

M O T H O U S I N G , C O M M U N I T Y &
E C O N O M I C D E V E L O P M E N T

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Supermarkets and similar commercial institutions are important magnets for the communities they serve: in any given week thousands of residents pass through these facilities. Supermarkets are, for many communities, the most important venues serving the public. They not only provide essential services to members of the public but play a major role in determining the health of their community.

The City has an interest in seeing that these important commercial establishments which serve as an anchor for their communities advance rather than harm the development of the neighborhoods in which they are located. To that end, the City should implement an ordinance that addresses the very concrete way in which grocery stores affect their communities by applying similar permitting standards to them that are applied to other establishments that serve as public venues, including graffiti abatement, surveillance and security, hygiene standards, alcohol control and transportation and public amenities.

In order to ensure that these standards remain in place in the event of transfer of any such store from one owner to another, the proposed ordinance likewise should require the new owner to maintain the prior workforce in place for an appropriate transitional period. The ordinance should not interfere with employer's decision making in setting wages or determining staffing levels and need not prevent the employer from releasing unsatisfactory employees at any time.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to prepare and present an ordinance which would extend permitting requirements and standards to supermarkets to address public safety concerns, provide amenities to the public and to maintain quality of life standards in the communities where they are located. The ordinance should also provide for the transitional worker retention to assure the maintenance of these standards when supermarket establishments change ownership.

PRESENTED BY:



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SECONDED BY:



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