



City Council Communication

AGENDA DATE: January 5, 2026 **LEGISTAR ITEM #:** Ord 2754

PRESENTER: Jim Tolbert
Office

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's

☒ Ordinance	☐ Resolution	☐ Public Hearing
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REQUEST

Approve an ordinance amending the Commerce City Revised Municipal Code (CCRMC) to provide for the prompt retrieval of surplus, contraband, or abandoned property to promote public safety and improve the appearance of the community. It is a further purpose of the amendment to ensure that certain items may be disposed of immediately to endure the health and safety of the community.

BACKGROUND

For the past several years staff has been enforcing the clean up of encampments around the City and several months ago Council passed an ordinance to ban shopping carts from public property and parks. Usually when the clean ups or cart removal occurs there is a great deal of personal property left behind that the staff must dispose of. Prior to disposal our policies and best practices require those items to be retained for 30 days to allow the owner to regain possession if they desire. Often the items found by the staff include perishable items or illegal substances. Current code does not make a distinction between those type items or any other items and requires all to be maintained for at least 30 days. This code change will allow staff to immediately dispose of illegal or perishable items without the need to hold for 30 days.

JUSTIFICATION

☐ Council Goal	☐ Strategic Plan	☐ Work Plan	☒ Legal
Citation	This item is presented to assist with enforcement of the Council action to ban shopping carts from certain areas and to clean encampments.		

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

PUBLIC OUTREACH

There has been no outreach to the general public. The CWB team has informed individuals living in encampments or using shopping carts on public property or parks of the fact that their items will be taken if they continue to camp or do not remove the shopping cart from the property or park. They will continue to do so.

AVAILABLE ACTIONS

- Available Action #1. Approve the ordinance as drafted.
- Available Action #2. Amend the ordinance to add, change, or remove specific provisions within the ordinance.
- Available Action #3. Continue the ordinance to a later date for staff to research any additional information the Council may desire.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

e.g. Staff recommends action #1, approval of the item.