



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
City Commission Agenda Memo  
REGULAR MEETING**

**#22-0196**

---

**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** March 15, 2022

**TITLE:** First Reading - Ordinance Amending the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinance Section 17-7.7, Specific Restrictions, and Section 17-8.13, Exemptions, to Revise the Hours of Operations for Lawn Equipment - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

---

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission consider an ordinance amending the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances Section 17-7.7, Specific Restrictions, and Section 17-8.13, Exemptions, to revise the hours of operations for lawn equipment for residential areas.

**Background**

The City Commission tasked a committee, led by Commissioner McKinzie, with members from the public and private sectors, to investigate the effects of leaf blowers city-wide. At the December 7, 2021 City Commission Conference Meeting, the committee presented their findings to the City Commission.

The committee explored each of the Commissioner's concerns which included the banning of leaf blowers due to environmental and noise impacts, changing the hours of operation of leaf blowers, and enforcement measures. The investigation of leaf blowers included measuring the noise impacts of gas leaf blowers versus battery operated leaf blowers; impact to the City's Stormwater management system; and operational impacts for the public and private sector. Based on the results of the investigation, the committee and Commission recommended the start of lawn equipment for residential areas be changed from 7am to 8am Monday through Friday. No proposed changes to the existing times for Saturday and Sunday, 8am to 6pm, were proposed. The December 7, 2021 City Commission Conference Meeting Minutes are attached as Exhibit 1.

To review the proposed text amendment, please refer to Exhibit 2.

**Resource Impact**

This is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

**Strategic connection**

This item is a *2022 Top Commission Priority*, advancing the Waterway Quality initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- Goal 4: Build a thriving and inclusive community of neighborhoods.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community*.

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan* specifically advancing:

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Area
- The Future Land Use Element
- Goal 2: The City shall encourage sustainable, smart growth which designates areas for future growth, promotes connectivity, social equity, preservation of neighborhood character and compatibility of uses.

**Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – December 7, 2021, City Commission Conference Meeting Minutes

Exhibit 2 – Ordinance

---

Prepared by: Karlanne Grant, Principal Urban Planner, Development Service Department

Department Director: Anthony Greg Fajardo, Development Services Department