

3 Montgomery Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583
March 21, 2021

Board of Trustees
Village of Scarsdale
Scarsdale, New York 10583

Re: Local Law Amending Chapter 205 of the Scarsdale Village Code

Mayor, Trustees:

I am writing to provide my strong support to the proposed law amending Chapter 205 on Noise that would further restrict the use of gas-powered leaf blowers during certain times of the year. In addition, I strongly support increasing resources for the enforcement of these restrictions, which has been suggested for the tentative 2021-22 budget.

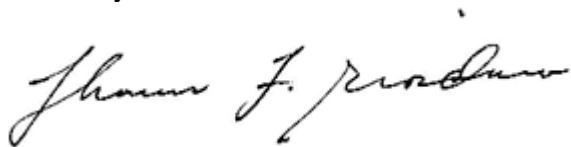
The increased enforcement resources may be more important than the further restrictions. The current summer ban in Section 205-2.B of the Local Law is essentially ineffective due to the lack of enforcement. So providing additional restrictions may be just as frustrating to residents without additional enforcement.

Personally, I have accosted landscapers when using gas-powered leaf blowers during the summer ban. The response has been ignorance of the ordinance or that the property owner requires this clean-up. I have even distributed copies of the reminder notice about the summer ban from The Scarsdale Inquirer to my neighbors in the hope that their landscapers would be notified. Neither action has been to any avail. (By the way, I do not have a landscaper for routine maintenance and have been mulch mowing both grass and leaves or else raking and collecting, if needed.)

To increase enforcement, I would suggest that the property owner be fined as well as the landscaper when a violation is found. I believe that this is done when leaf piles are left on the street rather the lawn for collection in the fall, namely the property owner is fined; so there is precedent for this action. Currently, I do not believe the property owner is even notified of a gas-powered blower violation by their landscaper, in the rare instance of discovering one.

If there are any questions on these comments, please contact me at home at 914-723-1626 or giordanotf@verizon.net. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas F. Giordano".

Thomas F. Giordano