



January 4, 2018

Sent Via: Email

Attn: Jim Owczarski, City Clerk
City of Milwaukee – City Hall Room 205
200 E Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: Proposal to Create Ordinance Relating to Abandoned Shopping Carts

Mr. Owczarski,

Menard received the public notice concerning substitute ordinance 170927 that is to be heard by the Public Safety and Health Committee. It is the belief of Menard that this proposed ordinance should be opposed by the committee members as it is a burdensome and unjust penalty on Milwaukee area business owners.

Menard takes great pride in the way we conduct our business and we take every reasonable step to insure that our shopping carts are not stolen. This includes designating team members to routinely collect all shopping carts from the cart returns and parking lot areas and securing all carts by placing them inside the store before team members leave for the evening. This is done, in part, to avoid the high costs associated with having to replace carts that are stolen. The additional requirements that are being proposed would create additional expenses that would unjustly burden the store and, based on our previous experience, would have little impact on deterring cart theft. Additionally, the proposed fines for locating stolen carts would be an unfair punishment against the victim of a crime.

It is our understanding that many other members of the business community have expressed similar concerns over this proposed ordinance. We want to see a strong and flourishing business community and would hate for this ordinance to cause future business growth in the market to be adversely impacted due to the financial burden this ordinance would create. For the foregoing reasons, we strongly oppose the passing of this ordinance.

Cordially,

Theron J. Berg

Real Estate Manager

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