

**Testimony of Casey Adams
Deputy Director of City Legislative Affairs, New York City Department of Consumer
Affairs
before the
NYC Council Committee on Environmental Protection
concerning
Introduction 59/2014 Relating to the Sale and Use of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers**

**Monday, June 27, 2016
City Hall, Committee Room**

Good afternoon, my name is Casey Adams and I am the Deputy Director of City Legislative Affairs at the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs. I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to testify today. DCA would be responsible for enforcing Introduction 59's prohibition on the sale, or offer for sale, of gas powered leaf blowers rated to produce a maximum sound level in excess of 65 dB(A) measured fifty feet from the source in accordance with the American National Standards Institute B175.2-2000 testing standard. Other jurisdictions have adopted similar approaches, including places as disparate as Montgomery County, Maryland and Portland, Oregon. DCA expects that, like in these other jurisdictions, enforcement of this law would be primarily driven by resident complaints. DCA is grateful for the opportunity to begin a conversation with the Council about how this bill would operate and looks forward to discussing issues like the reliability of manufacturer disclosure of decibel level ratings, the merits of independent testing of these ratings, and the successes and challenges of other municipalities with similar laws.

I thank the committee for the opportunity to testify today.