

Testimony for NPCC

Bill 16-20 Operating Budget

I am concerned to hear that the proposed budget for the County includes money to convert the turf field at the NPCC to natural grass.

I greatly value and appreciate the existing turf field, and play soccer there multiple times a week. I believe the benefits of a turf field make its replacement in kind a better alternative than switching to grass.

1. Year round availability in all but the most extreme conditions.
2. A safer playing surface. As an older player still very active on the soccer field, I am only too aware of the dangers posed by the inevitably uneven surfaces of a natural grass field, especially for ankle injuries.
3. A turf surface is relatively maintenance free. However a grass field is dependent on regular maintenance and up-keep. Goal areas rapidly become heavily worn, often muddy and completely grass-less. Given the existing heavy use, by multiple age groups this would put a severe constraint on availability while repairs are being made.

I understand the turf field is more expensive but overtime I believe the benefits make this a much more productive choice.

Thank you for your consideration.