



ARTIFICIAL TURF ORDINANCE XXX

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT ARTIFICIAL TURF AND SUPPORT PUBLIC and ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

WHEREAS, it is beyond dispute that the use of plastic has a severe and negative environmental impact on the local and global environment as a result of greenhouse gas emissions emitted to produce, transport and discard plastic, the land-based and ocean-based pollution created, the hazards posed to wildlife, contamination of drinking water sources, and the negative impact on the ecosystem and food chain as a whole; and

WHEREAS, artificial turf is made from approximately [440,000 pounds of plastic per sport field](#). This, and 99% of all plastics, consist of [numerous petroleums and other toxic chemicals](#); and

WHEREAS, artificial turf does not biodegrade but [breaks up](#) into micro and nanoplastics due to high heat and freezing as well as use and abrasion. These toxics negatively affect public and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, plastic has been found throughout the human body and linked to numerous [health problems](#); and

WHEREAS, studies indicate [more severe injuries](#) are caused by playing on artificial turf as compared to natural grass; and

WHEREAS, [plastic production](#) has doubled in the past two decades and [is anticipated to double again](#) by 2040, with more plastic in the oceans than fish by 2050, if we do not reduce our use of plastic; and

WHEREAS, landfills are overburdened and any reduction in waste hauling and waste disposal is cost saving for taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, artificial turf is an easy way to reduce huge quantities of plastic waste all while protecting our children and families from harmful chemicals and unnecessary injury; and

THEREFORE, the town of Red Bank aims to protect children, public and animal health, and keep the environment safer by prohibiting new artificial turf from being installed and replacing any previously installed artificial turf with natural grass at end of life.