

Carol Moore

From: Susan Albright
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2023 2:46 PM
To: Carol Moore; Dominic Warren
Cc: R. Lisle Baker; Bill Humphrey; Andrea W. Kelley; Pamela Wright
Subject: final docket item for late file on turfs

Councilors Albright, Baker, Wright, Humphrey, Kelley requesting a discussion with the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department regarding a cost-benefit analysis of grass fields in sufficient quantity to meet Newton's demand for playing time (by user group; Newton school athletic programs, Newton Youth groups, others) vs additional artificial turf fields. This analysis should include the following; quantification of the current demand for playing fields (hours used by field), description of the scheduling system referencing the availability and cost of alternative systems if needed, quantification of field usage as a percentage of field availability, current land acreage and fields now unusable for play as a result of lack of maintenance funds and the additional annual funds needed to use these fields, the resultant playing time available if all grass fields in Newton are usable vs playing time with the addition of artificial turf at specific planned locations, the location of additional potential grass fields, whether existing or new and the impact of these locations on high school sports including added acquisition and/or transportation costs to access fields not located on high school grounds. In addition, such information should take into account the environmental impact of either artificial turf or grass field choices taking into account such things as disposal of turf, chemical contaminants within turf, and pesticides used on grass. This discussion should provide information to guide the Council in its decision for future requests for artificial turf fields.

Susan Albright, President
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