

AUG 06 2008

MOTION

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

Council adopted a motion by Councilman Cardenas creating an Abandoned Shopping Cart Removal Pilot Program in Council District Six (CD6). The pilot program, which began on January 8, 2007 and was operated by the Bureau of Sanitation (BOS), included the following:

- Proactive sweeps of CD6 for any abandoned shopping carts in areas of concern.
- Reports from CD6 staff forwarded to East Valley BOS were assigned to a cart removal crew to be collected within 48 hours.
- BOS notified the owners of the carts and made arrangements for the owners to retrieve them.
- Carts with identification were stored for 30 days to allow for owners to retrieve their carts.

During the five month CD6 pilot program (January 8, 2007 thru June 5, 2007) 6,880 carts were collected from 128 stores/owners.

Abandoned shopping carts continue to plague various parts of the City where they cause blight and disrupt the quality of life in neighborhoods. Abandoned shopping carts obstruct automobile traffic and block pedestrian walkways creating potential hazards. Often, carts are used by families to carry groceries home and leave them on streets, sidewalks and bus stops.

In an attempt to address this issue, some stores throughout the City have implemented procedures and mechanisms to deter the removal of shopping carts from their lots. Deterrence practices include identification and signage on carts, retrieval services and electronic wheel locking systems.

However, even these attempts have not resolved the proliferation of abandoned shopping carts.

The City of Glendale has adopted a shopping cart ordinance which regulates the proliferation of abandoned carts through the land use process. This approach promises to be effective in finally addressing the problem of abandoned shopping carts. The ordinance provides, in part, that "all shopping carts shall be effectively contained or controlled within the boundaries of store premises" and permitted methods of control shall be limited to bollards which restrict shopping carts to the store premises, wheel locking or stopping mechanisms on the carts, and other city approved systems or methods which effectively contain or control shopping carts on store premises.

The City of Los Angeles should adopt a similar ordinance.

I THEREFORE MOVE that within 30 days the Planning Department with the assistance of the City Attorney be directed to prepare and present a citywide ordinance, similar to the recently enacted City of Glendale ordinance, to prohibit the proliferation of abandoned shopping carts on City streets and other locations outside of the boundaries of store premises.

PRESENTED BY:

Tony Cardenas
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Councilman, 6th District

and

Greig Smith
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Councilman, 12th District

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SECONDED BY:

[Signature]
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