



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: April 21, 2026

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: April 13, 2026

SUBJECT: First Reading of Ordinance 26-010 repealing Chapter 30, Environment, Article III, Noise, Section 30-70, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, due to State preemption .

BACKGROUND: During the 2026 Legislative Session, Senator Truenow filed Senate Bill 290 (SB 290), titled Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and commonly referred to as the “Florida Farm Bill.” The bill includes provisions prohibiting municipalities from enacting or enforcing laws, ordinances, or resolutions that restrict or prohibit the use of gasoline-powered landscape equipment, including gasoline-powered leaf blowers.

The bill was approved by both the House and Senate and transmitted to the Governor on March 18, 2026. A copy of the Bill is attached.

Governor DeSantis signed SB 290 into law on March 23, 2026, with an effective date of July 1, 2026. [Click here](#) to read the Governor’s news release.

This legislation will preempt [Section 30-70 – Gas powered leaf blowers](#) of the Sanibel Code of Ordinances effective July 1, 2026. Accordingly, I have directed Code Enforcement to discontinue enforcement of the existing prohibition.

Ordinance 26-010 repeals Section 30-70 – Gas powered leaf blowers to be consistent with Florida Statutes.

Separately, the City will continue to prohibit the use of gas-powered leaf blowers by City staff and contractors, except when necessary to respond to storm-related events.

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Schedule Second Reading and Public Hearing for May 5, 2026.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary