many neighbors have come to ask the story of the city's involvement in our driveway and they are all pleased to hear the solution you offered us, thank you again.

I am writing to propose an addition to Mingo Park that I think could be an exciting asset to the community as well as a well timed response to a growing trend of teenage boys ripping around the streets and sidewalks on electric motocross bikes.

We recently moved here from Westerville, and myself and our young boys were actively involved in the local bmx race track league. It was a fantastic solution to the need for adrenaline, risk and speed that many boys have (and girls!) Since moving here, I ask around every time I see a young guy on a bmx bike, and I have come to find out there are no options for bike sports. My boys and I go to the skate park, but it is not the high speed, high adrenaline experience they are looking for, it is more focused on skate boards and isolated tricks.

I want to introduce a company called "Pump Track USA" which is an Ohio based company that has put in top notch bike tracks in several cities around us. Our family has journey up to Cleveland and Dayton to try their tracks and they are excellent. I'll attach a video at the bottom of the email: the idea is that it is a very clean and nice looking asphalt pump track, something that bikers of all ages can navigate without pedaling. It offers a challenge for those looking for speed and skill, but is also accessible to our three year old on a balance bike who just wants to push around it. There are novice areas, more challenging expert loops, and then jump lines all within the same area.

I spoke with Jason Schiefelbein the owner of Pump Track USA, he was enthusiastic about the project, offered to drive to Delaware to meet with you for discussion, and gave me a preliminary cost estimate of $200k to $300k for the whole thing. My idea is that there is amble field space at Mingo Park, and this new installation could share parking lot and bathroom facilities with the skate park. He points out that since they use asphalt it can be up to 75% cheaper than the concrete skate park we have.

I think that there are many families with young children, young adults looking and even adults like myself who would be interested in a safe source of high adrenaline sports. There would be no motorized or electric bikes allowed, and my hope is that it would encourage our youth away from more dangerous vehicles to pedal bikes that are more about fitness and skill.

I'm sure many members of the council have seen the growing gangs of teenage boys going around downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods on electric motocross bikes. They are very fast and powerful, a lot like real motorcycles, but they don't require a license. The boys are driving them around with traffic as if they are motorcycles, but they don't have the experience to drive safely. Our family has watched they aggressively take left turns at traffic lights, forcing traffic to stop and honk, and even one boy doing wheelies and speeding on Sandusky who slid out and almost got run over by oncoming traffic which screeched to a halt. They have frequently ripped past us at high speed on side walks. I fully understand them and appreciate what they are getting out of it, but I also don't want our boys growing up aspiring to join those groups, they are already talking about wanting one. - A pump track, I think offers a similar thrill and high adrenaline outlet without the danger. There are jumps with big gaps, lots of speed, but it is in a focused and well designed environment

These are two tracks designed by Jason in Cleveland and Dayton
Jason Schiefelbein (614) 302-3725
https://www.pumptraxusa.com/

First ever Pumptrack race at Cliffs Bike Park!



First ever Pumptrack race at Cliffs Bike Park!

Dayton Bike Yard Opening day



[redacted]

Dayton Bike Yard Opening day

Thank you so much for your consideration! And thank you again for your commitment to listening

Regards,
Michael Young 720 935 4479