

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
MEDIA ADVISORY**

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The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

The Montgomery County Planning Board

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**PLANNING BOARD INVITES PUBLIC TO COMMENT ON
PILOT PROGRAM TO INSTALL ARTIFICIAL FIELD TURF**

SILVER SPRING, MD - The Montgomery County Planning Board invites ballfield users, park visitors and others to comment during its **afternoon session, Thursday, February 23**, on its staff's proposal to select a suitable soccer or football field for a pilot program to test the effectiveness and durability of artificial turf. The meeting will be held in the M-NCPPC auditorium, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring.

Artificial or synthetic turf is a manufactured alternative to grass or sod that provides a more reliable playing surface for athletic fields with fewer rainouts and rescheduled games, less maintenance and down time. It is playable in all weather conditions except during electrical storms.

To review the staff report, those interested can log on to www.mcparkandplanning.org and click on weekly agendas, then on the staff reports for February 23, agenda item 3.

To solicit additional feedback, the staff invites the public to attend either of two Recreation Advisory Board meetings for a presentation and discussion of the artificial turf pilot program. They are scheduled as follows:

Eastern Area Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 7-9 p.m.

Fairland Community Center

14906 Old Columbia Pike

Burtonsville, MD 20866

Upcounty Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 7-9 p.m.

Upcounty Regional Services Center

12900 Middlebrook Road

Germantown, MD 20874

After receiving comments at these three public meetings, the staff will prepare its final report, including a limited number of recommended locations, for presentation at a Planning

Board meeting this spring. At that time, the Board will hear additional public testimony before its discussion and final selection of the ballfield to participate in the artificial turf pilot program.

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