

Communication from Public

Name: Kathy Schaeffer
Date Submitted: 06/25/2024 06:02 AM
Council File No: 24-0602

Comments for Public Posting: Council File 24-0602 is an excellent start for the eventual elimination of artificial turf. There are NO good reasons why artificial turf should be used instead of native plants and grasses. Although artificial turf was once thought to be a panacea for solving our issues surrounding drought, this is no longer true. The harms and risks to people and the environment far outweigh any “positive” benefits of artificial turf. Artificial turf is an impermeable surface that prevents aquifer recharge. Toxic pollutants (PFAS) and microplastics are washed into our water supply, contaminating our drinking water. Artificial turf absorbs heat and becomes so hot that it can cause burns if touched. It also creates a “heat island” that increases the ambient air temperature. Turf burns and increased outdoor temperatures on artificial turf playing surfaces are especially dangerous for children, who have increased exposure. Artificial turf is not recyclable and ends up in our landfills at the end of its life. I strongly urge expedient passage of this motion and hope that this is only the beginning of an effort to ensure that people and the environment are not harmed by artificial turf.