

McGill, Pam

From: Mary Brunkhorst [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2024 1:55 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Require Natural Grass

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.

Mayor Showalter and Councilmembers,
I understand that the topic of artificial turf may be discussed this week as part of the City Council Work Plan.
I encourage you to require natural grass on all property.

Artificial turf is unhealthy for humans and the environment. It is full of toxins, considered a hardscape, does not allow stormwater management, creates a heat island, prevents natural organisms from thriving, and ends up in the landfill.

Natural grass will help Mountain View meet its strategic priorities of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency and also Livability and Quality of Life.

Thank you,
Mary Brunkhorst

McGill, Pam

From: Kristin Mercer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2024 3:31 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Fake grass is bad for our health and environment

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Dear Mountain View Councilmembers,

I urge you to adopt an immediate **ban on installation of synthetic turf on both public and private property.**

The truth is out about erroneous industry claims; fake grass is bad for our health, our environment, and it doesn't even save money when it's full lifecycle is considered.

- First, plastic grass is NOT maintenance free, and when you read the fineprint on the warranty you'll find it requires an hour of maintenance for every 10 hours of play. Plus it requires water for cleaning, and chemicals to prevent bacteria, mold and weeds, negating any hoped-for savings.
- Next, there are health concerns about PFAS. But even worse is the proven leeching of microplastics into our waterways and breathed in by athletes. Microplastics now permeate our food-chain and are even found in newborns. And it's impossible (and prohibitively expensive) to filter them out.
- Used turf is not recyclable. Even the industry admits it's comprised of layers of different petrochemicals and contaminants that are impossible to separate for recycling. Burning it releases pollutants, so thousands of cubic yards will soon fill our landfills with non-decomposing plastic. What's the dumping fee for 2 acres of plastic???
- Finally is the fact that plastic does nothing for our environment. Natural grass absorbs rain to recharge aquifers and reduce burden on stormdrains, and cleans our air. *Green plastic landscaping* is inconsistent with City sustainability goals.

Fake grass is just as damaging as plastic bags, and will eventually be heavily regulated. Please avoid wasting our funds and damaging our environment; ban plastic grass now.

Thank you,
Kristin Mercer



Virus-free [REDACTED]