

### Additional Documents List Regular City Council Meeting July 7, 2021

(Uploaded Online on 07/7/2021 @1:10 p.m.)

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
10	Additional Document for Item No. 10 – Authorize two Professional Services Agreements with 1) Transtech Engineers, Inc and 2) Willdan Engineering, Inc to provide on-call Code Enforcement Services in the amount not to exceed \$36,000 per firm, for a total not to exceed amount of \$72,000	Joanna Hankamer, Planning and Community Development Director	Memo updating recommendations.
17	July 7, 2021 City Council Meeting Item No. 17 Additional Document – Authorize a Professional Services Agreement with Economic and Planning Systems, Inc. (EPS) for an Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fee Study and Affordable Housing Program Recommendations in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$73,345 and Increase the Planning & Community Development Contract Services Account by \$13,345 from the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	Joanna Hankamer, Planning and Community Development Director  Margaret Lin, Manager of Long Range Planning and Economic Development	PowerPoint presentation and Affordable Housing Program Recommendations.

PC	Emailed Public Comment for: Item Nos. A	Lucie Colombo, City Clerk	Emailed Public Comments.
PC	Emailed Public Comment for: Item Nos. 2	Lucie Colombo, City Clerk	Emailed Public Comments.
PC	Emailed Public Comment for: Item Nos. 10	Lucie Colombo, City Clerk	Emailed Public Comments.
PC	Emailed Public Comment for: Item Nos. 15	Lucie Colombo, City Clerk	Emailed Public Comments.

### **Attachment 1**

Item #10 Memo Updating Recommendations



### City of South Pasadena Planning and Community Development Department

### Memo

**Date:** July 7, 2021

**To:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

**Prepared By:** Joanna Hankamer, Planning & Community Development Director

**Re:** Additional Document for Item No. 10 – Authorize two Professional

Services Agreements with 1) Transtech Engineers, Inc and 2) Willdan Engineering, Inc to provide on-call Code Enforcement Services in the amount not to exceed \$36,000 per firm, for a total not to exceed amount

of \$72,000

This additional document serves to revise the "Recommendations" and "Fiscal Impact" sections of the Staff Report to account for an appropriation of \$22,000 (of the \$72,000 proposed contracts total) from General Fund Reserves being requested to fully fund the contracts for 6 months during the recruitment for the Community Improvement Coordinator position. An internal Planning & Community Development Department budget transfer of \$50,000 from Full-Time Salaries to the Professional Services Account is sufficient to fund just over 4 months of backfill code enforcement services. To fund the contracts up to 6 months, an additional \$22,000 will need to be appropriated from the General Fund Reserves.

The original Recommendation and Fiscal Impact statements are as such:

#### **Original Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute the Professional Services Agreements (PSAs) with two on-call engineering firms:

- 1) Transtech Engineers, Inc. and
- 2) Willdan Engineering, Inc. to assist with backfill code enforcement services during the recruitment for a full time Community Improvement Coordinator, in the amount not-to-exceed \$36,000 per firm, for a total budgeted amount of \$72,000. Backfill services will be coordinated between the two firms such that services will not exceed 40 hours per week, for up to six months.

#### **Original Fiscal Impact**

There is no impact to the City's general fund because there is adequate savings in the Planning and Community Development full-time Salaries Account 101-7010-7011-7000-000 to fund the Professional Services (Account 101-7010-7011-8170-000) through a Budget Transfer.

The following revisions are recommended by staff:

#### Add the following to the **Recommendations:**

3) Authorize a budget transfer from Full-time Salaries Account 101-7010-7011-7000-000 in the amount of \$50,000 and an appropriation from General Fund Reserves in the Amount of \$22,000, and appropriate \$72,000 to Professional Service Account 101-7010-7011-8170-000

Replace original Fiscal Impact statement with the following statement:

### **Revised Fiscal Impact**

There is partial funding available from the 6 month vacancy in the Community Improvement Coordinator in the amount of \$50,000. An additional \$22,000 will need to be appropriated from General Fund Reserves to fully fund the contracts. This will result in a budget transfer of \$50,000 from Planning and Community Development Full-Time Salaries Account 101-7010-7011-7000-000, to Professional Services Account 101-7010-7011-8170-000. In addition, General Fund Reserves in the amount of \$22,000 will need to be appropriated to Professional Service (Account 101-7010-7011-8170-000).

### **Attachment 2**

PowerPoint presentation and Affordable Housing Program Recommendations



### City of South Pasadena Planning and Community Development

## Memo

**Date:** July 7, 2021

**To:** The Honorable City Council

Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

**From:** Joanna Hankamer, Director of Planning and Community Development

Margaret Lin, Manager of Long Range Planning and Economic Development

Re: July 7, 2021 City Council Meeting Item No. 17 Additional Document – Authorize

a Professional Services Agreement with Economic and Planning

Systems, Inc. (EPS) for an Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fee Study and

Affordable Housing Program Recommendations in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$73,345 and Increase the Planning & Community Development Contract

Services Account by \$13,345 from the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Attached is an additional document which provides a PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fee Study and Affordable Housing Program Recommendations.







South Pasadena City Council Meeting
July 7, 2021

# Inclusionary Housing Ordinance: In-Lieu Fee Study

# Ordinance No. 2355 – Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (May 5, 2021)

Residential and Mixed-Use developments of 3 or more dwelling units

Projects with 10 or fewer units

Projects with 11 or more units

Both units shall be lower income;

or

One shall be a very low and the other unit may be very low, lower, or moderate

50% of required units as extremely low

50% of required units as lower income units

Ownership Projects

Rental Projects

Units shall be provided at moderate income level

Replacement of any existing deed-restricted units

# Exemptions

- Projects deemed complete prior to effective date of the ordinance (June 4, 2021)
- Residential projects with less than 3 units
- Residential units within designated landmark buildings (adaptive reuse)
- 100% affordable projects
- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) or Junior ADUs

# Alternatives to On-Site Provision

Rental projects of 3 or more units; or any ownership project

Rental projects of 5 or more units

Rental projects of 5 or more units

Rehabilitation

Dedication of

Off-Site

In-Lieu Fee

/Conversion

Land

# In-Lieu Fee

- Council to establish In-Lieu Fee by Resolution
  - Fee shall be equivalent to the cost of providing a comparable unit in the project
- Inclusionary Housing Fund
  - City Reserve fund for affordable housing production
  - San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust

# In-Lieu Fee Study: Scope of Work

- Study of market-rate and affordable housing development in the City and comparable areas
- Propose methodology alternatives to calculate the In-Lieu Fee
- Compare affordable housing opportunities through the SGVRHT and the cost of developing an affordable housing program in the City
- Evaluate affordable housing potential with the Caltrans Surplus Property Sales (optional task)
- Analyze the feasibility of waiving City-required development fees on new residential projects (optional task)

# Next Steps

- Proposed 5-month schedule
- December 2021 Return to Council with a fee and program recommendation

## **Attachment 3**

Emailed Public Comments Item # A

### Regular City Council Meeting E-mail Public Comment 07/07/2021 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

1. Sally Takeda

From: Sally Takeda

To: Diana Mahmud; Jack Donovan; Jon Primuth; Michael Cacciotti; Evelyn Zneimer; City Manager"s Office; City

**Council Public Comment** 

Cc: Joanne Nuckols; Lori DAVIS DENNY; Odom Stamps; Richard Schneider; Robert Joe; Mark- Steven Gallatin; Mary

Urquhart; Sean Teer; Delaine Shane; Kim Carlson; Emily Beaghan; Wende Lee; Susan Sulsky; Kit Bellamy; Bonnie Kingry; Ronald Rosen; L. Esposito; Patricia Rodriguez; Dawndave; MARY FARLEY; Denise Philley; Kirsten

<u>Jones</u>

Subject: Item #A: EXISTING LITIGATION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL: Existing Litigation Pursuant to

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) City of South Pasadena v. Caltrans

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 9:29:33 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Mayor Mahmud, City Manager Chaparyan and City Councilmembers,

Over the weekend in the South Pasadenan newspaper, I read the news article where Caltrans (CT) drew rebuke from the Transportation Committee about being mislead about the terms of the potential 626 Prospect Avenue sale to Friendship Baptist Church and also the subsequent article that the City won a preliminary injunction to prevent CT from selling the property to the church.

https://southpasadenan.com/626-prospect-ave-sale-caltrans-misleading-of-transportation-commission-draws-rebuke/https://southpasadenan.com/626-prospect-ave-sale-court-blocks-caltrans-sale-to-black-church-from-pasadena/

CONGRATULATIONS, this is a huge win for the city and the 626 Prospect tenants.

Yesterday evening, there was an article on Fox11News about the amount of money CT has spent watching the vacant structures:

https://www.foxla.com/news/tax-dollars-paying-law-enforcement-to-guard-empty-houses-amid-homelessness-crisis

#### In the article, CT directly states:

Caltrans' intent for purchasing these homes 60 years ago was to connect the 710 freeway to the 210 freeway in Pasadena. Now that the project is no longer moving forward, our goal is to sell these homes and provide current and former tenants, as well as those who qualify for the Affordable Sales Program, a path to first-time home ownership. Many of the vacant homes along the corridor are not safe for human habitation and have extensive damage, which presents a substantial risk to anyone attempting to occupy these homes. Caltrans began securing the homes by boarding windows and reinforcing locks this past winter while it increased security patrols to deter and prevent entry, paid for from Caltrans' budget. As we secure the houses, the department is reducing the number of patrols, which is reducing the security costs, by more than \$804,000 from its peak in March for private security and \$2.7 million from its peak in December for CHP. As of the end of May, we've reduced the number of CHP officers to four and private security guards to 17 - down from 30 guards at the beginning of the year.

This is the perfect opportunity for the City of South Pasadena to dialogue and negotiate with CT and the CTC to get the sale of these vacant properties moving.

Most of you are aware I am a local Realtor and specialize in SP. As a "front line" Realtor who works with buyers wanting to purchase in SP, there is a very real need for more inventory. ALL of my clients are highly qualified buyers but the market is so tight, it is so difficult to purchase in our city. One opportunity for buyers to gain ownership in SP is to purchase one of these vacant properties via a side-by-side sale, like the Berkshire sale. They then can begin the process of rehabbing and upgrading the structure into a home. And since property taxes are the primary source of funding for the city, this is an entirely win-win situation for CT, who can walk away from these decrepit structures, the city, who can gain additional revenue from property taxes and residents, who see an end to the blight of these properties and restore neighborhoods like mine.

Let us get to a place where the city has new homeowners who are invested in the South Pasadena community!

Thank you, Sally Takeda

### **Attachment 4**

Emailed Public Comments Item #2

### Regular City Council Meeting E-mail Public Comment 07/07/2021 AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 General Public Comment

- 1. Ron Rosen
- 2. Sally Takeda
- 3. Diane Cullinane
- 4. Susan Pastorek
- 5. Stephanie Stein
- 6. Susan Sulsky

From: Ron Rosen

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: Public Comment - Non-Agenda Item - July 7

Date: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 9:03:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### City Council:

There have been two recent one-car crashes on Meridian Avenue just north of Maple. It appears that a stop sign at Maple would have prevented these crashes because cars would not have been able to gain enough speed after stopping. We desperately need stop signs at Meridian and Maple and Meridian and Oak. All the other efforts to slow traffic don't seem to be accomplishing much.

Ron Rosen Wolford Lane From: Susan Sulsky

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2021: Agenda Item No. 2

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 7:19:52 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Agenda Item No. 2 (General Public Comments)

#### Dear City Officials:

It time to take immediate action to protect the residents on Meridian Avenue, particularly between Oak and Maple. Pleas, recommendations, studies have all supported stop signs at those two key intersections. I wish to remind you of the Mission Statement for the City Administration on the City's website:

The City of South Pasadena is committed to providing effective and efficient municipal services for the community while preserving our quality of life and small-town character in a 21st Century environment.

Personally, I've been fighting for stop signs since the 20th century ... my quality of life has significantly deteriorated in the 20+ years I have lived on Meridian Avenue due to the increased traffic, and the lack of effective and efficient services. It's time to live up to your mission and **provide effective and efficient** municipal services for all of your residents, particularly those who live on Meridian Avenue between Monterey Road and Alhambra Road.

Sincerely,

Susan Sulsky

From: <u>Diane Cullinane</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>
Subject: Trash on mission st

**Date:** Friday, June 18, 2021 3:13:05 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: Diane Cullinane,

Re: Trash along Mission St.

The trash cans along Mission St are often full to overflowing. In particular the trash cans at Mission and Meridian are almost always overflowing, but other trash cans along Mission are as well. This has been a problem for months. Please add more cans, and/or add more frequent pick up. This is a blight on our fair city! Thank you.

From: <u>Susan Pastorek</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: raising money for the city of south Pasadena by raising fees for illegal renting of rooms in houses on Palm Ave,

So. Pas

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 1:01:32 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please make fees on illegal room renting progressive so the three houses on Palm Ave. doing this will stop it. This is a single dwelling street and three houses are renting out rooms illegally as the fines are too low. If you make the fines progressive and higher the city could raise money and the practice would stop.

Sincerely, Susan Pastorek





This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. www.avast.com From: <u>Stephanie Stein</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>
Subject: Meridian Traffic Measures
Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 4:32:20 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members,

I am a homeowner who lives one house up from the corner of Pine Street and Meridian. I have lived at this location for a little more than eight years, and witness the traffic on Meridian every day.

I strongly urge you to put plans in motion that will mitigate the dangerous traffic on Meridian Avenue. The stretch from Kendall Avenue (LA) to Monterey Road does not have any quality traffic measures in place to slow traffic, and drivers take full advantage of this.

We need stop signs at Meridian/Oak and Meridian/Maple, along with other traffic calming measures. Unfortunately, the minor attempts to make improvements, such as a blinking crosswalk and the narrowing of the lane going south from the high school, have not slowed the traffic down nor have they made crossing the street any safer at any point.

I greatly appreciate your attention to this matter, and hope that you can do something quickly - having a workable plan in place before school starts again in August would be ideal - to slow the traffic on Meridian. I have seen traffic lights and stop signs go up in other parts of town (most recently at Orange Grove and Monterey) where people do not speed nearly as often. It is time to pay attention to our corner of the city.

Thank You, Stephanie Stein

Homeowner since 2013 / SPMS Parent

### **Attachment 5**

Emailed Public Comments Item #10

From: <u>Susan Sulsky</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** City Council Meeting -- July 7, 2021: Agenda Item #10

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 7:43:05 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

**Agenda Item #10:** Authorize two Professional Services Agreements with 1) Transtech Engineers, Inc. and 2) Willdam Engineering, Inc to provide on-call Code Enforcement Services in the amount not to exceed \$36,000 per firm, for a total not to exceed amount of \$72,000.

It is my sincere hope that the expenditure recommended provides Code Enforcement for residential properties, particularly on Meridian Avenue, which do not meet City Codes. There are several properties on Meridian Avenue (one with a collapsing roof at 1146 Meridian Avenue, a residence at 1312 Meridian Avenue, in addition to many others, including Caltrans properties) that blatantly disregard City Codes related to preserving the property values of those surrounding properties. Whether a neighbor complains or not, these properties are a blight and should be dealt with in a timely manner, not waiting until a roof collapses, or a fire is started by overgrown weeds or severe structural damage.

Thank you.

### **Attachment 6**

Emailed Public Comments Item #15

### Regular City Council Meeting E-mail Public Comment 07/07/2021 AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

- 1. Joanne Nuckols
- 2. Ryan Jones
- 3. Walter Okitsu
- 4. Brandon James
- 5. Matthew Barbato
- 6. William Kelly
- 7. Luis Muench
- 8. Jimmy Thompson
- 9. Cherly Auger
- 10. Judith Radovsky
- 11. Victoria Tan
- 12. Pilar Reynaldo
- 13. Brian Wu
- 14. Jenna
- 15. Molly Sakhara
- 16. CD Feak
- 17. Robert Yim
- 18. Gali Podzemskay
- 19. Wendy Kerfoot
- 20. Michelle Trafficante
- 21. Queenie Taylor
- 22. Jennifer Kelly
- 23. Barbara Field
- 24. Mary Kathryn Campbell
- 25. Dawn Muench
- 26. Annie Tomlin
- 27. Margaret Farrand
- 28. Elizabeth Cochran
- 29. Chris Bray
- 30. Janis Chew
- 31. Susan Sulsky

From: Pilar Reynaldo

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Agenda Idem 15

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 9:29:46 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the City Council,

Please consider eliminating gas powered blowers. Gas powered blowers are huge contributors of noise and air pollution. They emit pollutants similar to those emitted by cars and the odors created by the engines are harmful to those suffering with bronchial issues. Blowers can create clouds of industrial pollutants, pollens, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, dried animal feces, dust and demolition debris such as lead asbestos polluting the air we breathe.

The mow and blow people will learn quickly electric gardening tools are not just good for the planet they will be better for the health of those who use them.

The environment is sending strong signals letting us know it is time to start taking action before it is too late.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Pilar Reynaldo

From: <u>Susan Sulsky</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M: AGENDA ITEM #15

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 12:00:18 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

# #15: First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance, Amending Chapter 19A (Noise Regulation) of the South Pasadena Municipal Code to Prohibit the Use of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

I wish to recommend that before the City Council add yet another Municipal Code, that they compel the enforcement of existing Municipal Codes particularly on Meridian Avenue from just before Monterey Road through Alhambra Road including private residences and Cal'Trans properties throughout the area.

Thank you,

Susan Sulsky

From: <u>Dawn Muench</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Comment on Item 15 - Proposed leaf blower ordinance

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 9:57:26 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my support for phasing out gas-powered leaf blowers in South Pasadena. My apartment is surrounded by several small homes so we have leaf-blowers around us almost daily. They are extremely loud so it's hard to hear work calls even with the window shut. They also fill the air with fumes that come into my home. Please switch to electric!

Sincerely, Dawn Muench From: <u>Jenna JustJenna</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Electric blowers

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 7:50:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

I just saw something about a rebate program as part of a proposal to transition gardeners to electric versus gas powered leaf blowers, and I just wanted to drop a line to say how much I would love to see this program happen! I live very close to the border of South Pasadena and would appreciate the improvement a quality of life for the workers, and me and my neighbors and would hope that it would spread to Los Angeles as well! Thank you,

Jenna

Sent from my rectangle

From: <u>Judith Radovsky</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>
Subject: Electric leaf blowers

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:45:50 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please, please, require replacement of gas blowers to electric ones!

Thanks!

Judith D. Radovsky

SoPas 91030-4346

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android

From: Tamara Binns on behalf of CCO
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: FW: Gas powered leaf blowers
Date: Saturday, July 3, 2021 12:03:50 PM

-----Original Message-----From: Trudy PENLAND

Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 11:39 AM To: CCO <cco@southpasadenaca.gov> Subject: Gas powered leaf blowers

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

It has come to my attention that our city may ban gas powered leaf blowers. I fully support this with a resounding YES! PLEASE! I have lived here since 1976 and my father bought our property in 1964. As a longtime resident, I can attest to how noisy and busy our town has become. Banning these loud and polluting devices will help our quality of life immensely.

Thank you, Trudy Penland

Sent from my iPhone

From: Annie Tomlin

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** I support transitioning gardeners to electric-powered blowers

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 6:30:51 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### Hello,

I am writing to express my support of the proposed ordinance that will transition gardeners from gas-powered to electric-powered leaf blowers. This measure will cut air pollution, reduce use of fossil fuels that are destroying the planet, and protect the health of gardeners. The only people who benefit from staying on gas-powered equipment are the fossil fuel companies—and they're not part of this community. Please do the right thing for gardeners and residents alike. Go electric!

Thank you, Annie Tomlin From: <u>luis muench</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** July 7 City Council meeting, item 15, proposed leaf blower ordinance

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 8:58:38 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### Dear Council:

I have been a South Pas resident for over 10 years and strongly believe that the time to ban gas powered leafblowers and other tools is now.

By allowing the lawn care industry to use tools that pollute because it makes the operators more efficient, we are simply shifting the true costs to be borne by everyone else. This is the source of the problem: everyone else is asked to absorb the cost of what it would realistically cost to not impinge on the public's right to no pollution, no dangerous particulate volatilization, and less noise. By encouraging landscaping companies and individuals to migrate to battery technology (with generous rebates) we are ushering in the next chapter in a healthy environment. Remember when smokers could pollute the air anywhere? No one thought smoking bans would work!

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

### Luis Muench

From: Molly Sakahara

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** July 7 City Council meeting, item 15, the proposed leaf blower ordinance

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 6:56:35 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, I am a long time resident of South Pas on Summit Drive near Oneonta Drive.

I would like to support the transition to electric leaf blowers as we are very aware of the noise and air pollution caused by gas powered leaf blowers.

Thank you.

Molly Sakahara

From: <u>barbara field</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** July 7 City Council meeting, item 15, the proposed leaf blower ordinance

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:12:44 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I understand a ban of gas-powered leaf blowers is under consideration. PLEASE do this. It is long overdue. Banning gas-powered leaf blowers will do so much to add to the quality of life in South Pasadena by reducing noise and fumes. I personally would support a ban of all leaf-blowers, which would also reduce dust and aid beneficial bird and insect habitat. But definitely at least ban the gas-powered ones.

Thank you so much.

A resident of Meridian Avenue

Barbara Field

☐ Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary? Does it improve on the silence?☐

From: <u>Jimmy Thompson</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** July 7 City Council meeting, item 15, the proposed leaf blower ordinance

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 8:36:34 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the proposed leaf blower for ordinance for electric equipment. I live in an apartment on Mission and every Saturday and Monday morning the gardener for our building and the building next door mows and blows the courtyard. Not only is it noisy but the emissions from the engines often come into the open windows as we don't have air-conditioning. Thank you for considering.

## Jimmy Thompson

From: Gali Podzemskay

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: July 7 City Council meeting, item 15

Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 5:54:57 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Really support the issue!!!

The noise, dust, and emissions from the gas leaf blowers are unbearable and completely redundant.

Please support the electric blowers!

Thanks, Galia

From: michelle trafficante

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** July 7th City Council Meeting, item 15, proposed leaf blower ordinance

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 11:36:36 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As a resident of the city since 2004, I am concerned that leaf blowers have become even more widespread. The dust in the air is obvious. I have no idea how toxic the fumes are but the terrible smell from the gasoline is extremely unpleasant. The noise is intolerable. The ordinance to require that leaf blowers be electric, rather than gasoline-powered, is a small step towards reducing the air pollution and noise pollution that they cause.

# **Michelle Trafficante**

South Pasadena

From: Wendy Kerfoot

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>
Subject: Leaf Blower Ordinance

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 11:52:08 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

### Hello City Council

I urge you pass the ordinance that will finally implement the ban gas lowered lawn equipment in South Pasadena. It has been far too long! South Pasadena needs to become much much more environmentally sustainable. It is far behind the times on many of these types of issues!

My husband worked from home this past year teaching high school. He noted that every single day his class was interrupted because of all the mow and blow maintenance men and their gas powered equipment and we do not employ them ourselves.

Thank you Wendy Kerfoot, Resident From:
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Leaf Blower Ordinance

**Date:** Monday, July 5, 2021 4:17:57 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Kelly,

I am a 46 year resident of South Pasadena. I fully support our city changing to electric gardening equipment. For some time now, I have experienced a problem with the air quality when my gardener and neighborhood gardeners are working on my street. I suffer from allergies that are triggered by the dust and exhaust. I think it's time for a change. Thank you for addressing this problem.

Best Regards, Janis Chew From: <u>Margaret Farrand</u>

To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Leaf blower proposed measure
Date: Monday, July 5, 2021 11:00:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello- am writing in support of the proposed measure to require non-gasoline leaf blowers in South Pasadena and provide rebates to gardeners for replacement equipment. I am a homeowner at 700 Prospect Ave., and would strongly welcome the measure. It would decrease pollution, greenhouse gases, and noise without penalizing gardeners. As an affluent city we need to do our part to help cut greenhouse gas emissions and set an example for other cities.

Sincerely,

Margaret Farrand

South Pasadena

Sent from my iPhone

From: Queenie Taylor

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: Leaf Blowers

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:52:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I believe you are considering requiring people to switch away from gas-powered leaf blowers in South Pasadena. I'm in complete support of that. Those blowers are incredibly noisy and intrusive, and there seems to be one going on one of the fours sides of my residence every day.

I think the alternative is electric blowers, and I hope that will be required.

Thank you, queenie taylor From: CD Feak

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>
Subject: Leaf lower comment

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 6:42:35 PM

Importance: High

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This is exactly the type of nonsense insignificant "cause" that this council considers.

### Shame

Certainly don't focus on street resurfacing over clump pathes, bothering to maintain water quality, dirt bags roaming our streets stealing catalytics... Things from stores etc...rebuilding the decimated effects of overreaction to a statistically miniscule genetic manufactured "crisis"

Sure thing.... Leaf lowers for mother earth.

30 years on Alta Vista.... People like you are why I'm leaving for sane states.

I won't be attending your sheep mask event as this city is filled now with good little followers who'll be ecstatic knowing the council has such critical issues to address.

CD feak

Get BlueMail for Android

From: Brian Wu

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:24:51 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am very much in favor to phase out gasoline leaf blowers as they are a nuisance to my family and living near the street.

From: <u>Jennifer Kelly</u>

To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: No more dirty leaf blowers
Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:20:46 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

### Dear Council:

Please vote yes to transition ASAP from gas to electric leaf blowers at your July 7th meeting.

Cacophonous, noxious gas-powered blowers disturb the peace in our neighborhoods and contribute to climate change.

In addition to the decrease in emissions and noise, electric blowers are cheaper to maintain and will save owners and the City money in the long run.

Thanks for hastening the transition to clean tech and environmental sustainability in South Pasadena.

Jennifer Kelly

South Pasadena, CA 91030

From: <u>cheryl auger</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Cc: <u>Madeline C. Di Giorgi</u>; <u>William J. Kelly</u>; <u>cheryl auger</u>

Subject: phase-out gasoline-powered leaf blowers and transition to electric blowers

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 8:20:04 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

# Dear Clty Council,

Please approve the ordinance to phase out gasoline powered leaf blowers. The climate crisis is becoming more evident with the extended fire season and warming temperatures. We need to start making better decisions for the environment.

And at some point we should look at completely eliminating leaf blowers as these destroy microscopic fungi, ants, beetles, snails, etc. and their ecosystems which are important for supporting songbirds and other species.

Also leaf blowers impact the natural process of soil improvement called nutrient cycling. When the fallen leaves decay, they become natural compost, releasing nutrients into the soil. These nutrients enable the healthy growth of plants. And, soil that has more organic matter is better able to retain moisture, which is especially critical in times of drought like the mega drought we are experiencing.

Please approve this ordinance.

Thank you,

Cheryl Auger

From: mk campbell

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** pls vote to ban gas leaf blowers - July 7 2021 meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:03:14 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### Dear Council:

Please vote yes to transition ASAP from gas to electric leaf blowers.

Cacophonous, noxious gas-powered blowers disturb the peace in our neighborhoods and contribute to climate change.

In addition to the decrease in emissions and noise, electric blowers are cheaper to maintain and will save owners and the City money in the long run.

Thanks for hastening the transition to clean tech and environmental sustainability in South Pasadena.

mk

--

Mary Kathryn Campbell

South Pasadena, CA 91030

From: <u>r yim</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Public Comment - Agenda Item 15 - Support for Zero-Emission Yard Care

**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 6:19:52 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, Council, and staff,

As a local stakeholder who cares about clean air, public health, and local climate action, I support the City's effort to accelerate the transition to zero-emission yard equipment.

I encourage the City and staff to make it as easy as possible for gardeners to make this important transition. Assistance in Spanish, easy access to free demonstration blowers and alternative technologies such as lawn/leaf sweepers, and help accessing the AQMD rebate are all important steps to reducing compliance barriers to small operators. Property owners should also be educated about the different options for complying with the new policy, including the use of alternative products such as brooms, rakes, and lawn/debris sweepers.

As a potential early adopter, South Pasadena has the opportunity to craft and implement an equitable policy that can serve as a model for other local jurisdictions.

The gardeners should be fined for using a gas blower, not the property owner. There is no incentive for gardeners to change if they are not fined.

Thank you, Robert Yim

From: Chris Bray

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Cc: Armine Chaparyan; Diana Mahmud; Jon Primuth; Michael Cacciotti; Jack Donovan; Evelyn Zneimer; Teresa

Highsmith; Steven Lawrence; nrec@southpasadenaca.gov

**Subject:** Public comment -- July 7 open session, item 15

**Date:** Saturday, July 3, 2021 1:16:55 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### Councilmembers,

As I tried this evening to understand the City of South Pasadena's proposed leaf blower ordinance, I looked for penalties and the enforcement mechanism for violations. The penalties aren't described in the language of the ordinance, but Section 19A.4 of the South Pasadena City Code says: "Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor." So it appears that you propose to make it a misdemeanor – a prosecutable crime – to use a gas-powered leaf blower "or authorize the operation of a gas-powered leaf blower" in South Pasadena. The community that finds itself in the middle of a debate about defunding the police and turning away from the overuse of a criminal justice approach to resolving disorder now proposes to make it a *crime* to use the wrong gardening tool.

But then, even better, the proposed ordinance says this: "The property owner or tenant of the property shall be responsible for violations of this ordinance."

So. First, the proposed ordinance doesn't explain the "or": How will the City determine if the property owner *or* tenant will be held responsible for violations? If no clear method has yet been determined, as the absence of discussion in the staff report suggests, I recommend that a monkey be kept in a basement to throw darts at a responsibility-allocation board. The monkey will only have two possible targets, so a simple dart board will suffice.

Second, *which* tenant? I assume someone has gotten word to municipal governments that some people live in apartment buildings with a hundred-plus tenants. I live in a duplex, I'm married with a child, the neighbors in front are married with a child, and the six of us – four adults and two teenagers – are all tenants, on a property on which a single gardener performs gardening across both units on the same day and visit. Further, our loquat branches intermingle, making the adjudication of gardening boundaries operationally complex. In the event that the category of "tenant" is held responsible for the operation of a gas-powered leaf blower by the dart-throwing responsibility-allocation monkey, I recommend we select a *specific* tenant either by the use of the model described in the Shirley Jackson short story "The Lottery," or by the employment of a second responsibility-allocation monkey with a more sophisticated dart board. In the alternative, in our particular case, we would recommend that you just blame one of the teenagers.

Third, what does it mean to "authorize" the use of a gas-powered leaf blower as a tenant? If I'm on a spiritual quest in an off-the-grid yurt in Greenland, which is at least plausible, and our gardener uses a gas-powered leaf blower in our yard during my absence, and I haven't ordered him not to as a tenant, can I come home to a misdemeanor charge? As tenants, our gardener has never asked us to *authorize* anything. Nor, I suspect, has he ever asked the property owner to specifically authorize anything. I'm curious how you think gardeners work: "Chris, I would

like to use the hedge clippers now, over here by this scraggly ground cover." "Yes, I hereby authorize you to do so, but only as far as that pile of beer cans in the corner." I'm forced to think of the way the chain gang worked in *Cool Hand Luke*: "Drinkin' it up here, boss." Our gardener operates entirely free of our specific authorization for individual acts of tool selection. How would you prove otherwise in court?

Finally, a question: Who, specifically, will enforce this ordinance? Catching someone using a leaf blower doesn't allow for a long investigative lead time, so I can't imagine a way for anyone but police officers to issue these citations – which, somehow, they have to issue not to the person they catch using the gas-powered leaf blower, but instead to the property owner or the tenant, based upon unspecified criteria, and apparently reflecting an analysis about how best to construe the act of *authorization*, which may have been tacit. In the event that police officers aren't the people who enforce the ordinance, it will have to be enforced by code enforcement officers, who are not always on duty and generally respond to a complaint in no more than several days. But maybe someone will use a gas-powered leaf blower for a full ten days straight at some point, in a stationary position, to make code enforcement a good option.

This should work well. I say yes to the whole glorious package.

Chris Bray
Resident / Garden Tool Authorization Officer
South Pasadena

From: William Kelly

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Public Comment on Item 15, 7-7-21 City Council Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 9:03:20 AM

Attachments: image.png

image.png

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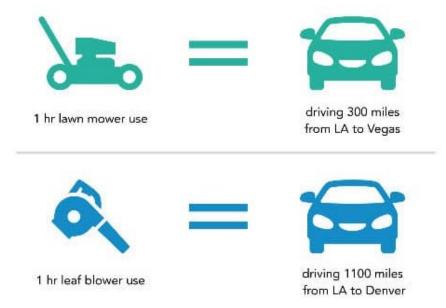
Now is the time to adopt the proposed ordinance to transition gardening from gaspowered leaf blowers to electric blowers or to require residents to pay their gardeners more for the time it takes to eliminate gas blowers by raking and sweeping.

There are many good reasons to do this and also many reasons why now is the time to move forward.

# Reasons Why the Ordinance is Needed

First, today gas-powered gardening equipment used across Southern California emits more volatile organic compounds each day (31.2 tons) than all passenger cars on the road (24.4 tons), according to recent South Coast Air Quality Management District data. Volatile organic compounds consist of a variety of compounds, including cancer-causing benzene, xylene, and toluene, as well as formaldehyde and other chemical compounds. The compounds also react in the air with nitrogen oxides emitted by burning fossil fuel and create lung-burning ozone, levels of which are recently seeing an uptick after years of decline in the air basin.

The magnitude of lawn and gardening equipment emissions is not surprising because unlike cars, which have catalytic converters, oxygen sensors and computers that control combustion, exhaust gas recirculation systems, vapor absorbent carbon canisters in gas tanks, gas tank fill pipes that form a semi-seal when fueling, and many other engineered pollution controls, lawn and garden equipment engines have next to no controls. Also, there are actually more pieces of gardening equipment in use than there are light-duty passenger cars in the state--16.5 million compared to 13.7 million, according to the California Air Resources Board. Among this equipment, leaf blowers are the biggest emitter. Operating a leaf blower for one hour emits as much volatile organic compound pollution as driving a 2015 Toyota Camry from Los Angeles to Denver, according to CARB:



Source: CARB

**Second,** moving away from gas-powered to electric blowers and other gardening equipment is a measure in the city's adopted Climate Action Plan. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates nationwide that lawn and garden equipment emits about 23 million tons a year of greenhouse gases. In the South Coast Air Basin, which includes San Gabriel Valley, carbon dioxide emissions from the equipment total more than 270,000 tons annually, according to the SCAQMD.

Third, leaf blower emissions are exhausted right around the operator, who must strap the device to the back to use. While this is generally not mentioned, it is clear that the exhaust is most concentrated near the operator. Gardeners also inhale plenty of dust blown into the air by the blowers, which includes pollen, soil, brake lining material, tire rubber, etc. These particles cause respiratory irritation and can trigger asthma. In the U.S., 7.7 percent of adults and 8.4 percent of children suffer from asthma, according to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. The particles and gases also cause allergies and exacerbate chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other respiratory ailments, according to the American Lung Association. These particles eventually settle on neighboring homes and cars, soiling windows, painted surfaces, and outdoor furniture. Electric leaf blowers operate at a more gentle level, moving leafs and large debris, while entraining less fine material into the air.



**Finally,** repeated noise exposure, particularly for the gardeners, is ear damaging without protection. For residents, it regularly disturbs peaceful enjoyment of homes and neighborhoods.

# Why Now is the Time

Leaf blower bans were first discussed in the 1990s, when the first electric cars were offered for sale. However, at that time electric technology was not ready for prime time due to battery limitations. Since then, battery technology has markedly improved and the cost of batteries has fallen dramatically. Also, in the 1990s the grid, which is the source of electricity for charging batteries, was still run by burning fossil fuel. Today it increasingly relies on emissions free renewable generation sources--wind, solar, hydro, and geothermal. In South Pasadena, the Clean Power Alliance provides more than 90 percent of electric customers 100 percent renewable power. So electric equipment that's plugged into the grid also runs on renewable energy.

Another reason today is the time to move forward is that the SCAQMD is rebating commercial gardeners 75 percent of the cost of buying new electric lawn and gardening equipment. This lowers the cost of a blower for gardeners from the \$1,000-\$1,200 range to about \$250-\$300. In addition, the SCAQMD is providing financial assistance for gardeners to purchase extra batteries.

Electric motors also are durable and affordable. The city has been maintaining its fields and golf course with electric equipment without any problems. Electric equipment can be charged up at a small fraction of the cost of gasoline and oil. The motors need less maintenance than gas engines. There are no more spark plug changes, fuel filter changes, and trips to the gas station, all costs to the gardener

with gas equipment.

So the bottom line is that unlike during the 1990s, electric blowers that can run on renewable energy are available, reliable, and affordable.

That said, the success of the ordinance will hinge on a carefully crafted, phased-in, and well executed compliance program that makes it as easy and affordable as possible for gardeners. Among the steps that likely will be needed will be a tool lending program that allows gardeners to check out and return electric blowers for use in town, on-site demonstration and exchange programs where gardeners get assistance with filling out SCAQMD rebate paperwork and hopefully manufacturer discounts, outreach in Spanish to gardeners, and an enforcement program that focuses on residents, who are the responsible party under the ordinance. The best approach would be to have Public Works enforce the ordinance just as it enforces the city's tree ordinance, instead of assigning this duty to the police force. Public Works already has a phone line for residents to call-in complaints about unpermitted tree removal and this should be expanded to handle complaints about gas-powered blowers.

Thanks,
Bill Kelly

From: <u>Matthew Barbato</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Public Comment on Item 15, 7-7-21 City Council Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 9:23:28 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing in full support of a ban on gas-powered leaf and lawn equipment in South Pasadena. It is past time for our community to transition to electric equipment to reduce the enormous amounts of pollutants being emitted each day in our neighborhoods. With the subsidies in place for equipment replacement, there is no justifiable reason not make this inevitable transition immediately. I could elaborate in detail on the facts of this debate, but the truth is that there is no reasonable argument against NOT banning gas-powered equipment.

Matthew Barbato

From: <u>Elizabeth Cochran</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Public Comment: Suport for Prohibiting the Use of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

**Date:** Monday, July 5, 2021 10:55:05 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to voice my strong support for passing an Ordinance, Amending Chapter 19A (Noise Regulation) of the South Pasadena Municipal Code to Prohibit the Use of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers. The din of leaf blowers in South Pasadena is nearly constant, disturbing people and animals alike. Worse, gas-powered leaf blowers are highly polluting - the Air Resources Board estimates that emissions from leaf blowers, lawnmowers, and similar equipment produce more emissions than all passenger vehicles. My family and I look forward to the City Council banning these loud and dirty (and superfluous) gas-powered leaf blowers.

--Elizabeth Cochran, South Pasadena, CA

From: <u>Victoria Tan</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

Subject: The proposed leaf blower ordinance

Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 9:08:42 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

For the July 7th, 2021 City Council meeting, item 15, the proposed leaf blower ordinance:

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>Victoria Tan</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>
Cc: <u>Michael Cacciotti - Personal</u>

Subject: The proposed leaf blower ordinance

Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 9:51:28 PM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

For the July 7th, 2021 City Council meeting, item 15, the proposed leaf blower ordinance:

The excessive amount of fumes, noise and dust from leaf blowers is a daily nuisance, especially to those of us who have asthma and are sensitive to air pollution. Every day someone on my block has a leaf blower going, sometimes multiple leaf blowers at once. It does not seem like a good idea to kick up dust on any day, let alone in a pandemic. Recently, we finally felt comfortable enough to have friends over, but our al fresco Saturday lunch was disrupted by two leaf blowers. Yes, even on Saturdays and Sundays.

The existing ordinance is not practical and difficult to enforce. How would one verify if the leaf blower has a city approved decal?

I urge you Council members to seriously consider the positive impact of this green initiative and vote for the leaf blower ban. It is a step towards the right direction in protecting our environment and health, including the gardeners'.

Sincerely, Victoria Tan

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Victoria Tan

**Date:** July 6, 2021 at 9:08:00 PM PDT

To: ccpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov Subject: The proposed leaf blower ordinance

For the July 7th, 2021 City Council meeting, item 15, the proposed leaf blower ordinance:

As someone who has multiple chemical sensitivity, I am very aware of our air quality

problem. One particular issue our city has is the excessive amount of fumes, noise and dust from leaf blowers. Every day someone on my block has a leaf blower going. It does not seem like a good idea to kick up dust on any day, let alone in a pandemic.

The existing ordinance is not practical and difficult to enforce. How would one verify the leaf blower has a city approved decal?

Would you consider proposing a city ordinance to at least ban the use of leaf blowers on the weekend? Recently, we finally felt comfortable enough to have friends over, but our al fresco Saturday lunch was interrupted by two leaf blowers.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Brandon James Yung
To: City Council Public Comment

**Subject:** 7/7/21 agenda item 15: leaf blower ban **Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 9:41:41 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### **Comment:**

"I would like to support the council's intent to ban fossil fuel powered leaf blowers in south pasadena. Besides the nuisance argument against leaf blowers, there is a strong climate one as well. The hydrocarbon emissions from a half-hour of yard work with the two-stroke leaf blower are about the same as a 3,900-mile drive from Texas to Alaska in a Ford Raptor pick up truck. An Echo 2-stroke leaf blower performed even worse, generating 23 times CO and nearly 300 times more non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHC) than the Ford Raptor truck, according to Edmunds.com

As the council moves forward to shape this policy, the city should pursue common sense enforcement mechanisms — with an education and outreach-first approach for both homeowners and landscapers — making it so this ban does not begin snowballing onerous fines or serve as an excuse for pre-textual stops against landscapers, whose immigration status often interaction with law enforcement difficult. In drafting effective policy, let's both look to other blower bans, such as the City of Oaklands, as well as craft something that can serve as a model for other San Gabriel Valley cities."

\_\_

Berkeley 2022 Urban Studies my <u>bcal</u> From: <u>Joanne Nuckols</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Agenda Item #15 Ordinance banning gas powered leaf blowers/IN FAVOR

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 11:28:53 AM

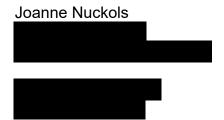
**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor and city council, I am wholeheartedly in favor of this ordinance to ban gas powered leaf blowers, and wonder why it's taken so long!

For years my neighbor and I, who share a gardener, have requested him not to use any leaf blower, gas or electric for a cleaner, saner neighborhood. He has no problems or complaints complying with our request. But, our other neighbors gardener has a love affair with his gas powered leaf blower and uses is for 20 minutes at a time...horrible disruption of quality of life as well as polluting the neighborhood.

Please vote for this ordinance and make sure there is adequate enforcement. The quality of the enforcement will determine the success of your actions. I believe a majority of South Pasadena residents will thank you for your action on this matter which will increase the quiet enjoyment for our residents.

Thank you for your consideration.



From: Ryan Jones

To: <u>City Council Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Public Comment - Agenda Item 15 - Support for Zero-Emission Yard Care

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 10:07:22 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, Council, and staff,

I support the city's effort to reduce noise and air pollution with this new ordinance. Gaspowered blowers are awful in so many ways and we've already asked our own gardeners to curb their use.

Noise pollution is - to my mind, at least - a rather under-reported concern. A quieter city is happier and safer (you can hear oncoming cars!). The move to electric blowers would be a big step in bringing down the total volume of the city and making it more enjoyable to be outside.

We're either coming up on or already in fire season, where we're sure to lose many days that could be spent outdoors to air pollution. We have a 2yo daughter (meaning she's in the sensitive group for air quality) and we have to keep her indoors whenever the air quality index gets too bad - which is rather often in the summer. The reduced emission from electric blowers could help us get some of those days back. Her health, and ours, is not worth sacrificing for gas blowers when an easy substitute is available.

I'd even be happy to contribute to a fund to help local gardeners make the switch.

Please consider the health and happiness of your residents and pass the ban on gas blowers.

Thank you, Ryan Jones From: wokitsu@yahoo.com

To: City Council Public Comment

Subject: South Pasadena City Council July 7 2021 Agenda Item 15 - Leaf Blower Ordinance, SUPPORT

**Date:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 10:00:13 AM

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council:

Regarding Agenda Item 15 of City Council July 7, 2021 meeting, I support the proposed ordinance to prohibit the use of gas-powered leaf blowers.