



Council Agenda Form

MOTION #	DRAFT #
DATE SUBMITTED: 4-21-2021	DATE TO GO BEFORE COUNCIL:
SUBMITTED BY: Danny Schaible	
CO-SPONSORS: Ben Simasek, Jimmy McClellan	
DEPARTMENT: Legislative	

TITLE OF MOTION: Municipal Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ban

RECOMMENDATION:

I move that the Mayor and Council direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to ban gas-powered leaf blowers (GPLBs) as follows:

- Effective July 1, 2022 - The use of gas-powered leaf blowers by the City will cease entirely, including city staff and city contracts. Also, this date will be the start of the 75 percent rebate window for the trade-in of GPLBs towards the purchase of an electric leaf blower.
- Effective July 1, 2023 – The 75 percent rebate window will end, and the 50 percent rebate window will begin for GPLB trade-ins.
- Effective January 1, 2024 - The 50 percent rebate window will end, and the 25 percent rebate window will begin for GPLB trade-ins.
- Effective July 1, 2024 - the use of gas-powered leaf blowers will be prohibited permanently, and the 25 percent rebate window will end for GPLB trade-ins.

In addition, and effective immediately, any resident or landscape contractor that uses all-electric lawn and landscape equipment (mower, string trimmer, blower etc.) can begin work at 7:00 a.m. rather than 8:00 a.m.

I move the Mayor and Council implement a City run rebate program where Hyattsville residents and contractors would be eligible to trade-in used GPLBs for a rebate towards the purchase of an electric leaf blower (ELB). I further move the Council allocate \$52,100 to the FY22 budget (\$50,600 for the GPLB trade-in program, \$1,500 to replace City GPLBs).

BACKGROUND:

See “Recommendation to Address Noise and other Impacts from GPLBs in Hyattsville” pdf for additional background information.

ANTICIPATED STAFF RESOURCES REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT:

- The cost to administer the GPLB buyback program is estimated at \$50,600.
- The cost to convert City GPLBs to ELB is \$1,500.
- The need for code enforcement actions will be reduced by a robust public outreach campaign. Passage of this motion will create new code enforcement responsibilities. The additional cost of code enforcement may be partially offset by revenue generated from citations.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR / DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR COMMENT: (must be approved by City Administrator):

Tracey Nicholson, City Administrator

STRATEGIC GOALS AND ACTIONS:

Goal 3 – Enhance a safe and pleasant community

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

- .pdf: Recommendation to Address Noise and other Impacts from GPLBs in Hyattsville
- .xlcs: Leaf Blower Cost Comparison

CURRENT YEAR BUDGET IMPACT: 0