

City of London PumpTrack

What is a Pump Track? They are high performance playgrounds for everything with wheels. A pump track is an endless loop of rollers, jumps and banked turns called berms where the riders propel themselves through the track by shifting their body weight, or “pumping”, in conjunction with the track contours, rather than having to pedal. It creates a fun experience where a rider can work on their handling skills while also having an excellent cardio workout. Pump tracks can be designed for different sizes and rider abilities or as a generic layout that is still usable and fun by riders from little tykes to expert mountain bike or Bmx riders. Although races can be held on a pump track to see who can do laps the fastest or how long they can continue the track without pedaling, the main purpose of a track is to provide a community gathering place where those that enjoy bicycles, scooters, In-lines skates, roller skates, can “play”. We are suggesting a paved asphalt pump track like Velosolutions have made famous all over the globe. They are the worlds biggest pump track contractor with a Canadian office in Quebec.

Who would use a pump track? The short answer is anyone with a bicycle, scooter, skateboard, inline skates, roller skates or wheel chair. It doesn't matter how young or how old, users can be 3 year old on strider bikes or riders into their 60's or 70's that already enjoy riding on trails/road. A pump track provides a safe environment to experience skill building, having fun, and getting exercise. Most pump tracks are free and open to the public at all times (or normal park hours). This often creates a community gathering spot where people will congregate to both ride and watch others use the track. According to a 2009 Outdoor Recreation Participation Report, 3.4% of the population participates in Mountain Biking or BMX. That same report lists skateboarding at 2.8%.

What about risk and liability? The city would assume the risk with a pump track as they would any other recreation facility such as a skate park, climbers or ball field. Risk is low due to the way that a pump track is used. Signs would be installed at entrances to the pump track area outlining the rules and etiquette for users just like our skateparks.

What is the cost for a pump track? Based on information obtained by Velosolutions the average cost of a project is between \$100-\$180 per square meter and that includes everything from design to landscaping for the project. To give an example the Asphalt Pump track in Uxbridge, On is 1800 meters squared. So total price was \$324,000 for that project. If you use dirt which limits the user base you can save initially but you will have to factor in yearly maintenance cost of about \$5000-\$10,000.



Why does London need a facility like this? Well London has a huge and thriving cycling community that enjoys all aspects of bike riding from Road, Track, Commuting, Mountain biking and Bmx. A pump track would be a terrific complement to the cycling community and infrastructure we already have. Ideally a Bikepark with some jumps and a pump track would put us inline with other communities around us that already have one like Cambridge, Kitchener, Hamilton, Brantford. Even smaller towns like Stratford, Watford, Caledon and Tillsonburg have pump tracks. The City of London is nationally recognized for our skateparks and we feel that this is right in line with that type of activity but is different and appeals to a wider user base.

Benefits of a Pump Track –

Promotes healthy physical outdoor activity

Great, low risk environment for athletes of all ages and skill levels

Creates positive gathering area for the community

Affordable and accessible for families (Most kids have bikes)

Supports the fastest growing segment of cycling (Mountain Biking)

Sustainable recreation with minimal environmental impact

Great family fun

Low maintenance costs when asphalt is used

Minimal risk/liability

Simple & Fun



As you have probably heard we started a Petition to see how much interest and support a facility like this would generate and as of today the petition @ Change.org has over 2300 signatures, 600 shares and over 21,000 views. We would greatly appreciate your endorsement and support to bring this idea to city council. <https://www.change.org/p/city-of-london-ontario-help-london-ontario-get-a-velosolutions-pump-track>

Angie McConnell · 2 days ago

My family of 5 would love this space for further enjoyment of our mountain bikes. This track could be enjoyed by multiple generations. Make this happen City of London!

Craig Hynds
2 weeks ago

Cycling is a pastime enjoyed by myself and many Londoners. A facility like this is a great place to enjoy riding and safely build up riding skills.

Rebecca Haggerty

2 weeks ago

It would be a great opportunity for all cycling enthusiasts to come together! A place to help teach the younger skilled and gives an added adventure in our already thriving cycling community!

Janelle Geary- Eden

1 year ago

Pump tracks around the world are a awesome way to get children and adults active and pump tracks are something every age can do easily and be apart of.

Here are a couple of links to articles of how the City of Calgary and Chilliwack have committed to the installation of pump tracks in the last couple years.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/south-glenmore-park-ellis-russell-velosolutions-calgary-1.5687526>

<https://www.abbynews.com/news/b-c-city-set-to-become-home-of-the-largest-pump-track-facility-in-north-america/>

Thank you.

Brandon Cassell