

From: Michaela VB
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2024 2:36 PM
To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Proposed Yard Work bylaw

At the request of Councillor Rahmans office, I was encouraged to send my thoughts to council. Please review below,

Thank you for your time,
Michaela

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michaela VB
Date: May 24, 2024 at 2:05:15 PM EDT
To: mayor@london.ca, Corrine Rahman <crahman@london.ca>
Subject: Proposed Yard Work bylaw

Mayor Morgan and Councillor Rahman,

Concerning the recent news article and local news segment about the proposed time restrictions on gas-powered yard equipment, could the city council please prioritize more pressing issues? This proposal is a complete waste of taxpayers' money and councils time and energy. The proposal is discriminatory towards those who work standard business hours and those who prefer certain types of equipment; it's an unreasonable suggestion. Why should time and energy be wasted on such a minor matter? There are far more pressing issues in this city that deserve attention.

Do the councillors that support this, not realize the trickle-down effect this will have on businesses, the city's own parks and recreation fleet and homeowners? The suggestion to "plan ahead" was the rationale for this proposed change? Is that the actual reasoning? Councillor Franke believes we should replace equipment with battery-operated alternatives at the end of their life cycle? Is the city now dictating how people should invest their hard-earned money? Individuals should be allowed to maintain their yards, regardless of what equipment is used, according to the current bylaw. It should not be altered. Homeowners, as well as the city, already struggle in maintaining yards and city property. Imposing further restrictions on when these tasks can be completed will only exacerbate the problem. This morning, I found myself contacting the city about an overgrown island they have not yet trimmed. Weeds and grass are nearly a meter high, and yet, there's an expectation for me to maintain my yard according to city bylaw standards and now we might restrict this?

Imagine coming home at 5pm, needing a break before preparing dinner and then being

unable to mow your lawn in the evening, because using a gas-powered mower might lead to complaints and fines for you; it's preposterous. Now you're stuck with yard work for the weekend - let people enjoy their lives, for heavens sake. Priorities should focus on significant issues like the expanding encampments, increasing vandalism and crime and homelessness. There are far more pressing matters to address than this kind of triviality.

Thank you for your time,
Michaela