

## Communication from Public

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**Council File No:** 24-0602

**Comments for Public Posting:** Whereas, LA City Council has initiated CF 24-0602 to review and update city policy regarding the use of artificial turf products in LA public spaces, and the potential that the use of such products may be greatly cur-tailed or disallowed because of this policy review, Whereas the city of Los Angeles Climate Emergency Mobilization Office report states: Artificial turf, while often marketed as a low-maintenance solution, poses significant risks, costs, and both environmental and health concerns. There is enough evidence that points to serious concerns for health and sustainability from these products that warrants consideration of an immediate ban or at least serious limitation of new installation and use at city facilities, especially athletic fields used by children. It is important to note that while these are some of the potential health risks associated with artificial turf, the extent of the risk can vary depending on factors such as the specific type of turf, the frequency of use, and individual susceptibility. The City of Los Angeles should consider a moratorium on artificial turf installations, until these costs and environmental and public health concerns are studied and verified by independent sources. Whereas the West Harbor development in San Pedro is proposing to install a 50,000-sq.-ft. artificial turf lawn surface to serve as the amphitheater seating area during performances and otherwise serve as a public park and open space. Whereas the primary purpose of the proposed West Harbor development is to bring visitors to the waterfront by making it a high point of attraction for San Pedro, a goal we all share. If waterfront amenities are perceived as welcoming, enjoyable, and safe, then people will come. But artificial turf has so many problems that it will inhibit public presence. Therefore, an inviting, safe, and natural grass lawn is a much better option. Whereas the problems with artificial turf are multiple. Even if one or more of the reasons below are discounted, the multiplicity of reasons makes the choice of artificial turf undesirable for the San Pedro Waterfront and makes natural grass the desired solution. • Artificial turf infill is hazardous • PFAS are almost certainly present in artificial turf • Plastic pollution comes from artificial turf • Artificial turf is harmfully hot • Artificial turf requires watering • Natural grass is cheaper than artificial turf Therefore, I request that the Port of Los Angeles and all its tenants and subcontractors do not purchase

or install any synthetic turf on Port property, including the entire West Harbor development, and the proposed sound stage and theater within that project. West Harbor's intent is to be a premier destination for the South Bay — attracting locals and outsiders for active and passive recreation in our town. Natural grass is friendlier, healthier, and cheaper.