Seattle Vert Ramp: It's Basically Done!

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Given what I know, here is my best estimate of what is left to do to finish the vert ramp. There are several critical details where we haven't even decided what we want to do yet (e.g., the endwalls, the lighting, etc.), and other steps that we simply can't do because we just don't have the money yet (there is a *lot* more that we have to buy in addition to just the final layer of birch). My best guess estimate, if we continue working at a solid pace and don't run out of money, is that we could finish in February, 2013. It is possible to finish sooner if we had a lot more money, organization, and people were to spend more time; however, it is important to acknowledge the realities of fatigue, life responsibilities, weather, daylight savings time, etc., If we do this right, the time we spend skating this ramp will be *much, much* longer than the time we spend building it! This is a much bigger project than just building a vert ramp – we are also building a stadium, and for safety reasons it is critical that we do everything right, no matter how long it takes.

1. (done) Finish all the cabling between the first two trusses and true them up.
2. (done) Move the scaffolding tower over in preparation for picking the next truss up.
3. (done) Re-rig the scaffolding for picking up the next middle truss.
4. (done) Pick up the next truss and set it in place (probably Saturday, Nov 10, morning).
5. (done) Put three cross braces between the 2nd and 3rd trusses.
6. (done) Figure out how to hang part of the scaffolding off the side of the ramp safely.
7. (done) Pick up the final end truss and set in place (Saturday, Nov 10).
8. Put in 4 more cross braces between trusses 2 and 3 and 14 more cross braces between 3 and 4 (Sunday, Nov 11).
9. Put in 20+ more cables, and true them all up (Sunday, Nov 11?).
10. Gutters and gravel drainage system (next week or during the weekend in parallel) – lots of gravel needs to get carried down the hill (by Sunday, Nov 18).
11. Build walls to set the end walls on top of (or somehow extend the existing metal posts to the the ground). Put the end wall posts in place, somehow (we have to do the end walls now rather than later, because they provide major protection against uplift due to wind blowing under the cover and turning it into a huge kite, and we can't put the top cover on before putting the end wall covers on) – this will require major carpentry work. (Nov 18?)
12. Run wiring for lights. (Dec?)
13. Install light fixtures. (Dec?)
14. Clean out areas next to north and south side of the ramp, and raise endwall fabric and tie in place. (Dec?)

15. Clean up and lay tarping on the ground along the east side of the ramp, then carry the roof fabric over there, and unroll it. (Dec?)

16. Fill the fabric with pipes as we carefully pull it over the trusses in a coordinated manner (this will involve at least *four* highly skilled climbers...). (Dec?)

17. Tighten the roof fabric down, tensioning a huge number of straps just right (which is pretty involved). (Dec?)

18. String some temporary high-efficiency lights so we can see well enough to work (and skate). (Dec?)

19. Put in a lot more cross bracing behind the ramp on both sides (this could be done sooner rather than later!). (by Dec?)

20. Run some huge screws from the points where the trusses tie to the pony wall down to the concrete foundations, when possible.

21. After drying the ramp out, assess the situation regarding water and scaffolding damage to the flat bottom. If it is too damaged, remove all flat bottom 3/4" ply and replace it. The 3/4" ply on the flat would then be used to sheet end walls. (by Dec?)

22. Replace or fix any wood on the transitions that is damaged.

23. Water seal the bottoms of a bunch of 3/8" ply, letting it dry under the roof a while (maybe we can skip this step, since this ramp should never get wet again).

24. Screw down the third layer of 3/8" ply. (by Dec?)

25. Find and fix every single point where the 3/8" ply of the third layer isn't "perfect".

26. Screw down the final diagonal layer of birch.

27. Weld brackets on the steel pipe coping, and weld the coping together, while installing it (Thadd Grossi will order the pipe coping a week before). (January?)

28. Flip all the plywood on both decks over, revealing the good side, and screw it down flush against the coping. (January?)

29. Get power to the ramp (possibly cables in a pipe). (February?)

30. Install circuit box (?)

31. Install permanent lights. (February?)

32. Remove temporary lights. (February?)

33. Sheet across the front of the pony wall on each deck. (January?)

34. Install pool coping on extensions. (January?)

35. Build a staircase on the southwest corner of the ramp. (January?)

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37. Get an internet connection and setup some always-on webcams. (February?)

38. Install a donations lock-box; (February?)

39. Install a killer sound system. (February?)