

From: [KBP](#)
To: [Carol Ann Desiderio](#)
Subject: public comment
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 8:50:16 AM

Please read into the record, thank-you

I am a 4th generation Malden resident and 18-year homeowner in Ward 6, formerly a 45-year resident of Ward 5. I have 2 children who are 1st responders in Malden. One, a firefighter has been made aware, by his Union, of the cancer-causing issues regarding PFAS in the firefighter's equipment. I personally am very invested in the well-being of the City of Malden. My 3 children have all played sports on that field, football and softball in the 1990s to 2012. My Dad played on that field in the 1940s with best friend Ron Anderson, a cousin to former Councilor Neal Anderson, I myself attended concerts in the early 1970s there as a teen. And I have worked at the Salemwood as a substitute school nurse from 2009 to 2014 and have seen the schoolchildren using that field. These children deserve better, they deserve what other schoolchildren in Malden have, a safe, clean, real grass fields!

Please do not allow the PFAS plastic turf to be implanted in Roosevelt Park. This turf is very unhealthy for many reasons, including long-term toxic issues environmentally and physically for humans who use the field. As a resident of an area in Ward 6 that floods often, I am also concerned with the improbability of the turf to ameliorate that existing issue, despite what the pro-turf panelists have said, and yes I have attended each meeting regarding this issue for several years now, either in person or by Zoom.

Many towns and cities across America and Europe are removing and/or banning these turf fields. Knowing the problems associated with this turf, the BOH has an obligation to implement and uphold healthy standards for its Residents, even if it seems to be unpopular at this time. Sadly, Councilor Simonelli has evidently now reversed his decision and is again in favor of turf. This is suprising, as toxicity is a battle he is mindful of in his own ward. As Councilor O'Malley and Councilor at Large Colon-Hayes have bravely tried to put forward, this is not shutting the door on sports in Malden, we love sports and keeping children active, it's important for their health. There is a possibility of utilizing other fields and negotiating schedules with other teams and with the City of Melrose at Pine Banks. The abutting residents of Dell Street, and Playstead Road also need to be listened to, for this is their neighborhood 24/7.

Thank-you,

Sincerely,

Kim Sterrett, RN
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Malden MA 02148

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