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Parks&Rec;-- City Clerk

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Dear Parks and Rec and Commissioners,

Please vote to “Go For Grass”, not the toxic, heat and waste producing, forever chemical-laden artificial turf.

Artificial turf is destructive and using it is in direct conflict with Petaluma’s climate and environmental goals.

Soil health and Waterways

Forever chemicals from plastic turf degrade our soil and contaminate water wells, creeks, and rivers.

Dangers to Health & Safety

Scientific studies show that PFAS create health and safety risks. They are linked to high cholesterol, thyroid disease, liver damage, asthma, allergies, and reduced vaccine response in children.

PFAS have also been linked with decreased fertility, newborn deaths, low birthweight, birth defects, and delayed development.

Economic, Environmental & Health Costs

Must be replaced every 10 years, creating tons of plastic landfill.

It degrades and creates toxic gas, PFAS chemicals, and microplastics.

May contain flame retardants and antimicrobials.

Needs to be watered for cooling

Destroys soil health and ability to sequester carbon

“Go For Grass” - Support Health & Safety

Sequester carbon

Contribute to soil health

Reduce heat

Support surrounding trees

Stop toxic exposure

Actions Needed

Use recycled water

Advocate for increasing budgets for park personnel

Plant drought-resistant, cheaper, and more durable types of turf

Create adjacent native plant landscaping that supports water retention and habitat

Thanks for your attention and all that you do to support the greening of our city.

Veronica Olsen