Battery Powered Leaf Blower Pilot

Javier Paredes Tests New STIHL Blower as Part of Pilot Project

Groundskeeper Javier Paredes straps on a STIHL blower to test at Gene Friend Way Plaza. Facilities Services Superintendent Felipe Rubio said employees are testing several battery operated units as part of a pilot project designed to collect feedback on ergonomics, efficiency, sustainability and other factors. The pilot stems from a portion of the unit’s engagement action plans which call for testing and purchasing new equipment. Paredes said he enjoys testing the equipment to compare different models.
Battery Powered Leaf Blower Pilot

**Stihl BGA100**

**Pro’s-**
- No emissions
- Quieter than gas powered - 56 dB(A)
- 100 minute/charge run time
- Good for small jobs.

**Con’s –**
- Upfront cost ($600+)
- Batteries are purchased separately
- Battery replacement 3-5yrs
- Three pieces
- Handheld piece not as ergonomic as gas
- Combined weight heavier than gas powered (hand-held 9lbs; backpack 25lbs)
- Less power than gas – 168 mph
- Unknown maintenance or longevity
Battery Powered Leaf Blower Pilot

- Makita XBU02Z

**Pro’s-**

- No emissions
- Quieter than gas powered - 60 dB(A)
- Lighter weight than gas powered (12 lbs with battery)
- Good for small jobs

**Con’s –**

- Upfront cost ($600 for blower + battery and charger)
- Battery replacement 3-5yrs
- 77 minute/charge run time
- Not ergonomic
- Less power – 120 mph
- Unknown maintenance or longevity
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- Echo Gas powered

**Pro's**-
- Ergonomic
- Powerful (234 mph)
- Easy to maintain; long lived
- Longer run times (hours)
- Weight 24.3 lbs.
- Great for big jobs
- Cost: $499

**Con's** –
- 73 dB(A)
- Two-stroke emissions
- Dependency for fuel and oil