

Lopez, Donna

From: Hunter Aldrich [hunteraldrich@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2013 12:08 AM
To: Lopez, Donna
Subject: Public Order #9, Danehy Park

Dear Ms. Lopez:

Please submit the following comments concerning Public Order #9 to Mayor Henrietta Davis and members of the Cambridge City Council.

I am opposed to the conversion of Danehy's third grass playing field to plastic turf. I am extremely offended that you planned and accepted bids to convert Danehy Park into multiple, artificial turf-covered fields without informing and negotiating with City residents who live in close proximity to this park.

As a resident of the Danehy neighborhood for over 31 years, I grew up playing on St. Peter's Field and was delighted when the City of Cambridge built Danehy Park out of the landfill next to St. Peter's Field. Danehy Park is a wonderful and important part of my neighborhood. It is one of the few remaining, nicely maintained parks in the City. It is an oasis for wildlife in my neighborhood, which has become increasingly covered with asphalt, crammed with buildings, and filled up with the stumps of cut down trees that are never replaced.

My neighbors and I use and enjoy Danehy Park's grassy fields and its natural environment year round. We walk our dogs and let them play on the grass. We play baseball, soccer, and Frisbee and picnic on the grassy fields in the midst of birds, squirrels, and other wildlife. The park's natural beauty - the grass, flowers, squirrels, trees, and long grasses - attract nearby residents and people from across the City who have the opportunity to play and enjoy the park's natural beauty.

So why are you taking this wonderful natural environment away from its neighbors? Why should outsiders have power to change my neighborhood park?

Instead of ceding to the demands of coaches, parents, and soccer players for 'better' soccer fields, you should have consulted the people who live in the Danehy Park neighborhood. You should have informed us about the proposed changes before you started accepting bids to destroy the park's natural environment. You should have given us ample opportunity to protect our neighborhood park.

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Finally, you should use your power as elected officials to protect and maintain the natural environment at Danehy and throughout the City of Cambridge. Create parks and natural environments like Fresh Pond Reservoir. Plant trees. Beautify this city! Please!!

Do not cover any more of Danehy Park with artificial turf!

Thank you,

Ms. Hunter Aldrich

1a Field Street

Danehy Park Neighborhood