



City Council

January 17, 2023
Packet Addendum #1

From: [Tiffany Boyd](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Prioritizing clean air in your 2023 work plan
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 6:18:45 AM

Dear Louisville City Council,

Happy New Year!

As you consider what to prioritize in your 2023 work plan, I hope that you will center the current and future quality of our air in your decision.

There are a growing number of state and federal incentive programs supporting the purchase of electric powered lawn equipment which are available to municipalities, businesses, and residents to move this important health imperative forward.

Please help Louisville residents to breathe, and phase out the use and purchase of gas powered lawn equipment.

Thank you for all you do for our community!

Best,
Tiffany Boyd
550 Grant Ave

<https://www.denverpost.com/2022/12/09/electric-lawn-mower-colorado-air-quality-copirg/>

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/banks.pdf>

<https://raqc.org/program/mow-down-pollution-residential/>

<https://pirg.org/colorado/foundation/media-center/new-report-gas-powered-lawn-equipment-plays-outsized-role-in-colorados-unhealthy-ozone-pollution/>

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From: [Shira Nathan](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support for the phasing-out of Gas powered lawn equipment
Date: Monday, January 16, 2023 5:07:09 PM

Dear City Council,

I am writing to you in support of phasing out the use of gas powered lawn equipment in the city of Louisville.

There are many reasons why such action would be beneficial to the city. Most notably, decreasing the use of high-polluting gas powered equipment would help to ease air pollution in the area. The air quality in Colorado continuously fails to meet the EPA guidelines of 70 ppb for ground-level ozone, and is currently classified as "Severe". Ground-level ozone is a mixture of pollutants that react with sunlight (an abundant resource in Colorado) to form ozone that settles near the ground where it contributes to many adverse health conditions such as asthma, bronchitis, chest pain, and (after chronic exposure) potential scarring of lung tissue.

Gas powered equipment releases Volatile Organic Compounds, Nitrogen Oxides, and other pollutants that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone.

Currently, Louisville enjoys better air quality than most of the state. In order to keep it that way, we need to rapidly continue reducing greenhouse gas emissions from things like gas powered lawn equipment.

This action also will reduce noise pollution, improve working conditions for landscapers, and comes recommended by the Sustainability Advisory Board.

Please consider these aspects when making your decision, and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Shira Nathan
16 year old student at Centaurus High School

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From: [Laura Levesque-Catalano](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Phasing out gas powered landscaping equipment - sensible approaches
Date: Monday, January 16, 2023 4:07:57 PM

Hello Louisville City Council,

I encourage Louisville City Council to consider an ordinance to phase out gasoline-powered landscaping equipment.

This aligns with Governor Polis' proposed \$120 Million tax credits which include switching to electric lawnmowers and leaf blowers.

I believe a phased approach would work best starting with regular citizens (non-commercial equipment). If the Governor's tax credits go through there could even be financial incentives to make the switch. The next phase of the ordinance would be directed to commercial businesses for which financial incentives (as I understand) will be made available through PACE (Partners for a Clean Environment) which is our partner for Louisville's Green Business Program. I acknowledge that the business/commercial sector is trickier since battery life is not optimal and not practical to charge throughout the day. Therefore, any financially incentivized voluntary programs would be a good first step. The phasing in of electric machinery in the commercial sector could parallel advancements made in the technology.

Benefits of phasing out gasoline-powered landscaping equipment include:

- reduced air pollution, including the precursors of ground-level ozone, that adversely affects our health on a daily basis.
- reduced greenhouse gas emissions to help mitigate climate change.
- reduced noise pollution.
- improved working conditions for landscapers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Levesque
642 West St.

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From: [Debra Baskett](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Megan Davis](#)
Subject: 2023 Work Plan - Dark Sky Lighting
Date: Monday, January 16, 2023 10:18:40 AM

Dear Mayor and members of City Council,
I'm writing to encourage you to include Residential Dark Sky Lighting to the final 2023 Work Program, and make progress to add residential dark sky lighting standards to the zoning code.

Thank you for your consideration

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Debra A Baskett
She/Her/Hers

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From: [Tallis Kent](#)
To: [Kristen McDermott](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Phase out gasoline-powered landscaping equipment
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2023 5:13:30 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing with an idea for the city council work plan as a resident, not as a member of the planning commission.

I am writing to encourage you to vote in favor of an ordinance to phase out gasoline-powered landscaping equipment. Our planet is suffering and has been for a long time, one cause of its suffering is ozone being emitted into the troposphere.

Ozone is a type of gas that can be toxic under different circumstances. Tropospheric (or ground level) ozone is toxic because it is a major greenhouse gas and air pollutant, which is harmful to human and ecosystem health. It is also a major component of smog. However, stratospheric ozone is good because it reduces the intensity of the ultraviolet radiation from the sun that shines down on the earth. We want stratospheric ozone but we do not want tropospheric ozone. Tropospheric ozone can worsen bronchitis and emphysema, trigger asthma, and permanently damage lung tissue. According to the website Climate and Clean Air Coalition, "tropospheric ozone exposure is responsible for an estimated 1 million premature deaths each year." This is largely due to pollutants being emitted from vehicles, factories and other industrial sources, fossil fuels, combustion, consumer products, evaporation of paints, and many other sources.

Gas powered tools like lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and stoves all contribute into worsening air pollution. According to a CBS News article, "gas-powered tools emit pollutants that could lead to lung cancer, heart disease and respiratory problems. Using a gas-powered lawn mower for an hour generates the same amount of emissions roughly as a car driving from Los Angeles to Las Vegas." Using a gas powered stove in our home causes more harm than good.

Our current air quality in Lafayette Colorado is measured at an AQI of 41 and an AQI value of 50 or below represents good air quality, while an AQI value over 300 represents hazardous air quality. If we want to have our air quality stand at and below 50 then we need to take action.

That's why I strongly believe the council should ban gas powered stoves and landscaping equipment and use electric stoves instead. This was also recommended by the Louisville Sustainability Board. This will better the planet and our overall health.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Tallis Kent, concerned citizen

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From: [Joshua Cooperman](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 2023 work plan priorities
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2023 2:31:10 PM

Dear members of the Louisville City Council,

I support all of the items on the draft of City Council's 2023 work plan. I wish to highlight my support for certain items; I employ the numbering of the draft work plan.

1. Equity, diversity, and inclusion

I strongly support the City's continuing efforts to imbue all of its operations with equity, diversity, and inclusion, particularly following the recommendations of the EDI task force.

2. Internal and community decarbonization plans

I look forward to learning the findings of the internal decarbonization plan commissioned by the City, and I very much hope that the City begins to make plans for community decarbonization in 2023.

3. Comprehensive Plan update

I look forward to participating in updating the City's Comprehensive Plan.

4. Solid waste contract renewal

I hope that the City prioritizes improving its waste diversion rates in the process of renewing its solid waste contract.

5. Community resilience and fire mitigation strategies

I strongly support efforts to make our community more resilient to wildfire. The elements of wildland-urban interface building codes have been demonstrated to increase resilience. Mitigation strategies on public lands should be informed by scientific knowledge and environmental sustainability and should not compromise the natural habitat that these lands provide.

6. Development and implementation of the Transportation Master Plan

I hope that the City can begin to implement pedestrian and bicyclist improvements along Highway 42. I would be thrilled by an agreement with the Louisville Revitalization Commission to fund underpass construction in the Urban Renewal District. I also hope that the City will have a broader discussion around pedestrian and bicyclist safety, prioritizing pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure, and increasing the share of pedestrian and bicyclist trips among all trips in Louisville.

8. Development impact fees update

In the process of updating the City's development impact fee schedule, I hope that the City seriously considers the capacity of these fees to fund affordable housing projects.

9. Affordable housing

I strongly support all of the City's efforts to grow the City's affordable housing stock.

14. Dark sky lighting

I strongly support the adoption of a dark sky lighting ordinance for both residential and commercial properties.

17. Gasoline station moratorium

I very much hope that the City transforms its temporary moratorium on new gasoline stations into a permanent prohibition on new gasoline stations.

19. Concept review process for development

I strongly support the institution of a concept review process for development in the City. Such a process should include some form of public engagement and input.

21. Phase-out of gasoline-powered landscaping equipment

I very much hope that the City will develop and adopt an ordinance phasing out the sale and use of gasoline-powered landscaping equipment.

25. Study of lead pollution from Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport

I strongly support the City commissioning a study (in collaboration with neighboring municipalities) of lead pollution stemming from Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport .

26. Mitigation of noise from Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport

I strongly support the City's continued participation in the Community Noise Roundtable, and I would strongly support any further efforts on the part of the City and its neighboring municipalities to mitigate noise stemming from Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport.

Best,
Josh

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From: [Cathern H Smith](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Please Phase Out Gasoline Powered Lawn Equipment
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2023 12:05:12 PM

Dear City Council,

Please lead on climate, improve air quality, and reduce noise pollution by phasing out gasoline powered lawn equipment. Moving to electric lawn and garden equipment will significantly reduce ground level ozone.

We now live in a severe non-attainment area for ground level ozone with some of the worst air quality in the country. On November 7, 2022, the EPA reclassified the Denver Metro Area, including Boulder, from serious to severe nonattainment for failure to meet the 2008 ozone standard of 0.075 parts per million.

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-10-07/pdf/2022-20458.pdf> “Completely eliminating ozone pollution attributable to lawn and garden equipment could achieve approximately **18% of the reduction** needed to bring the Front Range into compliance with federal clean air standards for ozone.”

<https://pirg.org/colorado/foundation/resources/small-machines-big-pollution/> (emphasis added).

Ozone’s effects on human health include premature death, asthma attacks, increased risk of respiratory infection and pulmonary inflammation. <https://www.lung.org/clean-air/outdoors/what-makes-air-unhealthy/ozone> Not to mention the annoying noise pollution.

In addition to damaging human health, ground level ozone damages plants. “Ground-level ozone causes more damage to plants than all other air pollutants combined,” and, reduces crop yields. <https://www.ars.usda.gov/southeast-area/raleigh-nc/plant-science-research/docs/climate-changeair-quality-laboratory/ozone-effects-on-plants/> Aspens, an iconic Colorado native, are among the plants damaged by ozone.

California is moving forward to phase-out gasoline powered lawnmowers and leaf blowers in 2024. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-12-09/california-regulators-phaseout-new-gas-powered-lawnmowers-and-leaf-blowers> An 18% reduction in ground level ozone is meaningful. These are small machines with a big impact on air quality.

Best regards,

Cathern Smith
Ward 3

"Earth repair is a participatory sport."
Judith Schwartz

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From: [Laura Pederson](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Phasing out gasoline-powered landscaping equipment in Louisville.
Date: Saturday, January 14, 2023 3:12:53 PM

Louisville City Council Members,

I urge you to develop and adopt a city ordinance that will require the phasing out of gas-powered landscaping equipment in Louisville.

I am alarmed and upset every time I encounter these incredibly noisy, pollution spewing machines on walks, bike rides, or even just driving by them. They often seem ubiquitous, especially in the warmer weather months. Each time I encounter them, I am shocked that the city still uses them.

In addition to the obvious and awful environmental impacts and terrible noise pollution, I always wonder what the long term health implications will be for the workers who breathe in their fumes.

Please include this in the 2023 work plan. We all know how bad gas-powered landscaping equipment is for a whole host of reasons. No one can claim ignorance as to the significant harm that they cause. Louisville needs to phase them out, the sooner the better, for all of our sakes.

Thanks and Regards,

Laura Parks-Pederson

2297 Cliffrose Lane

Louisville, Co.

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From: [Todd Budin](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Addressing gas lawn equipment - 2023 workplan
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 2:31:20 PM

Greetings Council,

Hope everyone is having a great start to their year. I'm writing to remind you about the importance of addressing gas lawn equipment in our community. Would love to see this on the work plan for 2023 for the benefit of our air quality, landscaper health/wellbeing and community tranquility.

Thanks for your consideration,

Todd Budin
807 Rock Rose Ct

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From: [Kristen McDermott](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Gas Powered Landscaping Equipment
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 1:47:54 PM

Hello, It has come to my attention that the Louisville Sustainability board recommended a ban on the sale and use of gas-powered lawn equipment. This is a terrific idea. Electric landscaping equipment is readily available and much better for the environment. Air quality is so poor in the Denver area. I am sure you know that poor air quality is linked to asthma, low photosynthetic rates (due to ozone), and early death. Children are especially susceptible to the consequences of poor air quality.

Please pass this ordinance.

Thank you, Kristen

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Kristen L. McDermott *Pronouns: she/her/hers.*
Biology and IB Environmental Systems and Societies
Centaurus High School

Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge. Carl Sagan

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From: [Ivy Parham](#)
To: [Kristen McDermott](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Gas pollution via landscaping equipment
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 11:49:34 AM

Dear City Council Members,

Lawnmowers and other landscaping equipment emit up to 5% of the nation's air pollution, heavily contributing to tropospheric ozone, which is already a big problem here in Colorado. If we are able to begin to make the switch to electric or more sustainable energy in this equipment on any scale, it could make a difference in the health of citizens here in Louisville. I hope some thought on this will be considered when making decisions for the coming year.

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From: [Hudson Ferguson](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Landscaping
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 10:32:17 AM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to respectfully request your support for the use of electric tools and mowers in the landscaping industry. As you may be aware, gas-powered tools and mowers have a significant negative impact on the environment. They emit harmful pollutants and contribute to air pollution, which can have detrimental effects on both human health and the planet.

On the other hand, electric tools and mowers are a cleaner and more sustainable alternative. They do not produce emissions and are much quieter, which can help to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Additionally, electric tools and mowers are more efficient and cost-effective in the long run, providing significant cost savings for both businesses and consumers.

I understand that making the switch to electric tools and mowers may not be easy, but I believe that it is a necessary step in protecting our environment and public health. I would like to invite you to join me in promoting the use of electric tools and mowers among landscaping professionals in our city. I would be happy to discuss this further with you and provide any additional information you may need.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Hudson Ferguson

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From: [Antoine Grenier](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Kristen McDermott](#)
Subject: Urgent Request to Support Ordinance to Phase Out Gasoline-Powered Landscaping Equipment
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 10:19:50 AM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of an ordinance to phase out gasoline-powered landscaping equipment in our city. This ordinance would greatly benefit our community by reducing air pollution and improving public health.

Gasoline-powered landscaping equipment is a significant source of air pollution in our city. The emissions from these machines contain harmful pollutants that can cause respiratory problems, particularly in children and elderly individuals. By phasing out these machines, we can greatly reduce the amount of pollutants in our air and improve the health of our community.

In addition to the health benefits, this ordinance would also help our city achieve its goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Gasoline-powered landscaping equipment is a significant contributor to our city's carbon footprint, and phasing out these machines would be an important step in reducing our environmental impact.

I understand that this ordinance may pose some challenges for local businesses that rely on gasoline-powered equipment. However, there are many alternative options available, such as electric or battery-powered equipment, that can still effectively maintain our city's landscaping while also reducing pollution and emissions.

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of this ordinance and take a stand for the health and well-being of our community and the environment. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Antoine Grenier

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