



CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH CITY HALL

1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

WEBSITE: www.citymb.info • **PHONE:** (310) 802-5000

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Carrie Tai, Community Development Director

MEETING: City Council Regular Meeting, August 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 12 - Receive Update on Gas-Powered Landscape Equipment and Recommendations from the Sustainability Task Force

DATE: August 17, 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL ATTACHMENT

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1) PowerPoint Presentation

GAS-POWERED LANDSCAPE EQUIPMENT UPDATE

AUGUST 18, 2020



GAS-POWERED LANDSCAPE EQUIP.

Background – City Council Discussion May 21, 2019

- Manhattan Beach's existing ban on mechanical blowers (1998).
- City Council considered and denied a request for an exemption to allow the use of electric leaf blowers in Manhattan Village.
- City Council directed staff and the Sustainability Task Force (STF) to evaluate and provide recommendations on prohibiting all gas-powered landscape equipment and replacement with electric landscaping equipment.



GAS-POWERED LANDSCAPE EQUIP.

STF Discussion: Mechanical Blowers- allow electric?

- Mechanical blower ban addresses three concerns in populated areas:
 1. noise impacts;
 2. air pollution from greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of gas powered devices;
 3. air quality impacts from dust particles and particulates that become airborne from the blowing action.

STF Recommendation:

City should keep the existing mechanical blower ban intact.



GAS-POWERED LANDSCAPE EQUIP

STF Discussion: Landscape Equipment Impacts

- Air pollution (GHG & smog-forming emissions) concerns → can be reduced with electric devices.
- Noise pollution concerns → can be reduced with electric devices.
- Airborne particulates (fine dust, etc.) → present with any blowing or vacuuming activity, regardless of power.

STF Recommendation:

Support Policy Option 1 – City policy for municipal electrification of landscaping equipment to reduce GHG emissions and noise pollution.



GAS-POWERED LANDSCAPE EQUIP

Seeking Council Direction on Policy Options:

1. Shift municipal operations to zero-emission landscaping through transitioning non-emergency City equipment and contractor equipment to electric models. *Next Step: Staff, Contractor, & Fiscal research needed → Contract Amendment.*
2. Launch landscaping equipment education program for Manhattan Beach. *Next Step: Work Plan Item.*
3. Study a ban on gas-powered landscaping equipment City-wide. *Next Step: Council direction needed.*
4. No Action.

