ORDINANCE NO. 2017-015

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA,
AMENDING SECTIONS 9.04.015.1 (PROHIBITED PUBLIC
NUISANCE CONDITIONS ON REAL PROPERTY) AND
9.07.050.B (DOMESTIC POWER TOOLS) OF THE CULVER
CITY MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO LEAF BLOWER
REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, the City Council has received numerous complaints from City
residents regarding the operation of leaf blowers in the City and their resulting impacts,
such as emissions, dust, and noise; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, after receiving input from the City Council
Sustainability Subcommittee, City staff and members of the community, and thoroughly
discussing the matter, has determined to prohibit the sale and operation of leaf blowers
with noise levels exceeding 65 decibels, with an effective date delayed by five years to
provide time for existing equipment to deplete its useful life.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City, California,
DOES HEREBY ORDAIN as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 9.04.015.1 of the Culver City Municipal Code is hereby
amended to read as follows (deletions indicated by strikethrough text; additions indicated
by underlined text):

I. Use of leaf blowers. The commercial use or operation of any
leaf blower or other portable machine powered with an internal
combustion engine used to blow leaves, dirt, and other debris off
sidewalks, driveways, lawns and other surfaces, without first having
obtained a leaf blower operator's permit pursuant to this Section issued by
the City Fire-Marshall pursuant to this Section. A leaf blower operator’s permit shall not be required for an individual operating a leaf blower for private use and not as part of a commercial business.

1. Each applicant for a leaf blower operator’s permit shall be required to demonstrate conformance with the City’s guidelines for leaf blower usage as set forth in the permit application and provide evidence of a current business tax certificate. Such guidelines shall be adopted by resolution.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 9.07.050.B of this Code, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a leaf blower or other machine described in this Section within the City of Culver City, except between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

3. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, within the City of Culver City, a leaf blower with a sound level exceeding 65 decibels.

4. It shall be unlawful for any business to sell, within the City of Culver City, a leaf blower with a sound level exceeding 65 decibels.

5. Upon request by the City, any person operating a leaf blower must allow the City’s inspection of the leaf blower to verify compliance with this Section and must present to the City, upon request, documentation from the manufacturer evidencing the leaf blower’s decibel level.

36. The City may revoke a permit issued pursuant to this Section as a result of any violation of Subsections 1.2, 1.3 or 1.5.

47. An applicant for a leaf blower operator’s permit who has had a permit revoked, or been convicted of or pled guilty or no contest
to a criminal charge alleging a violation of this Section, within the prior six (6) months shall not be issued a permit.

8. Subsections 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 shall become effective on November 23, 2022.

SECTION 2. Section 9.07.050.B of the Culver City Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions indicated by strikethrough text; additions indicated by underlined text):

B. It is prohibited for any person to operate, or permit the operation of any gasoline-powered lawn mower, leaf blowers, or similar equipment within the City except during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to and 8:00 6:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and except during the hours of 9:00 10:00 a.m. to and 8:00-5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and City-specified holidays. Additional restrictions apply to the operation of leaf blowers, as set forth in Section 9.04.015.I of this Code.

SECTION 3. Pursuant to Section 619 of the City Charter, this Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after the date of its adoption. Pursuant to Sections 616 and 621 of the City Charter, prior to the expiration of 15 days after the adoption, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance, or a summary thereof, to be published in the Culver City News and shall post this Ordinance or a summary thereof in at least three places within the City.
SECTION 4. The City Council hereby declares that, if any provision, section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, phrase or word of this ordinance is rendered or declared invalid or unconstitutional by any final action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, then the City Council would have independently adopted the remaining provisions, sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, phrases or words of this ordinance and as such they shall remain in full force and effect.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 23 day of October, 2017.

JEFFREY COOPER, Mayor
City of Culver City, California

ATTEST:

JEREMY GREEN, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CAROL A. SCHWAB, City Attorney
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DATE: October 24, 2017

Los Angeles County Clerk
Attention: Environmental Filing/Registration
12400 Imperial Highway, Suite 2001
Norwalk, CA 90650

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

PROJECT:

Title and Case No.: Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Sections 9.04.015.1 (Prohibited Public Nuisance Conditions on Real Property) and 9.07.050.B (Domestic Power Tools) of the Culver City Municipal Code, Relating to Leaf Blower Regulations

Address/Location: Citywide

Project Description: An ordinance enacting a ban on the sale and use of leaf blowers with noise levels exceeding 65 decibels, to become effective November 2022.

APPLICANT: The City of Culver City

CULVER CITY APPROVAL ACTION:

1. The City Council of the City of Culver City on September 25, 2017

   The decision making body, in approving the regulations described above, determined that the regulations are exempt from further environmental impact assessment per the CEQA guidelines:

   Type of Exemption: Categorical
   CEQA Section: 15308
   Class: 8

2. Reason why regulations are Exempt (brief): The enacted ban on the sale and use of leaf blowers with noise levels exceeding 65 decibels will reduce the amount of ambient noise resulting from their operation. Therefore, the ban will enhance and protect Culver City's environment.

   Charles D. Herbertson
   Title: Public Works Director / City Engineer
   10/24/2017