

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

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From:	roger heyder
То:	Public Comment; City Council
Subject:	Public Comment - Agenda Item #18, Council meeting of 6/27
Date:	Tuesday, June 27, 2023 7:15:25 AM

Hello,

The city uses noisy gas mowers and gas edgers for maintaining parks and other city properties. That generates plenty of noise for long periods of time, certainly as much as gas blowers (those might be being used as well). The city uses gas tools because they need to.

Basically everyone uses lawn services now, also having gas mowers and edgers, and perhaps gas blowers. Electric tools are not used because they are ineffective for gardeners who work all day. Precisely like an electric car, which has a limited range, and is ineffective for those that drive long distances. If a homeowner is doing their own lawn, then perhaps an electric mower, and other electric tools, can be used, since the usage is of short duration and the tools can be recharged on site.

Just delete the entire gas blower law. I don't like gas blowers either, but at least I have the common sense to understand why they are being used, and that there is NO PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE at this time. If the city has a genuine solution for gas blowers that will work for gardeners, then let them produce it.

The city ought to respond to resident complaints, rather that creating convoluted and absurd laws to try and 'regulate' everything. If a resident has a complaint, then the police can come out and resolve the situation, with perhaps a citation if it is actually deserved. If nobody is complaining or has an issue, what business is it of the city?? Address real problems that come up, rather than manufacturing problems and issues.

Roger Heyder

From:	Eric Muller
To:	Public Comment
Subject:	PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 18 Leaf blowers - June 27, 2023
Date:	Tuesday, June 27, 2023 4:31:52 PM

There is an inconsistency in the hours for garden tools and for leaf blowers.

The current city ordinance on noise (6.6.070, item 11.a) stipulates the hours during which lawn and garden tools are prohibited:

Operating or permitting the operation of any lawn or garden tool (except portable gasoline engine powered blowers), or similar tool between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. of the following day Monday through Friday or between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. of the following Saturday and Sunday; and portable electric powered blowers used to blow leaves, dirt and other debris off sidewalks, driveways, lawns, landscape areas or other surfaces between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. seven days a week,

The new section for leaf blowers (11.15.040 B and C) has these hours:

B. Permitted hours of operation by any person(s) shall be as follows:i. 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.ii. 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on Sundays.

C. No person(s) shall operate a leaf blower on federally recognized holidays.

1. I suggest to take this opportunity to re-formulate 6.6.070 as permitted hours, in the style of the new section. I not even sure I understand what the current wording means.

2. Note that the new section allows leaf blowers from 7am, but other garden tools are not allowed before 8am. Since one of the goals of the changes is to make things clearer for all, it seems important to use the same hours for both leaf blowers and other garden tools.

3. I would prefer: 8am-7pm Mon-Fri / 9am - 5pm Sat-Sun / no operation on federal holidays

Thanks, Eric Muller 752 Parma Way Los Altos, CA 92024