Connecticut Grounds Keepers Association P.O. Box 803 Orange, CT 06477 <u>info@cgka.org</u> www.CGKA.org

March 10, 2022



Dear Board of Alders and Committees:

Our Association represents over 250 landscape contractors and vendors in the State of Connecticut. With the decline in agricultural acreage, the landscape contractors and other green industry employees are the de facto stewards of the environment in Connecticut. CGKA respectfully requests that the City of New Haven allow our members and industry input on the proposed ordinance to restrict gas powered leaf blowers.

We are requesting a meeting with the Board of Alders to provide you with information regarding how and why we use these landscaping tools. We would prefer to work collaboratively with the Committees and the City. Our local equipment dealers also wish to express their opinions on challenges brought forth by the proposed ordinance.

This proposed ordinance will have a material economic impact on both homeowners and the landscapers who live and work in New Haven. Therefore, we again request that this be our industry be heard. This is our livelihood, and we should have input in the crafting of this ordinance.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Respectfully,

The Connecticut Grounds Keepers Association