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Agenda Item: 10:30 A.M.

Date: 3/6/14

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Supplemental Information Packet

Agenda Related Items – 10:30 A.M.

Supplemental Packet Date: March 4, 2014

Item(s)

Actions pertaining to amending the Fresno Municipal Code relating to shopping carts

1. **BILL- (*For introduction*)** - Amending Article 31, Chapter 9 of the Fresno Municipal Code relating to abandoned shopping carts - Police Department and Council President Brandau
2. **BILL – (*For introduction*)** - Amending Section 5-502 of the Fresno Municipal Code relating to shopping carts in City parks – PARCS and Council President Brandau

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

10:30am
3/6/14

February 27, 2014

The Honorable Steve Brandau
Council President
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721



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CITY CLERK, FRESNO CA

RE: Shopping Cart Ordinance Amendments

Dear Councilmember Brandau,

On behalf of the California Grocers Association, I write to express our comfort with the proposed amendments to the shopping cart ordinance on the March 6, 2014 agenda. We believe the proposed amendments represent best practices and processes which have been successfully implemented in other California jurisdictions. We appreciate the opportunity to work in cooperation with the city to address the challenges that stolen and subsequently misused or abandoned carts present retailers, residents, and the city.

The California Grocers Association is a non-profit, statewide trade association representing the food industry since 1898. CGA represents approximately 500 retail member companies operating over 6,000 food stores in California and Nevada, and approximately 300 grocery supplier companies. Retail membership includes chain and independent supermarkets, convenience stores and mass merchandisers. CGA members include numerous grocery companies operating throughout Fresno.

When shopping carts are stolen and subsequently misused or abandoned not only is the retailer unlawfully deprived of their property, but neighborhoods are negatively impacted and, ultimately, the city must expend energy and effort to deal with the impacts— all three entities are victims. The initial ordinance along with the proposed amendments represents best practices to reduce shopping cart theft as well as deal with shopping carts which are stolen and subsequently misused or abandoned. In our experience coordinated efforts by both retailers and jurisdictions to limit shopping cart theft and subsequent misuse or abandonment are effective in controlling impacts.

Specific to the proposed amendments many grocers already have a shopping cart retrieval program as well as employ strategies to prevent shopping cart theft. It is important to note that many of the provisions, especially in regards to cart identification, city impoundment and enforcement, are consistent with existing state law which is appreciated. These amendments represent little to no additional impact for retailers already employing best practices in regards to shopping cart management.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to work with the city cooperatively to address this issue. Please consider CGA a partner as you implement this ordinance.

Sincerely,


TIMOTHY M. JAMES
Manager, Local Government Relations

cc: Members, Fresno City Council
The Honorable Ashley Swearengin, Mayor, City of Fresno
Mr. Bruce Rudd, City Manager, City of Fresno