

Katherine Scott

Tue 6/30/2020 7:45 PM

Dear Ms./Mr. Morrison,

On June 1 of this year I sent a letter similar to the one below to the Oak Bluffs Planning Board.

I don't think the situation has materially changed, and consequently I am submitting more or less the same letter to the MV Commission, with a few points added.

Yours truly,
Katherine Scott
Tisbury
[letter follows]

June 1. MVRHS playing field project
From: Katherine Scott <kscott@meganet.net
To: MV Commission
Tuesday 6/30/2020

To whom it may concern,

It is unconscionable that the MVRHS is blasting ahead with its plans to spend money on a project---the buildout of large-scale athletic fields and the use of artificial turf---that will have major negative fiscal and environmental consequences.

At this time no one even knows what the effect of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic will be on athletic events, travel, public health, and other issues going forward.

It is time to step and reevaluate the high school's financial priorities. Also the overall fiscal obligations of all the towns to all of the MV schools must be factored into any decision to plunge ahead with an expensive plan with quite a few unknowns. In truth, all of the upcoming needs of Island schools should be put into ONE list, and their priority widely discussed.

Please put this project on hold for at least a year, until the covid dust has settled somewhat and the whole Vineyard has a better picture of the economic and social fallout of the shutdown of the economy, both off-Island and on the Island. So far most of the Covid-19 talk has centered on masks, testing, etc. The rubber is going to hit the road when it sinks in that the economy has been tanked, and that funds will be severely restricted going forward.

To charge ahead at this point is simply irresponsible to all Islanders who foot the bills for the high school and other schools

and will be obligated to do so going forward, regardless of other financial obligations. Extreme fiscal caution is advised.

Yours sincerely,
Katherine Scott
Tisbury