

To: Montgomery County County Council

From: John Francis

Date: 17 June 2025

Re: [Expedited Bill 19-25, Noise Control - Leaf Removal Equipment - Seasonal Exemption](#)

Dear Council members and affiliates,

Expedited Bill 19-25 providing a limited exemption for landscapers using gas powered leaf blowers is a slap in the face of representative governance. I along with countless homeowners are tired of the noise pollution generated by gas powered blowers and have been looking forward to the day of impending relief, so much so that it is marked on my calendar. The existing legislation was crafted owing to this outcry.

I cannot believe this backpedaling Bill 19-25 has been drafted, especially as the previous action was constructed to allow landscapers to accommodate the change. Perhaps there is a lobbyist representing the landscaping community that has your ear, but this is not, I am certain, what the residents of Montgomery County want. The professional landscapers represent nearly the entirety of the noise pollution (and CO2 emissions) that is being opposed and this problem needs to be rectified immediately.

Even if the cost of new equipment is being passed along to consumers, as perhaps it should, the force of the pending prohibition should stand. People who don't want to pay higher prices for services can pick up a rake and/or buy their own electric gear as I do to speed the process of cleaning their property.

I would further argue that the use of generators as mentioned in your report is entirely counterproductive. While this is not proposed, landscape professionals should have a bank of batteries charged at their businesses using renewable electric suppliers. These costs can and should be passed on to customers as necessary.

Please send me any material that supports your position. Even if government support to landscapers for transition is not forthcoming (as I have heard) consumers need to oppose Bill 19-25, pay the price, and allow an end to this public nuisance.

With sincere concern for democratic Council representation.

John Francis

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