

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008

Present: Ald. Schnipper (Chairman), Lennon, Albright, Salvucci, Gentile, Yates and Lappin  
Absent: Ald. Mansfield

Also present: Ald. Baker, Brandel, Coletti, Freedman, Hess-Mahan, Merrill, Parker and Sangiolo  
City officials present: John Daghlian (Assistant City Engineer), Mayor Cohen, Dori Zaleznik (School Committee), Scott Perrin (Newton South High School Athletic Director), Clint Schuckel (Traffic Engineer) and Shawna Sullivan (Committee Clerk)

#175-08      VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. petitioning for a grant of location to install a hip guy and anchor on existing pole 855/56 located on MILLER ROAD (Ward 6). [04-14-08 @ 8:50 AM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 3-1-1 (Schnipper opposed, Lennon abstaining, Gentile and Salvucci not voting)**

**NOTE:**      Gary Savignano, Verizon Rights and Ways Manager, presented the grant of location petition to the Committee. The petition is for a guy wire to be installed on a pole on Miller Road and anchored in the berm. Currently, the pole is anchored by a guy wire to a city tree. The tree is dead and the city and residents of the street would like it removed before it creates a safety issue. The public hearing was opened and there was no one present to speak for or against the petition.

The Chair stated her opposition to the installation of hip guy and anchors in general. It is her belief the wires pose a safety hazard to pedestrians. Many of the guy wires do not have the reflective wrapping, which make them visible at night. She would like to see poles designed that do not require support through guy wires. Mr. Savignano explained that Verizon's priority is safety and they are responding to requests from the city and neighborhood. The tree is rotting and may fall during a storm. The pole is at the end of a line and Verizon's standards require that those poles be supported with a guy and anchor for stability. The Public Works Department has reviewed the petition and has no problems with the petition. The Assistant City Engineer, John Daghlian, stated that there would be a requirement on the permit that the guy wire be wrapped in some type of reflective material. The Chair requested that Mr. Daghlian investigate how a guy wire was allowed to be installed in a city tree. Mr. Daghlian replied that he will investigate. Ald. Lennon stated that he will abstain from the vote, as he is unfamiliar with this type of petition and would like an opportunity to look at a guy and anchor on a pole. Ald. Lappin moved approval, which carried by a vote of three in favor, one opposed and one abstention.

**REFERRED TO PROG& SERV, PUB.FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#192-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$5,069,783 from the following sources for the purpose of installing new fields and track at Newton South High School:

(A) Capital Stabilization Fund.....\$1,851,783

(B) Bonded Indebtedness.....\$3,218,000

(C) and to establish an appropriate vehicle into which \$500,000 may be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund to support the annual maintenance of these fields.

[05-13-08 @ 5:02 PM]

**PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 5-0-2 (Merrill, Sangiolo abstaining)**

**ACTION: APPROVED 5-0-1 (Albright abstaining)**

**NOTE:** The committee met jointly with the Programs and Services Committee on this item. Please note that both committees approved two items requesting funds for new fields at Newton South High School at the last meeting on May 7, 2008. However, the items were voted no action necessary on the floor of the Board in November and were therefore no longer valid items. The Mayor docketed the above item for funding of the new fields at Newton South High School. Nathan Collins and Paul Tyrell of Gale Associates were present for the discussion. Gale Associates previously provided the Board with a supplement to the drainage report and master plan for the fields (attached). The supplement also addresses questions raised at the Finance Committee on May 13, 2008. The Executive Office also provided a handout addressing questions raised regarding health risks associated with synthetic turf, which is attached.

Ald. Albright stated that she spoke with the Consumer Product Safety Commission and they are investigating the lead found in all types of artificial turf. They do not expect to have any results until late June or early July. Ald. Albright pointed out that the results will be available before any type turf is installed at Newton South High School. Ald. Hess-Mahan is also concerned with the health risks being associated with synthetic turf. He also was not comfortable with the long lists of don'ts he has seen regarding artificial turf, such as no soda or sports drinks on fields. It is not reasonable to expect children not to bring drinks onto the field.

Ald. Baker moved approval of the previously approved plan of two synthetic multi-purpose fields, a natural turf baseball field and a natural turf softball field. Ald. Parker suggested that the committees consider a synthetic turf baseball field and one multi-purpose synthetic turf competition field due to maintenance costs. It is his belief that the maintenance costs related to a natural turf baseball field are higher than any other field. Ald. Parker also suggested that the city investigate naming rights for the fields to help with the funding. Ald. Schnipper explained that she could not support a synthetic turf baseball field as she does not believe it offers the school enough use of a field. The two multi-purpose fields provide the most uses for the school. Ald. Gentile feels that the two and two option is the best plan for the school due to the flexibility. The overwhelming majority of baseball fields are grass at the college and professional level.

The Mayor explained that there is a request for an additional \$500,000 to establish a fund for the annual maintenance of the fields at Newton South High School included in the docket

item. There is still some question on the mechanism that will be used to establish the fund. The mechanism needs to allow the city to collect interest on the money, which will be used for part of the maintenance. The mechanism is expected to be determined by the time the Finance Committee discusses the item. Ald. Lappin asked that the Executive Office update the financing plan to include the \$500,000. Ald. Albright asked if there was a way to establish this type of fund for all city fields, particularly the new fields at Newton North High School. The Mayor explained that unfortunately the City finances do not allow funds to be dedicated to each field at this time. Ald. Brandel felt that the city should be treating all of the fields like this, as they are all city assets. It is important to know how much it costs to maintain the city fields. Ald. Gentile pointed out that the fields at Newton North will be fine, as they have to be available for students and community to use.

The committees then reviewed the drainage at the fields. There are schematic drawings for the drainage included in the master plan. Ald. Gentile asked how the water is getting down to the main drain during storms. Paul Tyrell of Gale Associates explained that there will be connections to the culvert in both the artificial and natural turf. The heavily compacted soil will be removed; a series of under drains will be laid under the fields and covered with free-draining soils. The under drains will be connected to a series of collector pipes, which will be connected to the existing culvert under the field. Ald. Gentile is concerned that if there are no lateral pipes in the outfield of the baseball field, water will pool. Mr. Tyrell explained that if it is properly graded the water will run off to the catch basins located at the perimeter. Ald. Lappin asked what type of warranty there is on the drainage system and turf. There is no drainage system warranty but if the system were to fail due to the plan, the city would sue the engineers and if failure was due to the installation, the city would sue the contractor. The engineer is required to show that there is no increase to the storm water run-off from the site. The artificial turf has a year warranty. The success of the fields also depends on the city's commitment to maintenance of the fields.

Ald. Lappin stated that she researched artificial turf in surrounding communities and she is much more comfortable with supporting the item. She asked when the fields would be available for use. If everything goes according to schedule, the synthetic fields will be available for use in September of 2009. The natural turf fields will depend on whether they are seeded or sod is used. The sod will make the fields available sooner. Ald. Parker asked how long it takes for the artificial and natural turf fields to be playable after a rainfall. The synthetic turf fields are playable during rain events but the natural fields need six to 24 hours to dry before they can be used without damaging the field. Ald. Parker then inquired how long it would take to repair a natural turf field once it is damaged. Mr. Collins of Gale Associates stated that it takes approximately two growing seasons to repair a natural turf field if it is badly damaged. Ald. Albright was concerned that fields all over the city were being damaged, as she sees children playing pick-up games on fields all the time in the rain. Mr. Collins explained that it is unlikely that the fields are being damaged, as the children are probably not wearing cleats during pick-up games.

Ald. Yates moved approval of the previously approved plan of two synthetic multi-purpose fields, a natural turf baseball field and a natural turf softball field in Public Facilities. Ald. Baker's motion to approve the item in Programs and Services carried by a vote of five in

favor with two abstentions. The motion for approval in Public Facilities carried by a vote of five in favor with one abstention.

#402-04(2) ALD. LENNON requesting discussion regarding the improvements of CHURCH, RICHARDSON and OAKLAND STREETS as laid out in the conceptual plan passed by the Public Safety & Transportation Committee on November 7, 2007. [04-07-08@7:32 PM]

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:** Clint Schuckel, Traffic Engineer, was present for the discussion of the proposed improvements of the intersection. He provided the committee with an aerial photo of the intersection as it exists today and a plan depicting the proposed changes to the intersection (attached). The proposed changes would square off the intersection of Richardson Street and Church Street and create a distinct entrance with a crosswalk into the YMCA driveway. There is also an alternate plan with a proposed crosswalk with pedestrian warning lights and island on Church Street. Mr. Schuckel stated that there are not large amounts of pedestrians in the area. The cost of implementing the proposed plan is approximately \$75,000 and that does not include the alternate crosswalk. Ald. Lennon stated that the CDBG is willing to dedicate funds to this project and has \$24,000 available this year. Ald. Lennon suggested that the project could be done in phases, as money became available. Ald. Lennon has been working with the neighborhood, the YMCA, the Fire Department and the Newton Corner Task Force on these improvements for the past three years and all parties are in agreement with the plan.

Ald. Yates asked if there was a possibility of putting a crosswalk on Richardson Street. Mr. Schuckel explained that it would be a challenge due to the fire station driveway. The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that a ramp be at each end of a crosswalk. It is not possible to construct a ramp in the driveway of the fire station. Several members of the committee asked if there would be a trial. Mr. Schuckel stated that a trial will begin once construction on the Church Street Bridge is complete. Ald. Lennon moved approval of the conceptual plan, which carried unanimously.

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#11-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,200,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the installation of four modular classrooms. [01-02-08 @ 4:53 P.M.]

*NOTE: Letter received from Mayor on 1/4/08 requesting that appropriation amount be amended to \$1.3 million. Additional letters received 5/7 and 5/21 requesting that the funding source for \$75,000 be changed to capital stabilization for costs incurred for design work and the remaining \$1,225,000 from bonded indebtedness be voted no action necessary.*

**ACTION:** **A) \$75,000 from Capital Stabilization APPROVED 5-0-1 (Lennon abstaining, Gentile not voting)**  
**B) \$1,225,000 from bonded indebtedness voted NO ACTION NECESSARY 6-0 (Gentile not voting)**

**NOTE:** A memo from Susan Burstein, Chief Budget Officer, was provided to the Committee, (attached) which requested that the Committee take a vote of no action necessary on the \$1,225,000 due to the failed override attempt. The remaining \$75,000 is required to pay for the design work done in anticipation of the need to have the modular units installed during the summer if the override passed. Commissioner Parnell joined the committee to discuss the item. Many members were dismayed that the Commissioner had spent \$75,000 for design without a funding source. The Commissioner explained that the School Department had stated that they would pay for the design of the proposed modular classrooms. He assured the Committee that this would never happen again, as he will require an agreement regarding payment in writing. The committee asked how it was possible for the Commissioner to hire an architect for the design work with out the money up front. The Commissioner explained that he used an on-call architect, who is pre-approved for city projects that did the design on trust that he would be paid. The Committee approved the design money to pay the architect. However, Ald. Lennon abstained, as he was not present for the discussion. The money for the modular classrooms was voted no action necessary, as the classrooms will not be installed.

#385-07 ALD. SCHNIPPER AND GENTILE updating the Public Facilities Committee on the progress of the Newton North High School Project. [11-21-07 @ 10:23 AM]

**ACTION:** **HELD 7-0**

**NOTE:** Ald. Gentile provided a very brief update on the project. The foundation work continues to move forward. It appears that there are a number of sub-contractors that will be bidding on the project. Ald. Albright inquired if there had been any discussion regarding the traffic light at Elm Street. Ald. Gentile responded that Ald. Schnipper had asked about the traffic light but there is nothing new to report.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydra Schnipper, Chairman



Gale Associates, Inc.

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#192-08

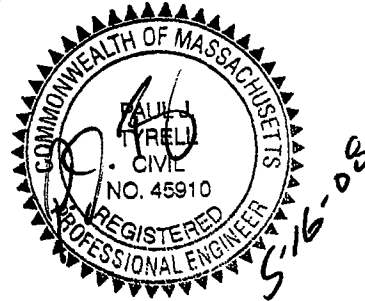
## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Lou Taverna, P.E. – Newton City Engineer

**FROM:** Paul J. Tyrell, P.E. – Gale Associates, Inc.

**RE:** South Meadow Brook and the  
Newton South High School Athletic Fields  
Gale JN 712690

**DATE:** May 16, 2008



As requested, Gale Associates, Inc. (Gale) has prepared this memorandum to supplement our Drainage Report and Master Plan and to address the questions raised by Alderman Paul Coletti. This memorandum has been structured to address those items specifically requested by Alderman Coletti during our May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting.

1. *Preliminary Research – The Consultant shall review flooding complaints received by the City to compile a preliminary list of problem areas that may impact or be impacted by the proposed project. Conduct interviews with appropriate City Officials and employees to determine areas of concern that are not publicly known.*

As part of the preparation of our drainage study, we met with the City of Newton engineering staff to review the records of flooding complaints from the Newton South High School (NSHS) fields. During this interview, your staff confirmed that during excessive rain events, the NSHS Athletic Fields flood and stormwater run-off sheet flows to the abutting properties along Winston Road. As detailed in our Drainage Report, Gale has determined that this flooding is a result of poor field grading, poor field drainage, heavy soil compaction, and the high clay content of the topsoil. There were no other reports of flooding beyond that resulting from sheet flow run-off from the fields.

On Monday, May 5, 2008, we met with Mr. Ted Jerdee, Superintendent of Utilities, to determine whether there has been any flooding complaints from residents along Brandeis Road. During this meeting, Mr. Jerdee confirmed that he has not received any complaints from the Brandeis Road residents.

Mr. Jerdee did confirm that he was aware of a persistent problem with catch basins along the West side of the NSHS parking lot. He believed this problem was a result of debris clogging the catch basins. To confirm this assumption, we visited the parking lot to inspect the structures in question and found 1"-2" of leaves covering each structure. It is apparent from our site visit that the leaves and debris are in fact causing the problem and that it is not a result of a deficient drainage system.

Boston  
Baltimore  
Orlando  
San Francisco



*2. Review Drainage Mapping – The Consultant shall review all existing maps and plans available.*

Gale has reviewed all existing maps and plans made available to them by the City of Newton Engineering Division. Of note in our review of this mapping is that there is no drainage connection to the existing wetland (between Brandeis Road and the NSHS). Accordingly, since the fields do not contribute flow to the wetlands, it is not expected that the proposed improvements would have any negative effect on the wetlands.

*3. Provide a drainage and geotechnical report describing the existing conditions and feasibility of constructing a drainage system to serve turf and/or grass fields.*

Gale's Drainage Report and Master Plan were submitted in April 2008 addressing these issues. The Drainage Report described the existing conditions and feasibility of constructing a drainage system to serve synthetic and/or natural turf fields. This report contained a description of the stormwater management plan for the proposed athletic fields, and the Master Plan included schematic drainage designs for each of the proposed athletic field improvements.

As outlined in these reports, the existing site consists of heavily compacted, poorly draining soils over approximately 9 feet of miscellaneous fill, which was placed over the original streambed and wetland. As part of the NSHS improvements, the top layer of existing soils will be removed (the depth of removal will vary with the proposed surface), a series of underdrains will be laid under the fields, and the area will be filled to the proposed grade with free-draining soils. The underdrains will be connected to a series of collector pipes **which will ultimately be connected to the 84" RCP culvert under the field.** These improvements will improve drainage on the fields and result in a reduction in stormwater run-off from the site through increased infiltration, retention, and an extended time of concentration through the drainage system.

*4. Compile a comprehensive list of problem areas that may impact or be impacted by the proposed project.*

Our interviews with you, the City of Newton engineering staff, and the Superintendent of Utilities did not identify any problem areas that may impact or be impacted by the proposed project.

*5. Determine if the addition of the synthetic turf at Newton South High School will impact (positively or negatively) current flooding issues.*

A properly designed and maintained field (either synthetic or natural turf) will eliminate the current flooding issues during the storm event for which it is designed to handle.



6. *Determine the off-site impact of the proposed project including on abutting properties and down stream drainage areas.*

The proposed project will result in a decrease in stormwater run-off from the NSHS. Accordingly the project will have no negative effect to drainage on the abutting properties or the downstream areas.

7. *Prepare a hydraulic analysis of the closed sections of South Meadow Brook to identify any possible areas of constraint within the system related to the proposed project.*

As part of the Drainage Report prepared by Gale, a hydrologic and hydraulic analysis of the South Meadow Brook Watershed was completed, as well as an internal investigation of the closed section of South Meadow Brook within the limits of the NSHS. This analysis confirmed that the existing conduit has the capacity to handle the 25-year storm event and that there was no constraint to flow within limits of the pipe investigated.

8. *Develop recommendations for improvements including a set of structural and/or non-structural recommendations for the potential improvement of drainage problems related to the proposed Newton South project and abutting residential properties, such as cleaning of ditches and culverts, redirection of surface flow, resizing of culverts, and other potential solutions applicable to various site specific drainage problems. As part of the study of various drainage alternatives, study the feasibility of the installation of a drainage retention cistern under football field for collection and usage of storm water for irrigation.*

The proposed field drainage improvements will be completed generally as follows:

- The top layer of existing soils will be removed (the depth of removal will vary with the proposed surface).
- A series of underdrains will be laid under the fields and the area will be filled to the proposed grade with free draining soils.
- The underdrains will be connected to a series of collector pipes which will ultimately be connected to the 84" RCP culvert under the field.

This proposed system will improve drainage on the fields and result in a reduction in storm water run-off from the site through increased infiltration, retention, and an extended time of concentration through the drainage system.

The 84" RCP culvert under the field was televised and found to be relatively free of debris and does not appear to require cleaning. The open channels, downstream of the culvert, are susceptible to clogging with debris from natural causes such as vegetation and downed trees, as well as the dumping of foreign matter. These open channels should be inspected regularly and any debris should be removed regularly to minimize its impact on the drainage system.





The hydraulic analysis indicated that the South Meadow Brook will convey a 25-year storm event without surface flooding. Since most municipalities size the public storm drain systems for the 10 year storm event, it appears that there is adequate capacity within the 84" culvert.

Finally, while technically feasible, the volume of water required to properly irrigate a natural turf field(s) is significantly more than a drainage retention cistern beneath the fields could economically be constructed. The irrigation system would quickly empty the system, leaving a dangerous void under the field. Since the existing irrigation system uses a well and the proposed drainage system would improve groundwater recharge, we believe the proposed plan meets the intent (reuse of water) where the drainage system recharges the groundwater for reuse as irrigation.

*9. The consultant shall investigate and determine the feasibility of methods used to control water collection and to control removal of storm water runoff in the wetland area adjacent to the fields and the parking lot, in a manner acceptable to the Department of Environmental Protection and the Newton Conservation Commission. This shall include investigating the feasibility of an acceptable draw down system to handle the removal of excessive storm water accumulation.*

As noted above there are no existing drainage connections to (or from) the subject wetlands. Wetlands are important environmental resources, improving water quality through filtration and providing wildlife habitat, and are protected under the Wetlands Protection Act. The Wetlands Protection Act restricts proposed projects that would impact existing wetlands, either through increasing or decreasing storm water flows to them. Accordingly, it does not seem feasible to control stormwater flow to the wetlands (since there are no drainage connections), nor is it feasible to remove flows since this would have a negative effect on the wetlands.

*10. Evaluate current methods of stormwater removal during major storm events in the Newton South High School complex, and recommend methods for potential improvement.*

During our meeting on May 5, 2008 with the Superintendent of Utilities, Gale reviewed the City mapping for the NSHS parking lot. As noted above, the lack of parking lot sweeping has resulted in debris building up at the catch basins, limiting their ability to properly drain the parking lot. This debris causes stormwater to puddle at each catch basin, which increases the deterioration of the pavement and reduces its effective life, and could result in stormwater flowing onto the NSHS field. To remedy this situation, Gale recommends that each structure be cleaned and a regular maintenance program be executed to clear the leaves. Additionally, Gale recommends that the curbs adjacent to each of these catch basins be replaced with a "gutter mouth" which would not be impacted by the leaf cover.

#192-08

Memorandum  
Lou Taverna, P.E.  
May 16, 2008  
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11. *Study existing storm drain sizes and design of back up drainage at Brandeis Road.*

The Brandeis Road drainage system consists of various diameter reinforced concrete pipes that flow southwest from the start of Brandeis Road westerly to its connection into the existing 84" culvert downstream of the NSHS athletic fields. This system is independent of the NSHS as well as the adjacent wetlands.

During our meeting of May 5, 2008 with the Superintendent of Utilities, it was confirmed that these existing drains are functioning properly with no reports of surcharging or back up. Since there are no reports of failure and with proper maintenance of the drain pipes (keeping them free of roots and intrusions), as well as cleaning out the catch basins on a semiannual basis, the storm drain system along Brandeis Road appears adequate.

We hope this adequately addresses Alderman Coletti's questions and we remain available to meet with him personally to further review our memorandum and his areas of concerns.

PJT:gmc

**1. What is the status of the request for the EPA to investigate synthetic turf?**

The Connecticut attorney general announced on May 1, 2008 that the EPA has agreed to conduct an investigation on the safety of synthetic turf. The EPA has not released a statement indicating their plans or timing for considering the matter.

**2. Is there a danger from lead chromate being installed on synthetic turf fields in Newton?**

The New Jersey Department of Public Health recently tested 12 synthetic turf fields. Of the 12 fields tested, only two showed traces of lead chromate. These were the only two fields that used an older nylon material that is no longer used in the production of synthetic turf fields. Lead chromate was encapsulated in the nylon product to protect against UV damage to the color. The New Jersey Department of Public Health recommended that the two fields be replaced with fields made from polyethylene fibers. The fields that would be installed in Newton would be polyethylene and would not contain lead chromate.

**3. Is there a risk of using polyethylene?**

Commissioner Naparstek spoke to the New Jersey D.E.P. and to the Federal Trade Commission. Both indicated to him that there are no concerns about polyethylene which is widely used in a variety of materials, including for packaging of food.

**4. What is the status of the New Jersey Department of Public Health request that the Consumer Product Safety Commission investigate synthetic turf fields?**

As noted above, the New Jersey Department of Public Health found evidence of lead in two nylon synthetic turf fields. Based on this finding, they notified the CPSC of the results (letter attached) and asked the CPSC to investigate lead chromate in nylon fibers. To date, the CPSC has not responded to the request.

**5. What is the comparative injury risk of synthetic turf to grass?**

One of the authoritative studies on this question was published in *The American Journal of Sports Medicine* and compares five years of football injuries on both synthetic turf and natural grass. The study includes 240 games played and uses results gathered from reports of full time certified athletic trainers, orthopedic surgeons, and team physicians.

The authors concluded:

- The rate of injuries on modern synthetic turf fields and on well maintained grass fields is essentially equal.
- There was a higher injury time loss from injuries on grass vs. turf fields.

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CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA 02459

- There was a higher incidence of concussion on grass vs. turf fields.
- There was a higher incidence of ligament tears on grass vs. turf fields.
- There was a greater incidence of ACL injuries on grass vs. turf fields.
- There was a higher incidence of superficial surface epidermatitis and non-contact injuries on turf vs. grass.
- The incidence of recurrent injuries reported in other studies (college football, lacrosse and soccer) was slightly higher on grass vs. turf.
- More minor injuries occurred on synthetic turf vs. grass.

Other studies suggest that the more consistent surface of turf fields enhances the speed at which a game is played and, therefore, increases fatigue potential of muscles as players perform at a greater acceleration, speed and torque.

The general conclusion is that the safety of turf versus a well maintained natural grass field has been relatively well established as comparable.

NCAA Sports Specific Injury Data for 2003-2004 shows football injuries by field surface. Many (but not all) of the synthetic surfaces in the survey are third generation "in-filled" fields similar to those proposed for Newton South. Of the 2737 injuries, 80% occurred on natural grass and 20% occurred on synthetic grass.

#### ***6. Is there a danger from heat generated from synthetic turf fields?***

Gale Associates has been asked this question a number of times. In response they polled 10 of their past clients to report their experiences. In their questionnaire they asked "how much of a problem do they see the temperature difference to be?". The options for an answer were No problem, very little, Moderate, significant. The majority of the responses were this was not a problem. With none answering considering it significant or even a moderate issue. Additionally, clients were asked how many times they watered their fields during a year to address temperature. The answer options were "never, once, 1-2 times or 3-5 times". In all cases the responses received were never or once or twice. None watering the fields even 3 times.

Many factors can contribute to heat exhaustion for athletes, including the time of day, ambient air temperature, length of play, amount of exertion, physical fitness, etc.

Also in a survey by Gale of athletic directors of area schools with synthetic turf fields, none found this to be an issue or attributed any injury or illness to synthetic turf temperature.

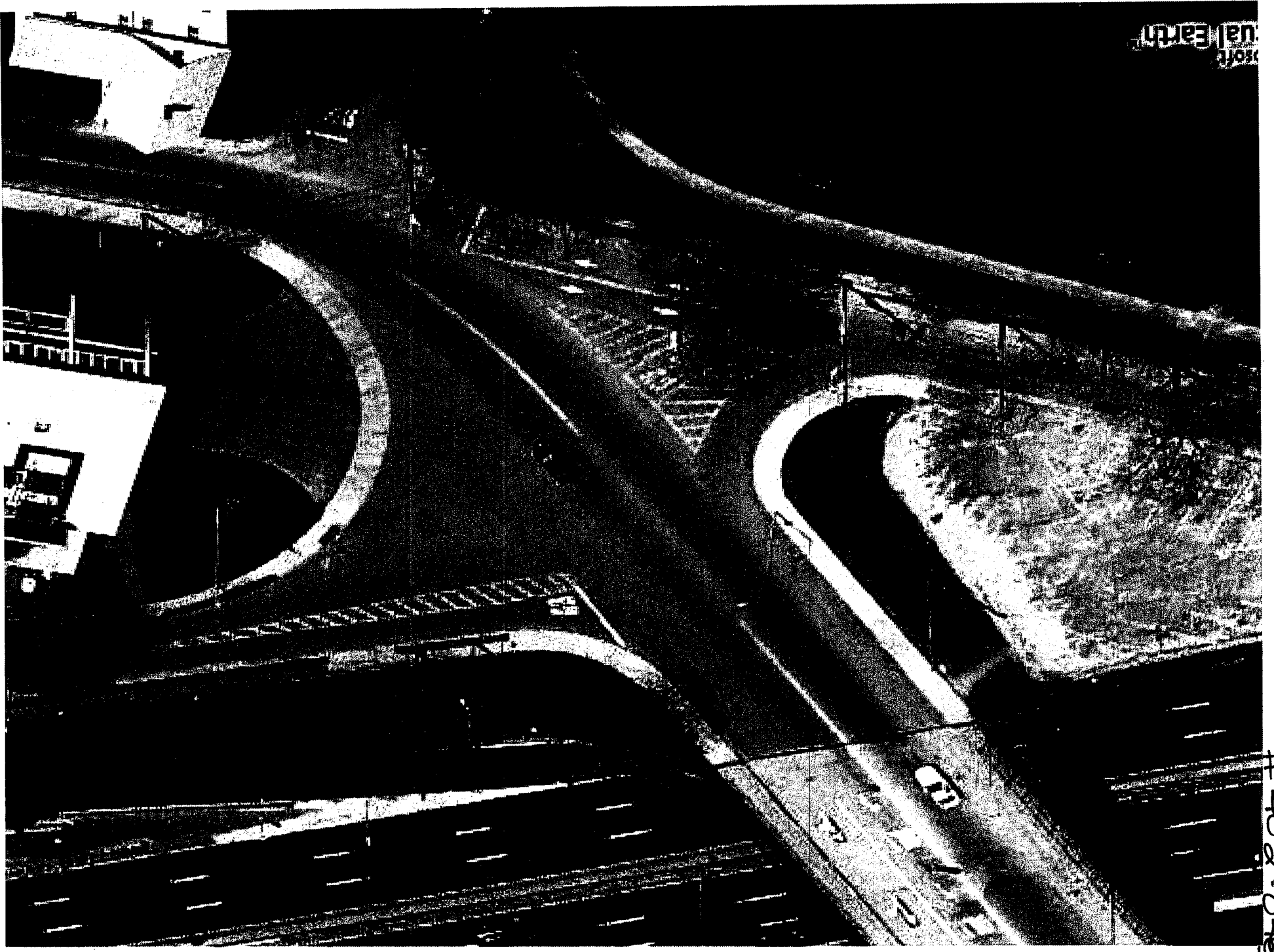
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**7. Are there any types of fumes given off by the artificial turf when it is heated?  
/Does the rubber crumb from recycled tires mixed with sand and used in the fill  
material cause a health risk?**

According to Newton Health Commissioner David Naparstek, under normal conditions the chemicals released in artificial turf are the same that are found in typical urban and suburban settings. He point to the fact sheet of the Connecticut DPH which states:

“Based upon the current evidence, a public health risk appears unlikely. However, there is still uncertainty and additional investigation is warranted. A variety of governmental bodies including Norway, Sweden, New Jersey and California have recently reviewed the health issues; their assessments have not found a public health threat. Sources of exposure unrelated to artificial turf fields are likely more important than the turf fields for many chemicals. While DPH does not believe there is a unique or significant health threat from chemical releases that can be inhaled or ingested, the uncertainties warrant further investigation.

***DPH’s review does not find any reason to stop installation of these fields.*** Currently there are no federal or state limits on the installation of crumb rubber-based turf fields. Therefore, it is up to towns to make a case-by-case decision on whether artificial turf is the right choice for a particular setting. While we see no health evidence to stop installations, DPH acknowledges that much of the information is very recent and this area is rapidly evolving. Additionally, the potential exposures and risks have not been fully characterized. DPH recommends that towns consider these uncertainties as part of the array of issues evaluated when deciding whether to install artificial turf fields (e.g., cost, maintenance, public acceptability).”



Scott  
Local Earth

#402-049

Church Street

Richardson Street

ADJUST CONCRETE WALK AS REQUIRED TO MEET ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ALTERNATE 1: PROPOSED CROSSWALK WITH PEDESTRIAN WARNING LIGHTS AND ISLAND. CROSSWALK TO BE EVALUATED VIA NEWTON CROSSWALK POLICY AND PROJECT BUDGET AND MAY OR MAY NOT BE CONSTRUCTED

STOP SIGN

RELOCATE EXISTING SIGN AND ACCESSIBLE RAMP TO NEW WALK LOCATION

NOTES:

- 1. REMOVE ALL EXISTING PAINT MARKINGS IN PAVEMENT PRIOR TO BEGINNING SITE WORK
- 2. ACCESS AND EGRESS TO FIRE STATION MUST BE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES DURING CONSTRUCTION!!
- 3. EXISTING SITE AMMENITIES ARE TO BE REUSED DEPENDING ON CONDITION OF EACH ITEM OF CONTENTION

Fire Station

ADJUST CONCRETE WALK AS REQUIRED TO MEET ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (TYP.)

3" SCH 40 PVC

RELOCATE EXISTING CATCH BASIN

REMOVE AND REPLACE EXISTING CONCRETE SIDEWALK

REMOVE EXISTING CURBING

STOP SIGN

3 PARALLEL SPACES NOT STRIPED  
PROPOSED CONC. WALK

REMOVE EXISTING GRANITE CURBING  
CONCRETE WALK TO REMAIN

Oakland Street

#402-0462



David B. Cohen  
Mayor

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#11-08

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Aldermen  
FROM: Susan Burstein, Chief Budget Officer  
RE: Docket item #11-08  
DATE: May 21, 2008

08 MAY 21 PM 5:48  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159

Following the results of the referendum yesterday, the school department will not be hiring the teachers to fill the new modular classrooms requested in docket item #11-08. No action is necessary on the \$1,225,000 bond authorization request. It remains necessary to pay the \$75,000 costs incurred for the design work done in anticipation of needing to install these modular units this summer. I would, therefore request that the board act favorably on this matter.

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

[www.ci.newton.ma.us](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us)



DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE