

ATTN: Alex Elvin, DRI Coordinator
Martha's Vineyard Commission
PO Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

January 12, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed track and turf infield project at the high school. From what I have read about this project it is a no brainer to say yes and get this done for all the kids who desperately need this type of playing surface.

Our children deserve to have the best facility available to them. Turf right now is widely considered as the best and safest playing surface available. The specific turf field that Huntress has recommended will be made of recycled materials and in the end will be fully recycled itself. The infill is NOT crumb rubber, it is wood mulch from Georgia Pines (grown organically and harvested sustainably), which is very much in keeping with who we are as an Island Community.

This field is the definition of multi-use and can handle thousands of hours of competitive play. Turf allows use in almost any weather condition which can only benefit our grass fields in the end. Giving them a much needed rest period while they can grow and heal properly. Something that is absolutely not possible at this time with the constant use our grass fields get.

The same town who initiated the water bottle ban held a special town meeting and voted to support a synthetic turf field. 5 of the 6 Islands towns support this project so I do hope you will vote in its favor.

This will not be a burden to the taxpayers. This will be privately funded and donors like the YMCA, MV Museum and Community Services are ready to help and are just waiting for the MVC to approve this project so it can be built.

Speaking from a parent of children coming into the high school in the next 2 years this is an absolute necessity and should be approved. Thank you for the time and allowing my voice to be heard.

Lyra Paciello

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