

Paul Foley

From: Vineyarders for Grass Fields [vineyardersforgrassfields@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 4:00 PM
To: Paul Foley
Subject: Missing information in MV@Play application

To members of the Commission,

Vineyarders for Grass Fields is concerned about the amount of important information missing from the MV@Play/MVRHS application. Without it, it will be impossible for the Commission to assess the impacts and merits of this project and make an informed decision. We hope that the following information will be provided over the course of the hearing. Thank you!

Costs/Financials

- Itemized breakdown of costs for the entire synthetic turf system maintenance and replacement (for sub grade infrastructure, shock pad, carpet, infill, and maintenance materials) including shipping costs to and from the Island. The estimate provided is extremely vague.
- Cost of Geofill (per super sack so that replenishment costs can also be assessed). What are the additional shipping costs to and from the Island?
- What is the current price of the proposed Shaw Sports Turf HP 1.75 dual fiber monofilament carpet?
- Difference in quality/performance/lead content of a replacement \$500K carpet compared to a \$700K carpet? The estimate provided in the application appeared to be at the low-end of the carpet price range.
- Does a single warranty cover all aspects of the synthetic field's soil-base preparation, sub-grade infrastructure, irrigation, shock pad and carpet, top-dressing, etc., or will there be separate warranties and warranty voiding conditions for each elements (some of which could contravene each other)?
- Gale Associate's draft contract (including disclaimers, warranties for each part of system, allocation of responsibilities, etc).
- Will MVRHS purchase a maintenance package like RAD Sports of Rockland's "ProPackage" or the annual Geofill maintenance plan? What do they cost per year for Vineyard service?
- Specifics about how each synthetic field component (shock pad, carpet, infill) will be dealt with at time of replacement? Will shipping/disposal costs be guaranteed in contract or are they variable?
- MVRHS's annual expenditures on playing fields for the last 5 years.
- MVRHS's long range financial plan for the facility's operation and maintenance (including replacement).
- Financial information and statements for MV@Play (referenced in Section 16 of license agreement) and for the expected contractor, RAD Sports of Rockland.
- According to new license agreement, beyond the basic warranty, the contractor has no stake in or responsibility for future costs or performance once the field is installed, leaving MVRHS and Island taxpayers fully exposed. This is not best practice. Will MV@Play absorb all additional costs above the forecasted maintenance and replacement costs?
- Amendments referenced in license agreement.
- Will the school's current insurance policy cover this project and what will the incremental costs be?

Use/Maintenance

- Detailed breakdown for anticipated usage of field #1.
- How will MVRHS implement its policy of making the track "available to the public at large as long as individuals provide insurance certificates and pay the fee which has not been determined at this time"? What would the fee structure for taxpayers be?
- What rules would exist for users of the track and synthetic field facility?
- What policies would exist to prevent users from heat-related complications?
- What are the anticipated user fees for use by youth and adult leagues? How might those fees impact registration fees for youth sports leagues?
- What maintenance practices and documentation are necessary to maintain the warranty and keep the carpet safe?
- Who will perform the required maintenance (including test infill depths, check and repair seams, groom and de-compact field, magnetic sweeping, use sweeper to gather loose fiber and debris, GMAX testing, snow plowing, disinfecting, etc.). Which jobs will be performed by MVRHS staff and which outsourced to off-island company?
- What training will MVRHS staff receive so the warranty is not voided?
- Will MVRHS be responsible for cleaning up after the adult and recreational teams that use the fields?
- Would an extra, part-time position need to be created to handle scheduling and oversight for the new athletic field(s) as suggested in the 5/16/16 MVRHS committee meeting?

Studies (not funded by industry, manufacturers, Gale Associates, RAD Sports, or other vendors)

- Studies on long-term environmental impact of Geofill and synthetic fiber migration.
- Water quality studies for a 7-10 year old Geofill field including analysis for PAHs, SVOC's and other petroleum-derived constituents.
- Studies on health impacts on children of repeated, long term exposure to silica sand, Geofill, plastic carpet and cleaning agents.
- Long term studies on stormwater runoff.
- Lead testing (wipe sampling and air sampling during play) of an 7-10 year old Geofill synthetic field, with samples from each field component, on all colors, providing the total amount of lead in grams (NOT ppm), cadmium, chromium and phthalates.
- Given the anticipated, increased, continual usage of field #1 from 7am-6pm (sometimes til 9pm), in addition to all the other fields, is there feedback from the OB Planning Board and MVC regarding traffic flow and parking needs on the developing corridor?

Materials

- Details about how stormwater and TSS from Geofill and plastic "grass" fiber migration will be handled. Retention basin? Water treatment system to be sure metals and other contaminants do not impact aquifer or watersheds?
- Where are the materials used in Shaw Sports Turf carpets and shock pad sourced and manufactured?

- What cleaning agents and maintenance chemicals are required to keep carpet sanitary and so as not to void warranty? Ingredient list?
- Will water cannons be installed? Geofill's FAQ indicates that if proper moisture content is not maintained, replenishment rates and flammability will increase, play and GMAX levels will be negatively impacted.
- What herbicide, pre-emergent, and "additives" is the Geofil treated with?
- If cork and coconut are biodegradable as indicated in FAQ, why is Geofill identified as non-biodegradable in the MSDS?
- Why are the plastic carpet (petrochemicals) and the Geofill (coconut husks) not deemed flammable?
- Will Geofill mold in our New England climate?
- Why does Geofill ingestion or inhalation require that people "contact a health professional," and why does its handling require gloves and protective eyewear according to its MSDS?
- What governmental body regulates quality and toxicity of synthetic turf materials?
- Copies of current testing results certified by governmental regulatory body for all synthetic field components?

Clarification

- Can MV@Play please clarify the statement, "With the full support of youth athletic organizations, adult leagues, parents, and coaches, MV@PLAY identified the high school athletic campus – with its central location -- as a key resource for the entire community"? The director of the rec soccer program (representing hundreds of children) has been vocal about her concerns. Coaches and parents of young children certain to be affected by these plans were never given the opportunity to offer feedback.
- Lastly, given MV@PLAY's re-stated intention to develop a centralized athletic campus at MVRHS "across all ages and sports," with designs for phases 2 and 3 already well underway (and repeatedly presented to the public) -- as well as the Athletic Director repeated references to "fields" and broader facilities in his letter -- it seems clear that this project is being segmented. The Commissioners at the September 2016 LUPC meeting made it clear they disapprove of this practice as it flies in the face of the MVC's commitment to thoughtful planning. Please clarify how this important issue is to be handled.