



Abandoned Shopping Cart Update

Public Works Department

Safety, Wellness, and Youth Committee
January 21, 2026

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BACKGROUND

- 3-month Shopping Cart Pilot Program aimed at:
 - Collecting abandoned carts containing items
 - Tracking data for all carts in the City
 - Evaluating operational efficiency & safety
- Street Maintenance Worker reported shopping carts
- Mitigation Crew responded to requests and collected carts



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CATEGORIES OF CARTS

1. Empty, abandoned shopping carts
2. Shopping carts containing trash
3. Shopping carts actively used by individuals experiencing homelessness



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COLLABORATIVE SWEEPS

- September 17, 2025
 - RPD, PSET, Public Works
 - 45 carts removed
- October 22, 2025
 - RPD Only
 - 36 carts removed

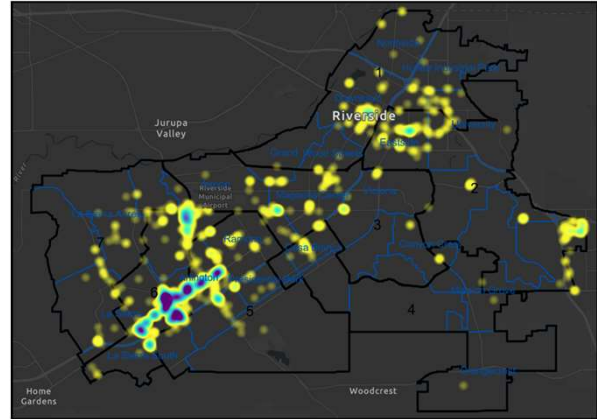
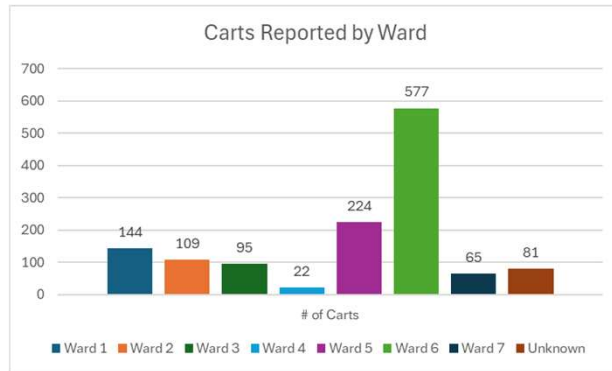
81 Total Carts Removed



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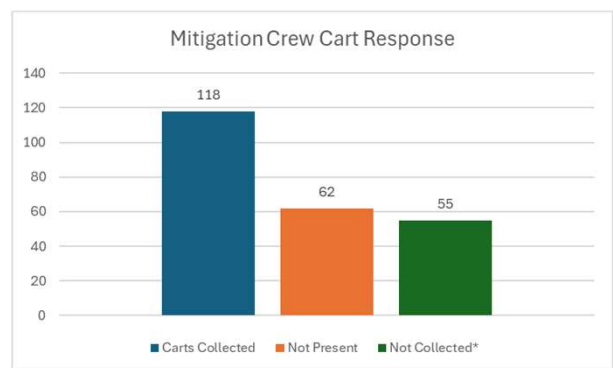
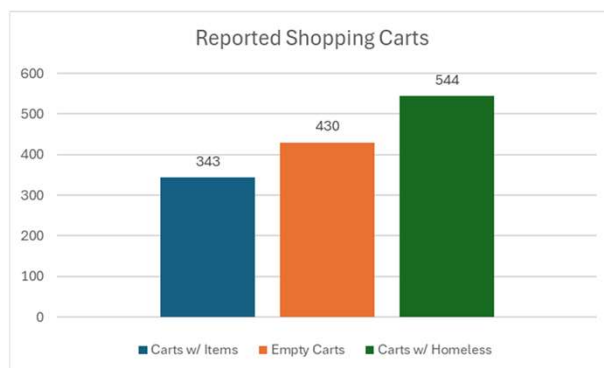
PILOT RESULTS



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PILOT RESULTS



*Not collected due to homeless presence



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CHALLENGES

- Safety concerns
- Cart relocation
- Reporting
- Emergency response
- Limited Staffing

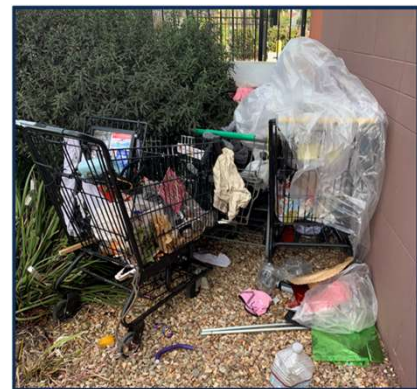


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COST ANALYSIS

- **In-House Service**
 - 2 Full-Time Maintenance Worker I
 - Equipment & Disposal Fees
 - Year 1: ~\$237,000
 - Years 2-3: ~\$167,000-\$168,000
- **Outsource**
 - Contracted service
 - Equipment & Disposal Fees
 - Year 1: \$155,000
 - Years 2-3: ~\$147,000-148,000

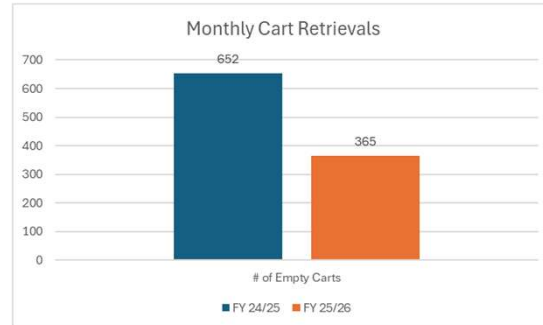
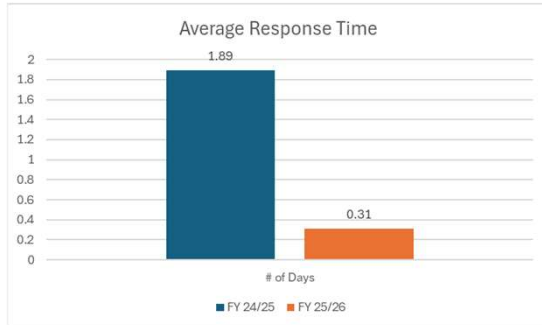


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SHOPPING CART RETRIEVAL PROGRAM

- Improved response time
- Lower monthly cart retrievals
- Senate Bill 753



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RECOMMENDATION

That the Safety, Wellness, and Youth Committee receive a report & provide input regarding results of Shopping Cart Pilot Program and the status of abandoned shopping carts citywide.



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