

## **Report the RTM Health & Human Services Committee Meeting held on 6/24/2021**

On June 24, 2021 the RTM Health & Human Services Committee met to review a proposed ordinance to set specific controls on the use of leaf blowers, in particular gas-powered leaf blowers. The ordinance was originally proposed by RTM Representatives Kristin Schneemann, Andrew Colabella, and Jessica Bram.

In attendance at the meeting were committee members Kristin Schneemann, Andrew Colabella , Karen Kramer, Lauren Soloff, Jack Klinge, Chris Tait and committee chair Jessica Bram. Two members were absent from the meeting, Arlene's Gertzoff and Wendy Batteau. Also in attendance was Westport Weston Health District Director Mark A.R. Cooper.

Following a presentation by environmental and healthcare scientist Jamie Banks of the nonprofit organization Quiet Communities, Inc., a letter submitted by A. Hal Strelnick of the Einstein College of Medicine, extended discussion and consideration by Committee members, and comments from the public, a motion to approve the most recent ordinance was made by Lauren Soloff and seconded by Karen Kramer.

The motion carried by a vote of 5 in favor and 2 abstentions. Voting in favor were Kristin Schneemann, Andrew Colabella, Karen Kramer, Lauren Soloff, and Jessica Bram. Jack Klinge and Chris Tait abstained, pending further suggested changes to the ordinance currently proposed.

Submitted by Jessica Bram, H&HS Committee Chair  
July 6, 2021.