

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY FIFTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-22-54 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Louie Sanchez

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR THE RETRIEVAL, RETURN, AND DISPOSAL OF ABANDONED SHOPPING CARTS, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO FUND A CONTRACT TO ADMINISTER THE ABANDONED SHOPPING CART PROGRAM

WHEREAS, shopping carts are commonly discarded, strewn, and abandoned in communities across the City; and

WHEREAS, abandoned shopping carts are litter and are unsightly, unsanitary, and a nuisance for residents, businesses and establishments, police and law enforcement, and visitors to the City; and

WHEREAS, abandoned shopping carts may jeopardize the safety of drivers who must navigate around these carts; and

WHEREAS, abandoned shopping carts may also jeopardize the safety of pedestrians, especially those with disabilities, who must attempt to navigate around them when the carts are abandoned within public rights-of-ways; and

WHEREAS, abandoned shopping carts may also block arroyos and other water conveyance channels throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to maintain a safe, litter-free environment for all residents and visitors to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, creating a process to retrieve, return, and dispose of, and recycle abandoned shopping carts will help address this community concern; and

WHEREAS, this process could prevent thousands of shopping carts from entering the City’s landfill; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution does not apply to shopping carts that may be in use by an individual or otherwise being used for personal belongings and/or shelter; and

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1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF
2 ALBUQUERQUE:

3 SECTION 1. The City’s Solid Waste Department shall develop and
4 administer an abandoned shopping cart retrieval, return, and disposal
5 program, including:

- 6 A. Engaging with and supervising a contractor who will retrieve and
7 attempt to return abandoned shopping carts to retailers;
- 8 B. Providing for storage of collected shopping carts;
- 9 C. Establishing a disposal procedure in the event a shopping cart cannot
10 be returned, to include processing for recycling and resale options;
- 11 D. Exploring the imposition of reasonable fees for retailers for cart return
12 and disposal;
- 13 E. Coordinating with 311 to create a mechanism through which residents
14 can report abandoned shopping carts, and the contractor can then be
15 dispatched to the location; and
- 16 F. In conjunction with the contractor, track where abandoned shopping
17 carts are found, which retailers they are coming from, and the number
18 of carts collected on a monthly basis.

19 SECTION 2. The following appropriation is made from the available fund
20 balance program from Fiscal Year 2023:

21 GENERAL FUND – 110
22 Solid Waste Management
23 Contract to administer abandoned shopping cart program \$200,000
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