

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE BUDGET**

BILL NUMBER: 85-25

INTRO. DATE: Oct. 6, 2025

FISCAL NOTE

**BILL: PURCHASING – COUNTY GOVERNMENT'S TRANSITION TO ZERO
EMISSIONS LEAF BLOWERS – LEADING BY EXAMPLE**

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

This bill requires County government departments and offices to replace gas-powered leaf blowers and similar equipment with zero-emission models, and to discontinue the use of gas-powered leaf blowers and similar equipment by July 1, 2030. This bill largely codifies the existing requirements of Executive Order 66, dated December 9, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT

Operating Budget – Personal Services: No effect.

Operating Budget – Other Operating Costs: While there will be no “new” effect to enact this legislation compared to the baseline established in Executive Order 66, county departments will continue to transition from their existing inventory of gas-powered machines to battery powered machines. These costs will be built into future operating budget requests.

Capital Budget: No effect.

Revenues: No effect.

Indirect and future fiscal effects: Departments estimate the following costs associated with the overall transition to battery powered leaf blowers:

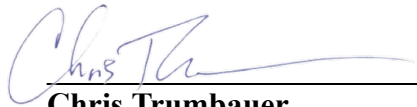
Recreation and Parks: Current inventory of 42 backpack units. The Department estimates total replacement cost for battery-powered units and charging equipment would be approximately \$220,000. This includes thirteen commercial-grade charging stations.

Central Services: Current inventory of nine backpack units and six handheld units. The Department estimates total replacement cost for battery-powered units and charging equipment would be approximately \$30,000.

Public Works: Current inventory of 67 backpack units. The Department estimates total replacement cost for battery-powered units and charging equipment would be approximately \$130,000.

The estimate for total replacement of existing units and associated charging equipment for these three departments is \$380,000. These costs would be phased in over the next several years to meet the 2030 transition deadline.

The net cost of the transition would include subtracting out the presumed replacement cost of in-kind gas-powered units when they reach the end of their functional life. Gas-powered leaf blowers cost approximately \$700 each to replace, therefore total replacement of the County's existing inventory for in-kind units would be approximately \$86,800. There will also be savings as fuel costs and maintenance for the gas-powered units would no longer be needed, and a minimal increase in electricity costs, but those cannot be estimated at this time.



Chris Trumbauer
Budget Officer

10/13/2025

Date

Prepared by: Neil Bergsman, Budget Analyst

cc: Billie Penley, Controller