

SUBSTITUTE ITEM NO. 12

MOTION

I MOVE that the Council adopt the following recommendations:

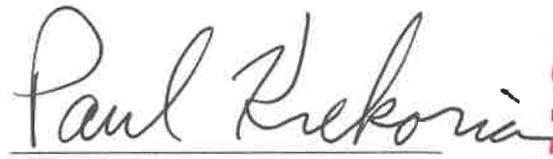
1. INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) to report to Council with the following:
 - a. In coordination with the City's Chief Heat Officer and the Climate Emergency Management Office (CEMO), a summary of policies regarding synthetic grass or artificial turf in jurisdictions with climate and water supply issues analogous to Los Angeles, and their heat impacts, and identify state, academic, non-profit, advocacy, and labor partners for an advanced peer reviewed study on how jurisdictions should regulate artificial grass in order to set a standard to eradicate "forever chemicals", address drastic heat issues, maintenance staffing and costs, water use, and liability issues on artificial turf, compared to drastic heat issues, maintenance staffing and costs, water use, and liability issues on natural turf in order to clarify true costs of artificial turf vs natural turf for recreational activities citywide, including at LAUSD, and the Community College District; this study should also include considerations relating to waste, recycling, and plastics elimination, as a goal of the overall policy."
 - b. In coordination with the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of General Services, and the Department of Water and Power, an analysis of onsite lifecycle water use of current city synthetic turf / artificial grass fields vs water use would have been for real grass fields.
 - c. In coordination with the Department of Recreation and Parks, an analysis of the downtime required for maintenance and upkeep of synthetic turf / artificial grass fields vs. real grass fields and its impacts on the availability of the park for disadvantaged communities.
 - d. In coordination with the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and the Department of General Services (GSD), an analysis of lifecycle costs (installation, operation and maintenance) for different types of turf surfaces.
 - e. In coordination with the Department of Building and Safety and the Bureau of Engineering on recommendations to update our building codes regarding synthetic turf / artificial grass, requiring industry best practices to prevent rubber fill materials runoff, limit heat effects, and to limit and eventually eliminate the use PFAS in synthetic turf / artificial grass used in the City.
 - f. In coordination with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Report on incentives and rebate programs to remove and replace synthetic turf and artificial grass, and encourage the transition to California-friendly landscaping.
 - g. In coordination with the City Administrative Officer (CAO), RAP, GSD, and other impacted departments as needed, report to Council on the budgetary and policy changes needed in order to ensure that all City agencies adhere to the intent of this policy.
 - h. In consultation with the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Los Angeles Community College District, private schools, and commercial properties, provide options and recommendations to incentivize the replacement of synthetic grass or artificial turf on school playgrounds, athletic fields, and other uses, or to utilize the best practices when installing or replacing synthetic grass or artificial turf.

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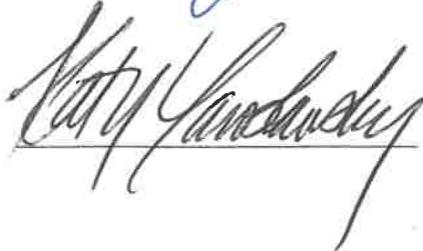
- i. In coordination with the LADWP, recommendations to limit or end the practice of watering of synthetic turf and artificial lawns.
2. INSTRUCT the RAP, and REQUEST the LADWP, to immediately begin work on a study that will reveal true maintenance costs needed to keep active recreation fields in good condition and provide citywide access across all Districts. This study shall include the following:
 - a. Comparisons between synthetic and natural fields in the areas of water consumption, weed and pest abatement, field wear, including downtime for field repair and replenishment, heat mitigation comparisons between natural and synthetic surfaces, and potential liability concerns between material types and state of good repair.
 - b. Overview of what the RAP has done to address disparities between synthetic and natural fields. RAP staff shall engage with a variety of active sports associations, youth sports associations, parents associations, and environmental organizations in this study.
3. INSTRUCT the CAO and the RAP, and REQUEST the LADWP, to identify partners and funds for the study needed.
4. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Sanitation, with the assistance of the LADWP, to report to Council with recommendations on the environmental and financial impacts associated with the processing of synthetic grass waste in order to not affect the recharge of groundwater aquifers, soils, and biodiversity within the Los Angeles region.
5. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Street Services, Urban Forestry Division, and the Investigation and Enforcement Division, to work with the CLA, CEMO, and all agencies with respect to the artificial turf policy, with regard to the City's tree canopy and soil health.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFELD
Councilmember, 3rd District


PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

September 17, 2024