

Correspondence received by the  
Concord Select Board  
Week Ending – November 4, 2024

1. Nicholas Herz – 80 Old Mill Road
2. Ellen Quackenbush – 206 Prairie Street
3. Peter Lyneis – 193 Nashoba Road
4. Erika Chaset – 11 Mattison Road
5. Ted Gillick – 144 Park Lane
6. Beverly & Peter Castrichini – 247 Monsen Road
7. Amanda Goodell – 79 Wilson Road
8. Paul Peterson – 158 Oak Hill Circle
9. Melissa Peterson – 158 Oak Hill Circle
10. Denise & Peter Jantzen – 126 Partridge Lane
11. Aram T. Salzman - 82 Alden Road
12. Jamie Ring – 80 Riverdale Road
13. Matthew Paster – 312 Nashoba Road
14. Erin & Nick Orpik – 144 Bedford Street
15. Sarah Schulsinger – 83 Pilgrim Road
16. Robin Baughman – 144 Southfield Road
17. MaryAlice Mudge – 124 Authors Road

18. Boy Scout Troop 132

19. Janet Miller – 1647 Main Street

20. Robert Andrews – 32 Staffordshire Lane

21. Elizabeth More – 105 Blueberry Lane

Dear Members of the Select Board:

I am writing to advocate for the replacement of the Doug White Fields (DWF) with new turf fields, both for the safety and accessibility they provide, and to address misconceptions about the environmental impact of synthetic turf.

First and foremost, the DWF, which are maintained by the Town of Concord, are reaching the end of their useful life and now pose safety risks. Despite annual evaluations, the fields currently hold the lowest safety rating possible. In 2025, it is possible that these fields are rated as “unplayable”, which would restrict access to these critical spaces for the recreation programs of Concord and Carlisle, as well as for Concord Carlisle High School (CCHS) teams. To avoid this disruption, it is crucial to upgrade these fields without delay.

Funding is another critical factor. The Friends of CC Fields has designated \$1.5 million toward the replacement of the DWF—funds that can only be applied if the fields remain turf. Should the fields be converted to grass, the Town would forfeit this contribution and be required to take on additional debt to fund the replacement. This is due not only to the added cost of installing grass but also to ongoing maintenance needs. Unlike turf, which provides an economical option, grass requires consistent upkeep and irrigation, a system that DWF currently lacks.

Environmental advocates, including the Concord Climate Action Network, have argued that grass fields are the more sustainable option. However, this argument does not fully consider the practical and environmental consequences of replacing turf with grass. **Grass fields require fertilizers, frequent irrigation, and ongoing maintenance—all of which have environmental impacts of their own.** Turf, while not entirely without impact, offers a low-maintenance, year-round solution **that reduces the need for water and chemicals.**

The DWF are essential to the success of multiple programs that collectively serve over **2,000 children** in Concord and Carlisle, in addition to CCHS student-athletes. The limited durability of grass would mean that many games and practices would have to be canceled due to wet or damaged fields. Turf fields, by contrast, provide consistent playability throughout the year regardless of weather conditions, ensuring that all programs can continue without disruption.

In light of the safety needs, financial implications, and demand for field space, a replacement turf field at DWF is the most practical and sustainable solution. I urge you to consider the safety of our community, the generous funding from the Friends of CC Fields, and the invaluable access these fields provide to our youth when making your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Nicholas Herz

(617) 416-1466

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**To the Concord Select Board,**

For so many reasons, as a sports enthusiast, mother, and a Concord taxpayer, I oppose renewing the artificial turf solution at Doug White fields.

Let me take my objections in order.

**The US Women's Soccer Team objects to using artificial turf** for injury, safe play, and public health reasons. Our girls (and many boys) look up to these Olympians. As parents and fans, we should listen very, very carefully to their objections.

**My daughter played ice hockey, so did not encounter the health risks of artificial turf.** So many parents of high school athletes that use the Doug White field are conflicted:

- Kids can play more—but may be risking long-term (and as yet, undefined) health risks— from PFAS, abrasion, and pure heat from the field's surface
- We love the social benefits of team sports, but worry about turning a blind eye to short-term and long-term health impacts on our children

**Artificial Turf total life-cycle costs are being ignored.**

- **Disposal cost:**
  - I cannot find a reliable estimate of the cost to dispose of artificial turf or the potential public health risks that could increase such disposal costs
  - As a taxpayer, this gap in financial cost calculations concerns me
- **Disposal site closures**
  - This article is most concerning.
  - What happens if the towns that use artificial turf cannot find a disposal site. AND, are we simply passing on the public health risk to the receiving community?
  - <https://www.tnonline.com/20231113/dep-tells-turf-facility-what-it-can-accept/>

**Bottomline:**

Concord should not consider an artificial turf solution for the Doug White Field without consideration of “total cost of ownership” cost of such solution. Economically , environmentally and from a public health perspective.

I sincerely believe that a complete consideration of all costs will favor a grass field hands-down.

Respectively submitted,  
Ellen Quackenbush  
206 Prairie St

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Peter Lyneis

193 Nashoba Road

Concord, MA 01742

October 30, 2024

Dear Select Board –

I am writing to advocate for the replacement of the Doug White Fields with new turf fields, both for the safety and accessibility they provide.

I acknowledge and share some concerns about the overall impact of turf fields which is why it is important to have a balance of grass and turf options. As a coach in the CCYS soccer program we split our time on grass and turf surfaces as both have benefits. The turf field is critical as it provides a playing surface early in the season, during inclement weather, and under lights in the fall. Without this option we would have been unable to host many of our team practices and games, depriving our children of valuable time spent participating in youth sports.

Concord and Carlisle are already strained with a shortage of playing fields. With Cushing Field likely to be sold the issue will only become more acute. The Turf field provides a reliable surface that can handle an exceptional volume of activities. Without it, the strain on other fields will only increase, reducing the quality of the playing surface and causing more conflicts in scheduling.

As a compromise to those that want to decrease dependency on turf, let's take the opportunity presented by the closing of the prison to expand available playing space, providing more options for children and reducing the overall utilization of the turf.

In light of the safety needs, financial implications, and demand for field space, a replacement turf field at Doug White Fields is the most practical and sustainable solution. I urge you to consider the safety of our community, the generous funding from the Friends of CC Fields, and the invaluable access these fields provide to our youth when making your decision.

Sincerely,

Peter Lyneis

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Dear Select Board,

I am writing to express my support for the replacement of turf surface at the Doug White Fields. As a community committed to the health and well-being of our children, it is essential that we provide safe, accessible, and versatile facilities for their physical activities and sports.

Turf fields offer numerous advantages over traditional grass fields, particularly for youth sports. They are durable and can withstand the wear and tear of frequent use, ensuring that our children have reliable venues for practice and games. Unlike natural grass, turf fields can be used in various weather conditions, allowing for year-round play and reducing cancellations due to wet or muddy conditions.

Furthermore, turf fields provide a safer playing environment. They are designed to reduce the risk of injuries associated with uneven ground and other hazards commonly found on grass fields. With the increasing concern over youth sports injuries, investing in turf fields can help promote safer playing conditions and encourage more children to participate in athletic activities.

In addition to their practical benefits, turf fields can foster a sense of community. They serve as gathering places for families and friends, promoting social interaction and collaboration among various youth sports organizations. These fields can also be utilized for community events, further enhancing their value to Concord.

I urge you to prioritize the development of turf playing fields for our youth and our community. Investing in these facilities will not only enhance our children's sports experience but also strengthen our community as a whole. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Erika Chaset

11 Mattison Drive

Willard Parent (5th, 2nd and 1st grades)

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Dear Members of the Select Board,

I am writing to advocate for the replacement of the Doug White Fields (DWF) with new turf fields, both for the safety and accessibility they provide, and to address misconceptions about the environmental impact of synthetic turf.

First and foremost, the Doug White Fields, which are maintained by the Town of Concord, are reaching the end of their useful life and now pose safety risks. Despite annual evaluations, the fields currently hold the lowest safety rating possible. In 2025, it is possible that these fields are rated as “unplayable”, which would restrict access to these critical spaces for the recreation programs of Concord and Carlisle, as well as for Concord Carlisle High School (CCHS) teams. To avoid this disruption, it is crucial to upgrade these fields without delay.

Funding is another critical factor. The Friends of CC Fields has designated \$1.5 million toward the replacement of the Doug White Fields—funds that can only be applied if the fields remain turf. Should the fields be converted to grass, the Town would forfeit this contribution and be required to take on additional debt to fund the replacement. This is due not only to the added cost of installing grass but also to ongoing maintenance needs. Unlike turf, which provides an economical option, grass requires consistent upkeep and irrigation, a system that DWF currently lacks.

Environmental advocates, including the Concord Climate Action Network, have argued that grass fields are the more sustainable option. However, this argument does not fully consider the practical and environmental consequences of replacing turf with grass. Grass fields require fertilizers, frequent irrigation, and ongoing maintenance—all of which have environmental impacts of their own. Turf, while not entirely without impact, offers a low-maintenance, year-round solution that reduces the need for water and chemicals.

The Doug White Fields are essential to the success of multiple programs that collectively serve over 2,000 children in Concord and Carlisle, including my 3 children across multiple seasons, in addition to CCHS student-athletes. The limited durability of grass would mean that many games and practices would have to be canceled due to wet or damaged fields. Turf fields, by contrast, provide consistent playability throughout the year regardless of weather conditions, ensuring that all programs can continue without disruption.

In light of the safety needs, financial implications, and demand for field space, a replacement turf field at Doug White Fields is the most practical and sustainable solution. I urge you to consider the safety of our community, the generous funding from the Friends of CC Fields, and the invaluable access these fields provide to our youth when making your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Ted Gillick  
144 Park Lane  
617-406-9564

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Hi Mary,

We've residents of Concord living on Monsen Road for 60+ years. We have been very fortunate to bring up our four children in Concord and now have grandchildren that are fortunate to be growing up here as well. We appreciate all the work the Select Board does to keep Concord a great place to live !

We understand that the Select Board will be considering a decision about how to replace the turf on the Doug White Fields at the High School.

These fields have been a tremendous asset to the Town. To maximize use and be fiscally responsible, we encourage the Board to support replacing the turf with new turf that meets the most current safety standards. New turf will allow maximum use and minimize maintenance costs. We also understand that the Friends of CC Fields has a capital fund that can be used to replace the turf minimizing any additional cost to the Town and tax payers.

Please share our sentiments with the full Board and let me know how we can further engage on this matter if there are future opportunities.

Sincerely,

Beverly & Peter Castrichini

247 Monsen Road

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The Doug White Fields are essential to the success of multiple programs **that collectively serve over 2,000 children in Concord and Carlisle**, in addition to CCHS student-athletes. The limited durability of grass would mean that many games and practices would have to be canceled due to wet or damaged fields. Turf fields, by contrast, provide consistent playability throughout the year regardless of weather conditions, ensuring that all programs can continue without disruption.

In light of the safety needs, financial implications, and demand for field space, a replacement turf field at Doug White Fields is the most practical and sustainable solution. I urge you to consider the safety of our community, the generous funding from the Friends of CC Fields, and the invaluable access these fields provide to our youth when making your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Goodell

[goodell.amanda@gmail.com](mailto:goodell.amanda@gmail.com)

(603) 785-6093

Wilson Road, Concord

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Paul Peterson

[PaulPeterson158@gmail.com](mailto:PaulPeterson158@gmail.com)

158 Oak Hill Circle

Concord, MA 01742

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Melissa Peterson  
158 Oak Hill Circle  
Concord, MA  
10/28/24

TO: Town of Concord Select Board

Dear Members of the Select Board, I am writing to advocate for the replacement of the Doug White Fields (DWF) with new turf fields, both for the safety and accessibility they provide, and to address misconceptions about the environmental impact of synthetic turf.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Peterson

[missyyls623@yahoo.com](mailto:missyyls623@yahoo.com)

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Dear Select Board,

We are writing to express our concerns about the current condition of the Doug White fields, which have reached the end of their useful life. We understand that the town has initiated a study on these fields, and it is our further understanding that \$1.5 million has already been earmarked specifically for their replacement. This funding, contributed by many families in our community who support youth sports, reflects a commitment to maintaining safe, quality facilities for our children.

Given that funds have been allocated for this purpose, we question why the fields have not yet been replaced with new turf. We respectfully request that the Select Board address this matter in an open meeting, providing transparency and inviting public input regarding the timeline and any challenges delaying this essential project.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Denise and Peter Jantzen

126 Partridge Ln, Concord, MA 01742

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In light of the safety needs, financial implications, and demand for field space, a replacement turf field at Doug White Fields is the most practical and sustainable solution. I urge you to consider the safety of our community, the generous funding from the Friends of CC Fields, and the invaluable access these fields provide to our youth when making your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Aram T. Salzman

82 Alden Rd.  
Concord, MA 01742

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Dear Select Board,

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Turf fields offer numerous advantages over traditional grass fields, particularly for youth sports. They are durable and can withstand the wear and tear of frequent use, ensuring that our children have reliable venues for practice and games. Unlike natural grass, turf fields can be used in various weather conditions, allowing for year-round play and reducing cancellations due to wet or muddy conditions.

In addition to their practical benefits, turf fields can foster a sense of community. They serve as gathering places for families and friends, promoting social interaction and collaboration among various youth sports organizations. These fields can also be utilized for community events, further enhancing their value to Concord.

I urge you to prioritize the development of turf playing fields for our youth and our community. Investing in these facilities will not only enhance our children's sports experience but also strengthen our community as a whole. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Jamie Ring

80 Riverdale Road

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Dear Members of the Select Board:

I am writing to advocate for the replacement of the Doug White Fields (DWF) with new turf fields, both for the safety and accessibility they provide, and to address misconceptions about the environmental impact of synthetic turf. I have 3 young athletic boys in town (ages 6, 8, and 11) so I am heavily invested in this issue.

First and foremost, the Doug White Fields, which are maintained by the Town of Concord, are reaching the end of their useful life and now pose safety risks. Despite annual evaluations, the fields currently hold the lowest safety rating possible. In 2025, it is possible that these fields are rated as “unplayable”, which would restrict access to these critical spaces for the recreation programs of Concord and Carlisle, as well as for Concord Carlisle High School (CCHS) teams. To avoid this disruption, it is crucial to upgrade these fields without delay.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Paster

312 Nashoba Road

Concord, MA

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Erin & Nick Orpik  
441 Bedford Street  
Concord Ma 01742

10/28/24

TO: Town of Concord Select Board

Mary Hartman, Chair [mhartman@concordma.gov](mailto:mhartman@concordma.gov)  
Mark Howell, Clerk [markhowell@concordma.gov](mailto:markhowell@concordma.gov)  
Terri Ackerman [tackerman@concordma.gov](mailto:tackerman@concordma.gov)  
Cameron McKennitt [cmckennitt@concordma.gov](mailto:cmckennitt@concordma.gov)  
Wendy Rovelli [wrovelli@concordma.gov](mailto:wrovelli@concordma.gov)

SUBJECT: Doug White Fields turf replacement

Dear Members of the Select Board, I am writing to advocate for the replacement of the Doug White Fields (DWF) with new turf fields, both for the safety and accessibility they provide, and to address misconceptions about the environmental impact of synthetic turf.

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Sincerely,

Erin & Nick Orpik  
617-438-7239

Dear Select Board,

I am writing to express my support for the replacement of turf surface at the Doug White Fields. As a community committed to the health and well-being of our children, it is essential that we provide safe, accessible, and versatile facilities for their physical activities and sports.

Turf fields offer numerous advantages over traditional grass fields, particularly for youth sports. They are durable and can withstand the wear and tear of frequent use, ensuring that our children have reliable venues for practice and games. Unlike natural grass, turf fields can be used in various weather conditions, allowing for year-round play and reducing cancellations due to wet or muddy conditions.

Furthermore, turf fields provide a safer playing environment. They are designed to reduce the risk of injuries associated with uneven ground and other hazards commonly found on grass fields. With the increasing concern over youth sports injuries, investing in turf fields can help promote safer playing conditions and encourage more children to participate in athletic activities.

In addition to their practical benefits, turf fields can foster a sense of community. They serve as gathering places for families and friends, promoting social interaction and collaboration among various youth sports organizations. These fields can also be utilized for community events, further enhancing their value to Concord.

I urge you to prioritize the development of turf playing fields for our youth and our community. Investing in these facilities will not only enhance our children's sports experience but also strengthen our community as a whole. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Schulsinger  
83 Pilgrim Rd  
Willard & CMS Parent

Please note: The letters posted here reflect the views and opinions of the author as recorded in the body of their email. Neither the Select Board nor Town staff have verified or reviewed the contents. The Select Board and the Town do not necessarily agree, condone, support or advocate the ideas expressed in these letters and have not verified any factual statements made in the letters.

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Sincerely,

Robin Baughman  
144 Southfield Rd.  
Willard & CMS Parent

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To the Select Board,

This is a letter in support of replacing the Doug White turf fields, which I understand are at the end of their useful life, with new turf.

I am an advocate of doing whatever we can to improve our health and wellness and minimize potentially harmful exposures, and thus my mind gravitates toward grass fields. However, as with most decision points, a cost benefit analysis is essential. In this case it seems most prudent to replace the old turf with new turf, instead of grass, not just because grass would be more expensive to install & maintain but also because turf allows for vastly more playing time-- to help ensure the many health and wellness benefits of exercise, fresh air, socializing, trying new things, building confidence, and just plain having fun.

That said, I also understand that for most athletes playing on grass is more enjoyable than playing on turf; and so, for when the weather allows, it is excellent that CCHS and the town also do have existing grass fields.

As my 3 children grow up here in Concord (they are in 7th, 9th, and 11th grades; they have been at Concord public schools and CCHS throughout) I increasingly see the value of the time they have playing sports; it is essential to their developing sense of self.

I fully support the turf fields as it keeps the kids playing that much longer.

If there is environmentally-friendly turf material that can be explored, by all means please do consider those options. And keep those existing grass fields! Thank you.

Sincerely,

MaryAlice Mudge

124 Authors Road

Concord, MA

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# Boy Scout Troop 132 Concord MA

Mark Rzepczynski  
Troop Committee Chair

committeechair@troop132.com • 617-633-4349  
Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord, MA 01742



October 27th, 2024

Mary Hartman  
Chair, Select Board  
Town House, 22 Monument Square  
Concord, MA 01742

Dear Chairperson Hartman:

We are pleased to inform you that the following young men from Massachusetts' Spirit of Adventure Council, Troop 132 in Concord, MA recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout:

1. Mathew Jonathan Belmont (Eagle Board of Review on 8/20/2024)
2. Charles Stone (Eagle Board of Review on 8/20/2024)

We would be most grateful if you could write a congratulatory letter to these outstanding young men. The letter should be addressed and sent to:

1. Mathew Jonathan Belmont, 10 Highland Street, Concord, MA 01742
2. Charles Stone, 151 Mildred Circle, Concord, MA 01742

We respectfully request that the letter be mailed to the Scouts within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your help in commemorating this remarkable achievement.

Yours in scouting,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W.D.D. D. Cadavie". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name of the Scoutmaster.

William Duggan (Scoutmaster Troop 132) and Mark Rzepczynski (Committee Chair Troop 132)

Dear Members of the Select Board,

I am a member of the Climate Action Committee but I am writing this letter on my own behalf.

I would like to express my strong opposition to the demand from the demands of the Friends of CCHS Mens Soccer that the current worn out surface of the Doug White Fields be replaced with more artificial turf. It is an impervious surface that has none of the benefits of natural grass, such as capture of CO<sub>2</sub> via photosynthesis and it cannot support soil organisms such as insects and microfauna. It significantly increases ground surface temperatures and consequently ambient air temperatures near the ground, thus aggravating climate change impacts. In hot weather, it becomes unsafe to play on.

In addition, as the surface wears down, plastic fibers are released into the environment, making artificial turf a significant source of plastic pollution. One recent study found that more than 15% of the mesoplastics and macroplastics content in an adjoining lake, stream, and ocean waters were artificial turf fibers.

Another major reason for concern is the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in artificial turf. In the past artificial turf manufacturers have claimed that they were PFAS free but they now concede that PFAS are added to the machines to aid the extrusion of the hot plastic and as a slip agent. Thanks to the strong carbon-fluorine bonds that are found in these chemicals, PFAS do not easily break down and are thus called “forever chemicals.”

PFAS are associated with a number of health problems including cancer and they are linked to growth, learning, and behavioral problems in infants and children; fertility and pregnancy problems, including pre-eclampsia; interference with natural human hormones; and immune system problems. Routes of PFAS exposure include ingestion, inhalation, and dermal absorption. Athletes and children playing on artificial turf are subject to all three exposure pathways. In addition, PFAS can leach off the fields into surrounding waters, potentially impacting drinking water supplies. We all know the cost of remediating water that is contaminated with PFAS.

The principal argument made by the proponents of artificial turf is that it would be impossible to run the sports programs without this kind of surface. However, recent research on how to build grass fields with the right kind of soil and grass has resulted in playing surfaces that are much more durable than in the past and can withstand many more hours of play than before. Furthermore, Concord is blessed with many sports fields that are likely underused. On a sunny Sunday afternoon, I observed that the artificial turf fields at

CCHS were all in use. However, the grass soccer field at CCHS was not in use. I observed a handful of people on one field at the Emerson Park making use of one of the grass fields there, while there was no one on the fields at the Alcott School, Willard School, South Meadow, or the Cushing Field.

Finally, I would like to say I definitely see the value of youth sports, which contribute to physical fitness as well as learning how to work as a team. Both my sons played youth soccer and on a high school team and one of my sons continues to play in an adult league. In addition, my husband was a youth soccer coach and I helped out in various ways.

Sincerely,

Janet C. Miller

1647 Main St, Concord

781-820-2552

Hi,

When artificial turf playing fields are replaced next year please act to have them replaced with grass fields. To do otherwise will fly in the face of the town's sustainability principles. The artificial fields are a threat to health and safety and should never have been allowed in a town that is trying to do all it can to save the planet.

Bob (Robert) Andrews  
32 Staffordshire Lane  
Concord, MA 01742

Dear Select Board and Town Manager,

Like every other place in America, we may be divided in our views. However, as long as we have legitimacy and credibility in the voting process, we can accept the results as fair. With this in mind, I am sending along my public comment made to the Town Meeting Study Committee, to share new information, for respectful transparency, and hopeful inspiration in mind.

Note - If you post this as a public comment, would you please include the 3 attachments?

Gratefully,

Elizabeth More

Blueberry Lane

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Dear Town Meeting Study Committee,

You may recall that I mentioned at a previous TMSC meeting, that Harvard MA, an economically similar town to Concord, added Electronic Voting Clickers to Town Meeting in April 2024 (see attachments). The feedback I received from people involved in the process is that citizens in Harvard primarily "like them for their privacy and that it speeds up town meeting!".

They also did two things I think are worth sharing. They teamed up with Bolton in their negotiations with Meridia and worked out a share system. Each town bought 500 units, and they share their Clickers with each other when an overflow crowd is expected. They found in doing so that the cost of purchasing a dual town system outright was economically better than renting. In comparison, a contact of mine who set up a Meridia Clicker rental in another larger more similar size town like Concord, told me that rentals are \$10 per unit per day. With 1000 attendees that's \$10,000 per day (assume a 3 day meeting is \$30,000). In retrospect, they wish they had bought outright. Would it be a consideration to call peer towns that rent and towns that buy Clickers and ask them, in retrospect, "are you happy". I am glad to help with this effort!

In Harvard, there was also another noteworthy piece of news. The League of Women Voters did indeed buy and donate Harvard's Clickers (see attached). While I haven't spoken to the LWV about their reasons, it can be assumed that it is to support their overall mission of protecting and supporting EVERY Americans Right to Vote!

Please note that in addition to over 70 towns in New England using Meridia (many other towns use other platforms), the Meridia website also lists that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and the Snoqualmie Indian tribe along with other religious and tribal organizations across the country use Meridia (see attachment). Has your group contacted Meridia for a presentation of benefits, fees and references?

In comparison, the Concord LWV, the DEI Commission, our Town Manager and Chairs and Clerks of our Select Board have not endorsed the use Clickers, all individuals and groups who promote inclusion as a top goal. Perhaps if they were made aware of these comparisons, they may be more likely to endorse and fund or partially fund this effort.

While a donation of Clickers would be great, the cost to the town is miniscule compared to Concord's overall budget. Plus, we have Free Cash available now via federal COVID funds and unallocated overflow RTE. The COVID funds are completely controlled by Kerry and must be spent and allocated very soon. If interested, I would contact her quickly. We always have the Capital Planning Group and other Free Cash funds. There is no need to go to our Town Meeting to request approval or funds.

Carmen Reiss always had and has now the ability, according to Town Meeting Rules and Regulations, to choose this method of voting today.

We need Clickers because PRIVACY is a common core human value. Our town wants it. It is proven by other towns to speed meetings, and it provides post-meeting accountability, credibility and legitimacy while reducing exclusionary tactics and disenfranchisement.

There is nothing standing in the way of improving Town Meeting via the use of privacy Clickers, except for as fast as the Moderator, Town Manager and Select Board decide to move forward.

Thank you for listening and all you do,

Elizabeth More



**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - SECOND SESSION**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2023, 12:00 P.M.  
BROMFIELD SCHOOL, CRONIN AUDITORIUM  
14 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, HARVARD, MA, 01451

The Annual Town meeting of the Town of Harvard was convened at 12:02 PM in the Cronin Auditorium of the Bromfield School, 14 Massachusetts Avenue, with Town Moderator William Barton presiding. The call of the meeting, and the return of service were found to be in order by Assistant Town Clerk, Andrew Sammarco.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an introductory presentation of the Town's new electronic voting equipment, to be utilized at the Spring Annual Town Meeting of 2024.



### **Annual Town Meeting Saturday, April 29, 2023**

The Annual Town meeting of the Town of Harvard convened at 12:00 PM in the Cronin Auditorium of the Bromfield School, 14 Massachusetts Avenue, with Town Moderator William Barton presiding. The call of the meeting, and the return of service by Constable Gregory Newman were found to be in order by Town Clerk, Lynn Kelly.

The Citizens of Note, Paul and Marty Green, were presented by Kara Minar. Paul and Marty were chosen by the Select Board for their many years of dedication, sharing their talents and expertise as citizen volunteers.

An announcement of sincere gratitude was offered by Moderator Barton to acknowledge the generous donation of our future electronic voting system, and two additional poll pads, by the League of Women Voters of Harvard.

Girl Scouts Molly Jackson and Jane Besse lead the Town in the Pledge of Allegiance.