

MOTION

Littering used Personal Protective Equipment during a pandemic is inexcusable and there should be consequences.

During the COVID-19 crisis, residents have become accustomed to a variety of activities and practices to mitigate the effects of COVID-19. One of the practices includes the regular use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when engaging in public activity. PPE includes the use of masks, gloves and other coverings to reduce the risk of infection.

Unfortunately, with the higher use of PPE, residents have expressed concerns of increased littering of discarded PPE throughout the City. Residents have seen discarded gloves in grocery store parking lots, park walking paths and sidewalks.

The trend is especially concerning since the discarded PPE may be contaminated with Covid-19. The contaminated material may come in contact with unsuspecting residents and pets, and thereby further the chance of the virus spreading throughout the community.

The person who intentionally litters PPE is knowingly subjecting others to a real health risk. This type of littering goes beyond negligence and can be considered malicious.

Given this, it is critical that the City immediately enact measures to mitigate the littering of PPE and increase accountability.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation, with the assistance of the City Attorney, immediately report to the Council on measures to mitigate the littering of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) throughout the City, including the implementation of enhanced penalties and fines.

PRESENTED BY:



BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, District 3

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

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