

**Selectmen's Environmental Action Task Force
Artificial Turf Fields Resolution
Proposed for adoption by the Board of Selectmen
Thursday March 26, 2009**

WHEREAS, the Town of Greenwich (“Town”) Environmental Action Task Force (“Task Force”) has been established to recommend policy to the Board of Selectmen with regard to making all town government operations environmentally sustainable;

WHEREAS, the Town aspires to lead among municipalities in providing safe, healthful, environmentally responsible and financially prudent recreational facilities;

WHEREAS, the Town provides athletic fields for the conduct and support of organized athletics for its children;

WHEREAS, artificial turf athletic fields made of various plastics and other polymers rather than natural grass have been put forward as a means of meeting the Town's aspirations;

WHEREAS, the Task Force studied available scientific, health, government, environmental and industry literature, hosted presentations from alternative technologies and reviewed available Town records relative to these technologies;

WHEREAS, the Taskforce identified and raised questions about potential health, environmental and financial concerns relating to the choice between artificial turf and natural grass fields discussed in the accompanying report to the Selectmen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town evaluate proposed investments to replace natural grass fields with new artificial fields or renovate existing artificial turf fields with consideration to health, environmental, and cost/benefit issues;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town sample its current artificial turf fields and infill, using an independent testing laboratory and government accepted testing protocols, to evaluate the presence of and risk posed by chemicals of concern;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town consider recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, other Federal and State agencies to develop protocols and to monitor field temperatures, post appropriate advisories and establish temperature safety standards for all town artificial turf fields;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town continues to develop artificial turf field user and maintenance standards to assist and better regulate any identified post-construction usage and maintenance concerns, in compliance with the manufacturer’s warranty;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen establish an Artificial Turf Working Group, to include Board of Education, Department of Parks & Recreation, Conservation Commission and Department of Health representatives, to review the initiatives set forth herein and to periodically advise the Board of Selectmen on compliance herewith and any updates necessitated by changed conditions and good practice;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town consider life-cycle costs in the financial analysis of any artificial turf field acquisition decision;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town include in any new artificial turf project specifications, a requirement that best available technology be employed with cost efficient and proper consideration to health, safety and environmental compliance regulations.