

Written comment to the Montgomery County Council:

Re: **DO NOT** convert turf field to Natural Grass Field at North Potomac

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OMB/Resources/Files/omb/pdfs/fy27/ciprec/P722701.pdf>

Montgomery County Council,

I am writing to urge the council to reconsider and change the plan to convert the field at the North Potomac Community Center (NPCC, Nancy Dacek, senior center) from its current condition of turf to grass. It is widely used especially by senior soccer players and converting to grass would eliminate our ability to play from November to March.

There is a very active senior soccer community in Montgomery County and many of us rely on the turf field at NPCC to play throughout the year in both pickup and league games managed by the MoCo recreation dept. (Keep them funded, too.) Grass county fields are closed during the winter when we continue to play on the field at NPCC. It also allows us to play when it is raining and games on grass are canceled. There are pickup or preseason scrimmage games all week (currently Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. and Sun – go to activemongomery.org and search soccer) that have very high attendance. These games are very beneficial to the physical and mental well-being of many senior members of the county. If this field were converted to grass we would not be able to play Nov-Mar which we current are able to do thanks to the turf field at NPCC. I realize the field there is about 10 years old and needs to be upgraded, but I urge you to keep it turf for our health and well-being.

In summary, I urge you to alter the current plan to change the NPCC to grass by keeping it as a turf field.

Regards,

Jeff Owrtusky