

From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:35:53 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

P&R Commission



Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: Lisa DeVuyst <lmdevuyst@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 1:04 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Is there going through be a playground? Preferably with swings, slides, and alot of climbing structures. Good for Elementary Age kids.

What the proposed date it'll be completed and opened to the public?

Thank you!
Lisa DeVuyst

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:36:19 AM

P&R Commission

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-----Original Message-----

From: Denise Pauly-Hovey <denisepauly@mac.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 1:06 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Hello and thank you for this design. We really do not want a rubberized track, a sandy gravel is much more natural without the toxic fumes of rubber, nor the hear that comes from rubber.

Will there be a fountain to sit around and look at?

Thanks,

Denise

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:36:36 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

P&R Commission



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From: Rahul Nayyar <iamrahulnayyar@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 1:46 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Hello,

Thank you for sending the proposed design, it looks great! Really excited for our community.

One quick comment -

I think a full court basketball hoop would be more useful as often times, there is one group playing for a significant amount of time. Often times, the younger kids are not able to play because of this. If there was a full court, it would allow for more kids to play. It seems that there may be space.

Thank you in advance!

Rahul

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:37:08 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

P&R Commission



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E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: Chishti, M <mchishti@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:34 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

I would have really loved to see a regulation size 400 meter track. In the post I saw that requested ideas, there were more comments requesting an official length track than the request for pickleball courts, or a baseball field, though all of those are great. There aren't any public 400m tracks anywhere in north county and it's sorely needed. Running is booming in popularity and a standard length track would have been really nice. Thank you!

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:38:02 AM

Jamie Kennedy
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799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Mercedes Kuder <mercedeskuder@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 3:28 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Cc: Darryl <darrylkuder@gmail.com>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Hello,

You should consider a full size basketball court so games can be played by the local residents. This also makes two hoops available for practice.

We have strict HOA guidelines on basketball hoops in RR so it's great to see basketball was incorporated into your design plan!

Thank you,

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:38:15 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
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From: Sara Griggers <saralovesv@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 3:36 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Good afternoon...
I thought there was an are for a dog park?
Thank you,
Sara G

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:38:27 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
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From: jdorocak@aol.com <jdorocak@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 3:51 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Cc: John Dorocak <jdorocak@aol.com>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

TO: parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov
FROM: John R. Dorocak
DATE: 07/12/2024
RE: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Dear parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov

Thank you for the email.

If possible, I would suggest at least 1 Basketball full court, which, of course, could be used as 2 half courts.

Thank you once again.

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:38:37 AM

Jamie Kennedy
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799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
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E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Gayle Ades <lgtaades3@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 4:34 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Hello,

We are residents off of Cannon. We don't see anything about parking, hours of park operation, safety and security mentioned in this design. Please address these issues so that homeowners don't have to deal with these problems. We have enough issues with parking and security within the tracts in our development with Sage High School and people parking here to hike/bike the surrounding trails.

Thanks,

Larry E and J. Gayle Ades
760-419-7928 cell
Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:38:56 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Positive feedback



Jamie Kennedy
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E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: Robin Barrett <robinpix@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 4:42 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Greetings,

The design looks great!

Robin

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:40:18 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
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www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: decroce@aol.com <decroce@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 7:26 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Robertson Ranch Park design. It appears you have taken the best parts of each proposed plan and consolidated them into one. Well done.

I do have one comment on the layout of the pickleball courts. Because of the sun, pickleball courts must lay north-south. It's impossible to play on a court that runs east-west. The sun will always be in your eyes.

Sincerely,

Deborah Foley
3759 Greccourt Way
Carlsbad, 92008

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:40:31 AM

Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
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799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Georgia Stroud <ogeorgia29@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 1:11 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

The park looks perfect. Everything is placed in the right area. It's going to be very nice for everybody.
Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:40:58 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
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799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
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www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: Donna Engleman <dleq@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 11:05 AM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Don't need anymore pickle ball courts. More softball fields would be better.

dle

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:41:05 AM

Jamie Kennedy
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799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynda Daniels <lynda6367@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 12:52 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Please no artificial turf in the park! Grass only!

Lynda Daniels
4547 Piccadilly Ct
Carlsbad 92010
Sent from my iPad

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:41:25 AM

Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: marisela perez-dunehew <mariselpdunehew@att.net>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:13 AM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Feedback on Robertson Ranch Park design

Hello. The design looks great. Pickleball is in such high demand sport that I recommend adding 2-3 more courts.

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: For the public record. P&R Comm 15 July 2024; Item: Departmental Report 1
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:43:44 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[Carlsbad 15 July 2024.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
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799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
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E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: D Woelke <dmwoelke@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 11:50 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: For the public record. P&R Comm 15 July 2024; Item: Departmental Report 1

Attached please find our comments on the above item for the public record. Kindly distribute the attached ELECTRONICALLY to all Commissioners early Monday morning so that all have the opportunity to review as well as avail themselves of embedded sources.

Your timely assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Dianne Woelke MSN, Board Member
Safe Healthy Playing Fields, Inc.
<https://www.safehealthyplayingfields.org>
SHPFI is an all-volunteer nonprofit 501-c-3

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Safe Healthy Playing Fields Inc.



www.safehealthyplayingfields.org

Parks & Recreation Commission Report: Robertson Ranch **Recommended Master Plan**

15 July 2024

Dear Carlsbad Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Winston and Commissioners Rasines, Sander, Gisbert, Knight and Allemann:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments on behalf of Safe Healthy Playing Fields, Inc. (SHPFI).

SHPFI is an all-volunteer 501-c-3 non-profit organization. We are committed to educating communities, policymakers and elected officials about the health, safety and financial realities of plastic fields versus grass fields and other synthetic surfaces and playground equipment for their parks and schools. Our constituency ranges from concerned individuals to community and civic organizations, legal, healthcare and science professionals, municipal leaders and state legislators.

SHPFI urges you to not use fossil fuel based petrochemical plastic products in Robertson Ranch Park and to develop a policy that provides open, natural, non-toxic and safe places for all who reside and recreate in Carlsbad.

Carlsbad must do more to protect children, adults and the environment.

Please be aware of pertinent legislation, current and upcoming regulation:

- [CA DTSC](#) - Microplastics, addition to Priority Chemicals List
- [CA DTSC](#) - PFAS and other chemicals of concern in synthetic turf (pg. 14).
- [CA DTSC](#) - 6PPD in Motor Vehicle Tires; under regulation
- [CA DTSC](#) - Zinc in Motor Vehicle Tires; pending regulation
- [CA DTSC](#) - Chemicals of Concern in Motor Vehicle Tires; pending regulation
- [CA Statewide Microplastics Strategy](#) - Senate Bill No.1263, Chapter 609, 2018
- [AB 285](#) - Climate Change as part of Core Curriculum, K-12. Chaptered into Law

The following jurisdictions have either banned, have a current interim ordinance, or are in process of establishing moratoriums/ordinances/bans on synthetic turf:

- [Millbrae](#)
- [San Marino](#)
- [Santa Clara County](#)
- [Los Angeles](#)
- [California Coastal Commission](#)
- States of CA, CO, MD, ME, MN, NY, RI, VT have enacted laws related to synthetic turf. Additional states have active bills in their legislatures while an ever growing number of local jurisdictions across the country have moratoriums or have won battles against installations by referendum.

Banned use of synthetic playground surfacing:

- [California Coastal Commission](#)
 - [State of Maryland](#)
- Additional states have pending legislation regarding surfacing materials.

TOXICITY:

Ninety-nine percent of plastics are made from fossil fuel based petrochemicals. This includes products in current use in Carlsbad parks and schools as well potentially proposed for Robertson Ranch Park. With the lack of specificity in the staff report, the park could be plastic from top to bottom: from plastic shade sails, to plastic playground equipment and surfacing to a plastic track and plastic multipurpose playing field.

Over 16,000 chemicals have been found in plastics; 4200 are known to be bioaccumulative, persistent, mobile in the environment and/or toxic; only 982 (6%) have come under regulation by any global body. The remainder of the 16,000 chemicals have not been studied for safety or toxicity. More than 1,300 chemicals of concern are actively marketed for use in plastics and can be found in all plastic types. [Less than 1% of plastic chemicals may be classified as non-hazardous](#). "Recycled plastics" have been found to contain [more toxic chemicals](#) than virgin plastics. [Less than 6% of plastics are recycled](#), and claims of recyclability perpetuate the myth that the world can recycle its way out of the catastrophic tsunami of plastic pollution that has enveloped the earth.

PFAS:

Chemicals in plastics, including polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE), neurotoxic phthalates, bisphenols and PFAS, add disease burden and health care costs in the United States. For 2018, the attributable cost of plastics to disease and health care related costs was \$249 billion; for [PFAS alone, it was \\$22.4 billion](#). The societal cost globally is estimated at [\\$16 trillion USD](#) annually for PFAS clean ups and health care for impacted individuals.

The need to stop further PFAS exposure cannot be overstated. [PFAS](#) can cause multiple [reproductive disorders](#) (including a 40% decrease in female fertility; a [decrease of 62.3% total sperm count in males](#)); [Crohn's disease](#); [breast](#), [testicular](#), [kidney](#), [prostate](#) and [liver](#) cancers. They cross the blood-brain barrier and are related to [Autism Spectrum Disorder](#), [Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder](#), increased deaths from [Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases](#); [immunological effects](#); increased [serum cholesterol](#); effects on infant [birth weights](#); impaired glucose metabolism, insulin resistance, dyslipidemia and adiposity in [children and adolescents](#); [thyroid hormone disruption](#) (including neonatal) and [thyroid cancer](#). Because they are bioaccumulative, PFAS exposure can impact [multiple generations](#). [Babies are being born pre-polluted with PFAS](#).

PHTHALATES:

Phthalates are used extensively in the manufacturing of plastics. They have [endocrine disrupting](#) as well as [neurotoxic](#) effects. As plasticizers, they are used in synthetic turf as well as in [tire manufacturing](#). Use of phthalate-containing products is choosing to risk impairment of children's I.Q.s, their brains and their overall health.

LEAD (Pb):

Found in playground surfacing, along with polycyclic hydrocarbons (PAHs), volatile organic compounds, arsenic, cadmium and, is the heavy metal lead. The [World Health Organization](#), [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), the [CDC](#) and researchers [Drs. Stuart L Shalat and Alan Stern](#) and [Dr. Bruce Lanphear](#) all state there is **NO** safe level of lead, a potent neurotoxin.

Designated as impervious surfaces, synthetic turf fields contribute 27,000 gallons of toxic runoff per acre for every inch of rain. Carlsbad already has well over 1.2 million square feet of plastic turf in schools and parks alone. In 2023, the city received 17.91" of rain fall, contributing well over 13.3 million gallons of PFAS and other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) laden runoff to the city's surface, ground and eventually drinking water, and into the ocean.

MICROPLASTICS:

[Research](#) by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles, and the Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research, Long Beach, found **"Children's playgrounds contain more microplastics than other areas in urban parks."**

In addition to the base resin, plastics include multiple toxic and cancer causing chemicals. They break down with UV radiation and environmental exposure, and even more quickly in hot and wet conditions, releasing microplastics. Plastics take centuries to fully decompose, leaching toxic chemicals to soil, air and water and off gassing methane and ethylene, impacting generations to come.

Microplastics not only leach chemicals, including endocrine disrupting PFAS and phthalates (also neurotoxic), they adsorb other chemicals and bacteria, posing particular risk to the food chain. Even Best Management Practices (BMPs) will capture only a small percentage of the microplastics and virtually none of the PFAS and other toxic chemicals from synthetic turf and playgrounds. Drainage systems are not expensive granular activated carbon (GAC) filters.

In humans, micro- and nano-plastics have been found in:

- [Heart](#)
- [Liver and spleen](#)
- [Lungs](#)
- [Blood](#)
- [Placenta](#) (maternal and fetal sides)
- [Newborn and adult feces](#)
- [Breastmilk](#)
- [Brain](#)
- [Penis, Testes and semen](#)
- [Kidney](#)
- [Uterus](#)

Microplastic synthetic turf blades have been found in [Lake Tahoe](#) (personal email communications with researchers at Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC)) and the [ocean](#). In 2021, researchers found that synthetic turf fields in Toronto contribute the [2nd highest amount of microplastics](#) to the environment with only litter contributing a higher amount. This makes synthetic turf clearly a major point source of PFAS and microplastic pollution that cannot go unaddressed. [Lake Tahoe researchers](#) found high levels of polyethylene and polypropylene in the lake and **"...recorded plastics concentrations more than three times higher than those sampled using a similar method in the North Atlantic subtropical gyre."**

Published on 29 June 2023, [research](#) by the University of Barcelona found that synthetic turf blades contribute 15% of macro- and meso plastics in waterways and the ocean, leading to the California Coastal Commission's decision to not allow it for use in the coastal zone and finding synthetic turf is not superior superior to natural grass nor sustainable.

HEAT:

Always hotter than nearby natural grass, concrete and asphalt, plastics pose a risk for thermal burns, sometimes significant enough to require hospitalization. At a surface temperature of 118°F a first-degree [thermal burn](#) occurs in 15 minutes, becoming a 3rd degree burn (full skin-thickness) in 20 minutes; at a temperature of 140°F, 1st degree burns occur in 3 seconds, and 3rd degree burns in 5 seconds.

An estimated [9,000 student athletes](#) are treated for exertional heat illness each year. The reduced functional level created by heat from synthetic surfaces, even at reasonable ambient temperatures can contribute to injuries due to compromised functional level.



The collage consists of several images: a close-up of a child's foot with a large, red, blistered burn; a hand holding a smaller, red, blistered burn; a thermometer showing a temperature of approximately 118°F (42°C); a child's legs in red protective coverings; and a background of a bright, fiery sky.

- Synthetic turf and plastic surfacing are always hotter than concrete, asphalt, natural grass and other natural surfaces
- At a surface temperature of 118°F a 1st degree burn occurs in 15 minutes, becoming a 3rd degree burn (full skin-thickness) in 20 minutes
- At a surface temperature of 140°F, a 1st degree burn occurs in 3 seconds, and 3rd degree burn in 5 seconds
- Synthetic turf readily reaches temperatures of 160°F to 180°F and have reached over 200°F

#NoChildFriedOutside

High temperatures pose a serious risk for heat illness. One of the predisposing factors for heat illness are prescription drugs for treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, [ADHD](#), which can be caused by PFAS chemicals found in plastics. ADHD, which affects approximately 7% of 6 to 11 year olds, and has been declared a serious public health problem.

Children are not small adults. They are more readily impacted by [heat illness](#) due to:

- Heat production – Children have higher metabolic rates than adults which leads to higher production of more heat.
- Body surface area – Younger children absorb more heat because they have a greater body area to body mass ratio. For older children and teens, increased body fat and low fitness levels are contributing factors.
- Blood circulation – Children are less able to cool their body temperature by shunting their blood from their body core to their body surface due to lower cardiac output and smaller blood volume.
- Sweat production – Children produce less sweat per gland and sweat at higher body temperatures than adults.
- Fluid replenishment – Children are less likely to self-regulate hydration if unsupervised.

Children experiencing heat illness are most likely to present with significant neurological symptoms- from delirium, hallucinations, poor muscle control and unsteady gait, difficulty with speaking or unclear speech to seizures or coma. These symptoms may be readily confused with head trauma, epilepsy or drug overdose. Mortality is high and if a child survives heat stroke, their risk for recurrence of heat illness is increased.

As temperatures rise, the more toxic chemicals will be released and available via inhalation and more microplastics be released and available for ingestions and inhalation. As the body heats, it is susceptible to absorbing more chemicals. PFAS has been shown to be absorbable via the [skin](#).

Synthetic turf fields create massive heat islands, extending beyond the foot print of the field itself, impacting all who are nearby and even extending into neighboring residential areas.



Stagecoach Park, La Costa Canyon HS ↑

Alga Norte Park





The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory released a report in April 2024 finding that the greenhouse [emissions from plastics](#) is four times those emitted by the aviation industry.

INJURIES:

In addition to increased risk from thermal burns and heat related illness, in independent peer reviewed research shows an increased risk for non-contact [lower extremity injuries](#) and [concussions](#), particularly for [children](#)- playing on synthetic turf is a contributing factor.

*“The available body of literature suggests a higher rate of foot and ankle injuries on artificial turf, both old-generation and new-generation turf, compared with natural grass. High-quality studies also suggest that the rates of knee injuries and hip injuries are similar between playing surfaces, although elite-level football athletes may be more predisposed to knee injuries on artificial turf compared with natural grass. **Only a few articles in the literature reported a higher overall injury rate on natural grass compared with artificial turf, and all of these studies received financial support from the artificial turf industry.**”*

Professional players across multiple sports are calling for a [return to natural grass](#). Elite soccer players will not play on plastic turf and the National Women’s Soccer League sued in order to play on natural grass.

Exposure to Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus ([MRSA](#)) and [other bacteria](#) are a potentially life threatening consequence of dermal abrasions, known as [turf burns](#), due to friction on synthetic turf.

- 315,000 to 850,000 concussions every year occur among high school athletes.
- Repeated concussions increase risk of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)/
- The Concussion Legacy Foundation reported that repetitive brain trauma is associated with CTE and has been found in 17 year olds. [41.4%](#) of athletes under age 30 show signs of CTE.
- In high school American football players, concussions occur when head impacts approach 95 g.
- For youth American football players aged 9-14; 62.4 ± 29.7 g was the threshold for concussions.
- Research published [Jan 2024](#) showed significantly greater impact deceleration on synthetic turf compared to natural grass surfaces, showing greater potential for concussions on synthetic fields.

- Newer synthetic turf fields require a greater fall distance to attenuate head to surface impact, which again, puts children at higher risk.



How often is Carlsbad testing for hardness (GMax testing or other) or heat on its synthetic turf and playground surfaces and equipment?

COSTS:

Ranging upwards of \$1.2 million for a 72,000 sq. ft. synthetic turf field, \$1,0 million plus for a single top to bottom plastic playground, and probably a like amount for the highly toxic plastic track, these are very poor investments for short lived products. It is also oddly perverse to expect taxpayers to fund items that are toxic to their children, all park goes, and negatively impacts biodiversity and the environment for generations to come.

Hidden costs for synthetic turf alone include:

- Infill replenishment- required to maintain GMax score (1.5 to 5 tons/year).
- GMax hardness testing (\$1500/field).
- Repairs.
- Cleaning.
- Maintenance.
- Removal and transport.
- Replacement - future higher costs, if not prohibited by law and/or regulation.
- Disposal- landfilling at hazardous-waste facilities may be required in the near future.
- legal expenses related to lawsuits (injuries; violations outlined above).
- Change orders (logos; blade length or density; changes in infill or shock pad thickness; colors).

Not recyclable:

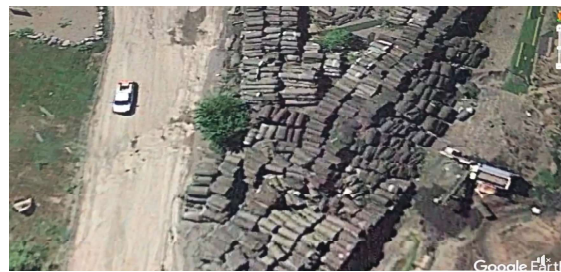
Less than 6% of plastics are recycled. Made of mixed plastics, synthetic turf is not recyclable, not sustainable and is a linear, not a circular, product.

Claims of recyclability are false. Chopping up of plastics, whether plastic fields, playgrounds equipment or shade sails would only hide toxic chemicals in lower quality products, require more virgen plastic, more PFAS and other highly toxic chemicals. Playground surfaces, sails and playground equipment are landfilled. Most landfills and carpet recyclers do not accept synthetic turf. What isn't landfilled is often improperly disposed of on agricultural land or stored in warehouses.

200 Rolls of old turf at 2,000 lbs. each, from San Pasqual High School stashed behind Escondido High School in April 2024. Still there July 6 2024.



Other locations:



NATURE BASED OPTIONS:

Failure of natural grass playing fields occurs when:

- Attention is not paid to soil, root zone and understanding (natural) drainage capabilities
- No inclusion analysis of soil
Texture, nutrients, organic matter, living biome
- Inappropriate selection of sod/seed for soil needs and climatic zone
- Proper maintenance doesn't take place
- Inadequate aeration (3 to 5x/yr.)
- No/inappropriate fertilization

Organic/Regenerative management more cost effective over time

Reduces risk of liability for costly violation of US Clean Water Act
NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Permit

TRUE Costs from Natural Grass Experts:

Expectations drive decisions. Commitment drives success!!

Low End :

\$3 - \$5/sq. ft.

Native soil

irrigation

Crown with min. 1% gradient

Mid Range:

\$5/sq.ft.

Native soil, amendments

to 8" irrigation

\$8 - \$10/sq.ft.

Native soil

amendments to 8"

irrigation

drainage system

sand cap

High End:

\$12 - \$13/sq.ft.

"All the bells and whistles"

Amortized over 24 years, a high end field with all of the "bells and whistles" would cost
\$43,333 per year

Safer nature based options:

Playground surfacing

- Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF)
- Sand
- Wood chips/bark
- Pea gravel

Playground equipment

- Natural wood elements
- Challenge balance, coordination
- Endless options
- Stimulate senses
- Customizable
- Foster imagination; creativity

Shade options


- Canopy trees
- Pergola structures
- Pavilion structures
- Solar structures

****Young children are particularly vulnerable to chemical exposure due to developmental windows****

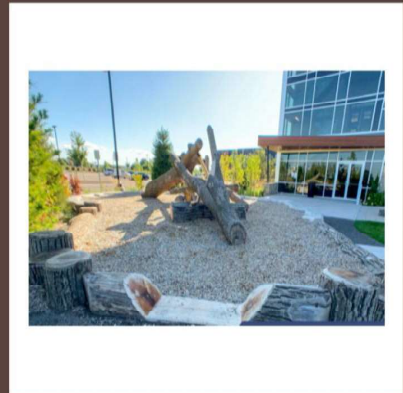
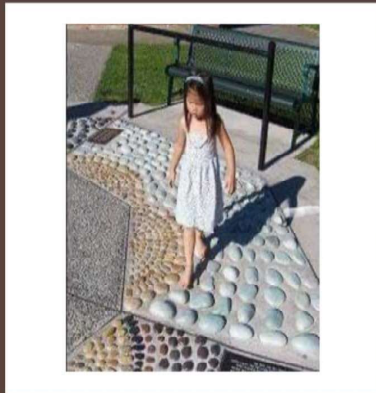


REMEMBER WHEN
YOU
HAD AN IMAGINATION?





LAST CHILD
IN THE
WOODS
SAVING OUR
CHILDREN
FROM
NATURE-
DEFICIT
DISORDER
RICHARD LOUV





Synthetic turf and plastic playgrounds are poor \$\$\$ financial \$\$\$ investments. Natural grass and playgrounds are an investment in people the environment and the future.

SHPFI urges you to provide transparency and clarity on what is potentially hidden behind terms used in the Robertson Ranch Park plan, as well as the toxicity of plastic products and what such materials would mean under CEQA as multiple and cumulative effects:

- Multipurpose field
- “Traditional playground”
- “Nature *inspired*” playground
- Shade structures

We strongly urge Carlsbad to invest in people, the environment, and the future. Your grandchildren’s grandchildren will thank you for not leaving them with toxic plastic waste.

Respectfully submitted:

Diana Conway, President
 Dianne Woelke MSN, Board Member
 Safe Healthy Playing Fields, Inc.
<https://www.safehealthyplayingfields.org>SH
 PFI is an all-volunteer nonprofit 501-c-3



From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Park at Cannon proposal
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:41:43 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: Rebecca Kelly <rebecca.kelly760@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 7:52 AM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Park at Cannon proposal

Looks wonderful!!!! everything the community needs and wants is here! Great job guys! Thank you!!!!

CAUTION: *Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.*

From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Robertson Park
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:39:49 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
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City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: Sanaz Majd <majdmd@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 12:12 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Robertson Park

The proposed plan appears beautiful. My few suggestions:

1. please make sure there are enough picnic tables (preferably with shade) so that residents do not need to struggle to find a spot to sit with a group. In addition to enough small non-covered benches scattered around the park for short-term rest (like parents at a park) so that they don't take up the shaded benches just to wait for their child to play, for instance.
2. Picnic tables by the Community Garden would also be nice to have.
3. Create a bike "lane" on the rubberized track that is divided from joggers. That way people can safely bike, roller skate, ride their scooters, etc.
4. A water feature (pond or water fall) would be such a nice touch, a spot for relaxation perhaps by the Community Garden.

Thanks!

CAUTION: *Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.*

From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Robertson Ranch DESIGN
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:37:33 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

P&R Commission



Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

From: shari roberts <slkahnroberts@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 3:08 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Robertson Ranch DESIGN

I don't see anywhere where there is a designated a dog park.

Are you planning on building one?

Is this a consideration for the City of Carlsbad to include an off leash area for dogs to run and play in an enclosed, safe environment?

The residents of Carlsbad are dog owners and dog lovers. There are not many places we can legally take our pups off leash in our city. PLEASE seriously consider this as an opportunity to satisfy a great need. You have the space. Use it wisely.

Thank you,

SL Roberts

CAUTION: *Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.*

From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Robertson Ranch master plan
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:39:38 AM

Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Anne Abedini <lauraanneabedini@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 12:08 PM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Robertson Ranch master plan

Good morning,

I love the proposed plan for the park! I do have some feedback to share. I was a little disappointed to only see a half court for basketball. The pickleball courts really outnumber the basketball ones. Please consider adding more basketball courts, even if it takes from pickleball! We already have many pickleball courts at Poinsettia and the number of basketball courts and Calavera is not sufficient. Thank you for your hard work!

Laura Anne Abedini
Sent from my iPhone

CAUTION: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: [Jamie Kennedy](#) on behalf of [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Robertson ranch
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:40:48 AM

Jamie Kennedy
Senior Office Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Carlsbad
799 Pine Avenue, Suite 200
Carlsbad CA 92008
www.carlsbadca.gov
E: Jamie.Kennedy@carlsbadca.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Amy Kelts <amy.kelts@smusd.org>
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 9:23 AM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Robertson ranch

Hello,

Please consider a few lit tennis courts. There is still plenty of us in North coastal county but love to play tennis and there are plenty of Jr. Tennis players looking for courts.

Thank you

Amy Kelts.

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Parks and Recreation](#)
To: [Lauren Rogers](#)
Subject: FW: Wow
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:58:27 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jane Kelly <janekelly88@me.com>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:56 AM
To: Parks and Recreation <parksandrec@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Wow

Now that's an inclusive activity park. It lives up to the city charter...30% open area...not school playgrounds and parking lots. Well Done

Jane Kelly

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