

Subject: FW: SORE 2021

From: Kim Alexander <kimalex@calvoter.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 10:41 AM
To: ARB Clerk of the Board <cotb@arb.ca.gov>
Cc: greg grant <gpgrant@hotmail.com>; Fibiger, Dorothy@ARB <dorothy.fibiger@arb.ca.gov>
Subject: SORE 2021

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Hello,

I am submitting this comment via email on behalf of Greg Grant who is also cc'ed above. Please include this comment as part of the administrative record for SORE 2021.

Thank you and best wishes,

Kim Alexander, Mow Better co-convener

Name: Greg Grant
Email: gpgrant@hotmail.com
Affiliation: Former City of Ojai Public Work Director

I support the adoption of new regulations that will phase out the sale of gas-powered lawn equipment in California beginning in 2024.

As Public Works Director for the City of Ojai, I implemented a program replacing the use of City staff using gas-powered landscape equipment with clean battery-powered equipment. This included a 60-inch deck lawnmower, push mowers, string trimmers, blowers, hedge trimmers, and chainsaws used in maintenance of the City of Ojai's parks, street, and facility landscaping. The larger facilities maintained included the 10-acre Sarzotti Park with soccer and ball fields, the 7-acre Libbey Park, and the 9-acre City Hall campus. The battery-electric chainsaws were used to prune the thousands of trees under the City's care on street sides and in parks as well as emergency removals of fallen trees. Every spring, a crew of 4 to 6 ran battery-electric string trimmers for full days for several weeks to remove weed growth in undeveloped areas as a fire reduction effort. In total, the City's entire 52 acres of landscaping across 19 municipal properties, including all parks and sports fields and city hall is being done with battery-electric powered equipment. The equipment has been extremely reliable, in operation since early 2018. The primary benefits include:

- Lowering emissions for the region
- Lowering the crew and neighborhoods/public's exposure to exhaust/HAP fumes
- Lowering the crew and neighborhoods/public's exposure to noise
- Simplifying equipment maintenance – no gasoline & oil in sheds and trucks, no carburetor problems or tune ups required, etc.

Some of the crew doubted the equipment would be tough enough for large mowing jobs, for weeks of full day spring weed control efforts, and chain-sawing larger trees. After a year of using the battery-electric equipment they were convinced.

I support approval and amending the SORE regulations per the staff recommendation.

Regards, Greg Grant
Former City of Ojai Public Work Director (recently retired)
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