



Regulation of the Use and Operation of Leaf Blowers Ordinance Adoption

Town of Los Gatos

June 2, 2014

Background

- **July 2012**
 - *Sustainability Plan Adopted*
 - *Possible adoption of leaf blower ordinance (RE-4)*
- **August 2013**
 - *Study Session*
 - *Direction to provide additional information*
 - Survey of cities with ordinances in place
 - Recommendations to regulate leaf blower use
 - Recommendations on educational options and leaf blower exchange programs
- **December 2013**
 - *Study Session*
 - Draft an ordinance amendment for adoption
 - Develop an outreach plan
 - Implement a six-month soft enforcement effort
- **May 5, 2014**
 - *Ordinance Introduction*



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Ordinance Amendment

- **Revise the powered equipment section of the Town Code pursuant to Council direction as follows:**
 - *Gasoline leaf blowers shall be prohibited from use in all residential, commercial, and industrial zones or public space.*
 - *Electric leaf blowers in excess of 65 decibels, measured 50 feet from the source, shall be prohibited from use in all residential, commercial, and industrial zones or public space.*
 - *Electric leaf blowers shall be operated only during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays in residential, commercial, industrial, public spaces or noise sensitive zones.*
 - *Leaf Blower use is prohibited on Sundays and holidays.*
 - *Add a new Section 16.20.070 that addresses enforcement and penalties*



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Ordinance Implementation

- **Ordinance effective July 1, 2014**
- **Soft enforcement from July 1, 2014-January 1, 2015**
 - ***Warning letters issued only***
- **Public Outreach**
 - ***Town website & What's New List Serve***
 - ***www.LosGatosCa.gov/LeafBlowers***
 - ***Town-wide mailing in June***
 - ***KCAT***
 - ***Chamber Newsletter***
 - ***Spanish translation flyer/information on website***



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