

MOTION

On May 8th, 2012, the City Council adopted an ordinance (#182121) requiring new retailers, with six or more shopping carts, to maintain shopping carts on their premises. The intent of the ordinance was to prevent or reduce the accumulation of shopping carts abandoned in neighborhoods.



Abandoned shopping carts cause visual blight in neighborhoods, reduce property values and obstruct pedestrian and vehicular traffic in the public rights-of-way. The ordinance noted that abandoned shopping carts constitute a hazard to the health, safety and the general welfare of the public.

In addition, the collection, clean-up and return of abandoned shopping carts by the City bears a cost. The funds used to pay for these services could be used to meet other vital City priorities that benefit the health and welfare of the residents.

To strengthen the City's shopping cart containment effort, the City Council also instructed the Bureau of Sanitation to develop standards for on-site shopping cart containment and retrieval for existing retailers. This effort was called Phase II.

To initiate Phase II, the Bureau of Sanitation planned to hire a consultant to develop a database of retailers; and create a pilot program to study activity and test compliance. Upon the completion of Phase II, the Bureau of Sanitation would pursue the implementation of a citywide program for existing retailers.

Abandoned shopping carts continue to impact City neighborhoods. A recent article on the matter indicated that a traffic median near North Hills Community Park contained up to 20 abandoned shopping carts.

To address this issue, it is vital that the City immediately initiate and implement Phase II and consider the use of practical containment and effective enforcement approaches.

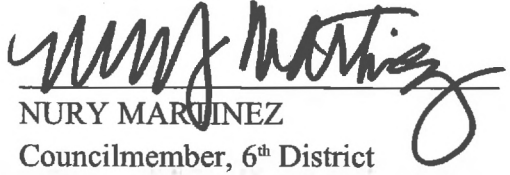
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation report to the City Council in 30 days as to the status and implementation of the Phase II action associated with the on-site containment and retrieval of shopping carts for existing retailers; including the use of practical containment approaches/wheel-locking mechanisms and the development of effective enforcement methods and penalties.

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I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation report as to the status of compliance of the existing Ordinance for shopping cart containment and the Bureau's enforcement practices.

PRESENTED BY:


NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY:

