

Cyndie Martel

From: Mathew Salter <salter4ross@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 8:04 PM
To: Cyndie Martel
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Ross Common

Please include in public comment.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barbara Call <redrunner.26.69@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 9, 2025 at 7:38 PM

Subject: Ross Common

To: Julie Mcmillan <juliemcmillan@comcast.net>, Elizabeth Robbins <eliz.robbins@gmail.com>, Bill Kircher <cwkmisc@gmail.com>, Teri Dowling <tdowlingtor@gmail.com>, Mathew Salter <salter4ross@gmail.com>, Christa Johnson <cjohnson@townofrossca.gov>

Hello All,

I am not going to inundate you with too many photos, but I will send a few that show the barren areas of the field. You really should walk around the area yourselves...not just on the pathway, but on the turf rather than relying so heavily on all the written reports. The Common looks OK from a distance because it's green in most areas. However, the greenery is mostly weeds. Yes, clover is a weed and it has taken over about 70% of the field. Probably due to poor soil quality...low nitrogen. Clover does not hold up well under heavy play and outcompetes grass. It causes the uneven spotty look and creates bare spots. It also attracts bees and wasps which could be dangerous for people with allergies.

I've lived next to Ross Common for over 25 years and the maintenance has always been an issue. The field looks really bad now for a variety of reasons. It's worse than it's ever been. Partly because of the clover which needs to be irradiated and partly because of the lack of water for so many weeks. The area in the Southeast corner where the backstop and playing field are located is really dangerous due to so many undulations in the soil. There are actual holes where kids can trip and fall.

I see where you want to blame damage on DOGS which is actually ridiculous! I am out and about every day and I have never seen a dog digging. Yes, they run around and play, but the group of dog owners who congregate in the evenings are conscientious and do clean up after their pets. This nonsense about the dogs being the problem makes me really cross. It's just a RED HERRING so you feel you can heal the field by getting rid of the dogs rather than taking responsibility for your lack of maintenance. It's so stupid! I walk my dogs on the pathway by choice, but I hate stupidity. Anyway...a really big and NEW problem is the kids who ride their bikes on the field. They do wheelies and ride in groups all around. They destroy the grass...clover...and cause indentations and grooves on the surface. It's interesting that you ignore this problem which really needs to be solved before you spend money on improving the field and you blame dogs instead! As evidence...look at the areas that are badly damaged...dogs are not consistently in these areas...bikes and kids are.

I don't know how you are going to keep the kids...mostly boys...off the grass. Signs do nothing! You must know that because there are motorized vehicles everywhere...on the grass as well.

Sorry this is so long. I believe the Common is the heart of the Town and it's really a shame that it is in such bad condition. I wonder if the landscape company is the best you can find. I think they do a mediocre job and maybe need more management. One photo I will send shows how they just trimmed

the plants and left the trimmings in place. Small issue, but there's so many things that could be improved without spending more money if they cared.

Regards,

Barbara

Sent from my iPhone









