

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/01/2018

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 03/11/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 18-0131

Agenda Date:

Item Number: 9

Summary: The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council supports transitioning the City's green space maintenance to low-noise zero-emission equipment not only for Parks and Rec to ensure our park space is 100% gas and emissions-free but also for all Street Service departments currently using small gas-powered engines.

We also support that a pilot project/roll out should be instituted in areas of the City most affected by air pollution so the benefits of expanding clean energy to our parks accrue first to those communities who have suffered the most in the past.

Finally, we recommend that the use of leaf blowers be avoided completely due to eye and respiratory hazards

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Post Office Box 50791
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<http://www.highlandparknc.com>
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

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Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

March 1, 2018

Mayor Eric Garcetti & the Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CIS in support of CF 18-0131 on City's green space maintenance

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood. In recent years, we have been encouraged to avoid gardening appliances (lawn mowers, chainsaws, leaf-blowers, etc.) using two-stroke engines to reduce both air and noise pollution.

Therefore, in order to reduce the same harmful pollutants, as well as protect their employees and provide a more healthful and peaceful environment to those using the City's green spaces, we strongly recommend that Los Angeles follow South Pasadena's example in ensuring our park space is 100% gas and emissions-free.

The Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks supervises and maintains more than 450 parks, 13 golf courses and hundreds of athletic fields on over 16,000 acres of City property. Despite the avowed desire of the City to transition to clean energy, many departments still use old equipment due to lack of funding. This puts both employees and the citizens of Los Angeles at risk.

HHPNC – In support of CF 17-0131 on upgrading the City’s green space maintenance

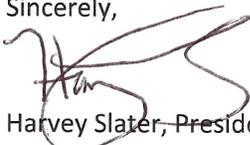
Furthermore, we recommend that the use of leaf blowers be avoided completely due to eye and respiratory hazards. If the person operating a leaf blower wears a respiratory mask and goggles, why is it acceptable for the debris to be blown at pedestrians and passing vehicles?

Because we do not want to return to washing our paved areas with our scarce water supplies, many existing leaf-blowers are dual use or can be easily converted to vacuums. This would prevent blowing bacteria, fungi, other toxins and dust at people and onto the streets where they get into our water supply. This detritus can be sterilized and composted.

We also agree to a pilot project/roll out approach that should be instituted in areas of the City most affected by air pollution so the benefits of expanding clean energy to our parks accrue first to those communities who have suffered the most in the past. A roll out of 21st century grounds-keeping technology will give the City opportunity to evaluate the equipment that works the best, solve logistical problems that will inevitably arise, and address any glitches before investing in citywide change.

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council stands in support of transitioning the City’s green space maintenance to low-noise zero-emission equipment not only for Parks and Rec but also for all Street Service departments currently using small gas-powered engines.

Sincerely,



Harvey Slater, President
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council