

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 06/03/2015

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 06/22/2015

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-1197-S1

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: The SLNC is concerned about the use of artificial turf, which compacts and kills soil microbiology, generating runoff and providing no carbon sequestering benefit. It also creates rather than mitigates the heat island effect caused by the changing climate.

There is a need to look at options such as artificial turf as an alternative for drought-friendly landscaping.

Additional Information: Please see attached letter.

Many Thanks,

Christine Kantner

Board Secretary

On behalf of the

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



**SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**

Serving the Silver Lake
Community Since 2003

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June 16, 2015

Tom LaBonge
Councilmember, 4th District
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

cc: Felipe Fuentes

Re: Council File No. 14-1197-S1

Dear Councilmember LaBonge:

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council is concerned about the use of artificial turf, which compacts and kills soil microbiology, generating runoff and providing no carbon sequestering benefit. It also creates rather than mitigates the heat island effect caused by the changing climate. As recent news coverage of Los Angeles rains showed, one inch of rain generates 8 billion gallons of runoff in the City. This urban runoff is the primary source of ocean pollution, and could be a valuable source of irrigation, groundwater recharge, and enhancing stream flows. Also, landscapes with living soil can help sequester carbon.

We wanted to express our concerns to you, as the co-author of Council File No. 14-1197-S1, which states there is a need to look at options such as artificial turf as an alternative for drought-friendly landscaping. We ask that the City of Los Angeles discourage or prevent the use of artificial turf, as neighboring cities have done, rather than encourage it.

Rather than using artificial turf, we recommend the watershed approach, which 1) uses rainwater as a source of irrigation; 2) creates permeable, living soil using natural woodchip mulch or leaf litter, 3) uses permeable hardscaping; and 4) utilizes climate-appropriate plants and drip irrigation.

Please feel free to contact me at green@silverlakenc.org or (323) 660-2780 to share or request more information.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hart
Chair, Green Committee
On behalf of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

I certify that this statement represents the official position of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council.

Christine Kantner, Board Secretary
On behalf of the
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council