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**MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, November 5, 2015**

## **GRAND OPENING: The Lynch Family Skatepark**

*Vans, MassDCR, the Lynch Foundation, and the Charles River Conservancy are proud to present a special ribbon cutting ceremony to open the long-awaited skatepark.*

**What:** [The Charles River Conservancy \(CRC\)](#), in partnership with the [Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation \(DCR\)](#), [Vans](#), and [the Lynch Foundation](#) is pleased to invite you to a special ribbon cutting ceremony and event to open the [Lynch Family Skatepark](#) in East Cambridge on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Vans skateboarding legends Tony Alva and Ray Barbee will be on-site for demos with the community. Joined by local professionals, interested public athletes on wheels are encouraged to participate by RSVPing [here](#). This is a special event to open the Skatepark, which will be operated by DCR as a free and public park after this event. DCR will release operation and use details just before the event.

The \$5M, 40,000-square-foot [Lynch Family Skatepark](#) is located in East Cambridge, next to the Zakim Bridge under the I-93 off-ramp in DCR's North Point Park. The Skatepark project remediated a former brownfield and will provide unprecedented recreational opportunities for athletes in the Greater Boston area. For more information about the project please continue reading [here](#).

The Lynch Foundation has long been a supporter of the Skatepark. During the morning event, the [Boston Landmarks Orchestra](#) will play in memoriam to Carolyn Lynch, who recently passed. Event hosts include corporate partners [Vans](#), the original action sports footwear and apparel brand, who provided the final dollars needed to begin construction on the project through a leadership commitment of \$1.5M. Vans has also committed \$25,000 each year for seven years to the DCR for ongoing maintenance of the skatepark.

**Who:** Mayor of Boston Martin Walsh, Vans Vice President of Events Steve Van Doren, Peter Lynch, Conservancy President Renata von Tscharner, Senator Sal DiDomenico, State Representative Tim Toomey, DCR Commissioner Carol Sanchez, Vans Skateboarding Legends Tony Alva and Ray Barbee.

**Masters of Ceremonies:** Vans Vice President Steve Van Doren and Andy MacDonald, Local Skateboarding Pro

**When:** Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Rain or shine.

**Where:** [The Lynch Family Skatepark](#)

Please review this [map](#) for suggested parking and transportation options.

**Press:** Open – Event specific credential required to be inside skateable surface, please contact SJ Port by Thursday, Nov. 12 at noon.

**Pre-Event Press Opportunity:** Contact SJ with your interest in a pre-event walk-through, interview or related. Vans executives and athletes will be available to interview; for Vans interview requests please contact [Kathy\\_Miranda@vfc.com](mailto:Kathy_Miranda@vfc.com).

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### About Vans

*Vans*®, a VF Corporation (NYSE: VFC) brand, is the original action sports footwear, apparel and accessories brand. *Vans* authentic collections are sold globally in more than 75 countries through a network of subsidiaries, distributors and international offices. *Vans* also owns and operates more than 450 retail locations around the world. The *Vans* brand promotes the action sports lifestyle, youth culture and creative self-expression through the support of athletes, musicians and artists and through progressive events and platforms such as the *Vans Triple Crown of Surfing*®, the *Vans U.S. Open of Surfing*, *Vans Pool Party*, *Vans Custom Culture*, *Vans Warped Tour*®, and *Vans*' cultural hub and international music venue, the *House of Vans*.

Vans, "Off the Wall" Since '66

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### About the Charles River Conservancy

Founded in 2000, The Conservancy has over 25,000 supporters and volunteers. The Conservancy's programs include returning swimming to the River, employing 2,000 landscape volunteers annually, improving the river paths, building underpasses, illuminating bridges, and offering the Sunday Parkland Games. The Conservancy, with the help of private donors, often partners with DCR and MassDOT to implement civic projects and programs.

[www.thecharles.org](http://www.thecharles.org)  
[facebook.com/charlesriverconservancy](https://facebook.com/charlesriverconservancy)  
[twitter.com/charlesrivercrc](https://twitter.com/charlesrivercrc)

### About the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Carol Sanchez, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*