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Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 24-0055

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
 Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
 To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org

Sun, Jul 28, 2024 at 4:59 PM

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enable by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website.Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Councils rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at empowerla@lacity.org.

***** This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. *****

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Silver Lake

Name: Kevin Rutkowski

Email: Kevin.rutkowski.slnc@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(17) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 06/05/2024

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/28/2024

Update to a Previous Input: Yes

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 24-0055

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: **This is an update to a previous submission. PDF of Community Impact Statement (CIS) attached The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) represents 40,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in the neighborhood. The SLNC Board voted at its Board and Stakeholder meeting held June 5, 2024, to submit this Community Impact Statement regarding Council File 24-0055, in support of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers / Fiscal Year 2022-23 Complaints and Citations / Enforcement / Education Program. Please see the attached CIS

Ref:MSG10818425

 **2024-07-29 SLNC CIS 24-0055.pdf**
224K



Serving the Silver Lake Community Since 2003

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July 29, 2024

TO
The Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT In Support of Education and Enforcement of LA's Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ban

RE: Council File 24-0055: Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers / Fiscal Year 2022-23 Complaints and Citations / Enforcement / Education Program

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) represents 40,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in the neighborhood. The SLNC Board voted at its Board and Stakeholder meeting held June 5, 2024, to submit this Community Impact Statement regarding Council File 24-0055, in support of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers / Fiscal Year 2022-23 Complaints and Citations / Enforcement / Education Program.

We at the SLNC agree with Councilmember Raman that enforcement of LA's nearly 25-year-old gas-powered landscaping equipment ban is long overdue. Reasons for the ban are numerous and compelling:

- The noise from gas leaf blowers is disruptive to neighborhood tranquility and can cause permanent hearing loss to operators
- The two-stroke gas and oil powered leaf blower engines are notoriously inefficient and release vast quantities of toxic pollutants
- Exhaust and particulate emissions can lead to strokes, respiratory disease, heart attacks, and other serious heart related problems
- In 2020, landscaping equipment in the US is estimated to have produced more than 30 million tons of climate warming CO2 and 19,000 tons of methane
- Clearing fallen leaves disrupts habitat for critical pollinating species such as bees, butterflies, and moths, as well as other critters like lizards and small mammals; noise from leaf blowers disrupts communication among birds that rely on sound to communicate

Despite these negative impacts, enforcement of the ban has been complicated by concern for the livelihood of the tens of thousands of landscapers in our region who rely on leaf blowers for the high-volume work that makes their profession viable. We believe the transition is feasible with a combination of reduced reliance on blowers in general (and employing a more nature-based, "leave the leaves" approach), and by working with homeowners to assist in the

cultural and practical changes required to move away from this outmoded practice. Strategies include homeowners/landlords purchasing electric blowers and/or batteries with chargers for use at their homes or a group of homes, or paying a one-time surcharge toward the purchase of electric equipment.

We support Councilmember Raman's novel approach of focusing on homeowners for enforcement – including tiered fines up to \$500 – rather than landscapers. We also agree that enforcement is better handled by a department other than LAPD and support enforcement under the City Attorney's Administrative Enforcement Citation Program(ACE). SLNC recommends a fix-it ticket approach so that fines can be forgiven once documentation of purchase/transition to electric equipment has been provided.

The City of Los Angeles must set the example by eliminating all gas-powered leaf blowers from use by city employees. Gardeners and homeowners cannot be expected to take this ordinance seriously if the City itself doesn't.

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council supports the Motion in Council File 24-0055 to create a new tiered enforcement system for gas-powered leaf blowers focused on homeowners and an educational and outreach program to not only help professional landscapers make the transition to electric gardening equipment, but also embrace a no-blow or low-blow culture that acknowledges the fragility of our garden ecosystems.

Sincerely,
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council



c/o Michael Amodeo, Assistant Secretary

PRESENTED BY: David Omenn, Co-Chair
SECONDED BY: Maria Pasquarelli
YES: (17) NO: (0) ABSTAIN: (0) ABSENT: (4) INELIGIBLE:(0)
ON THIS DATE: June 5, 2024