

# Council Votes in Favour of Shopping Cart, Veterans' Parking Bylaws

By **Megan Pounder** - November 5, 2019



City council voted unanimously to write a bylaw requiring all retailers in the city that offer shopping carts to implement a cart-management systems or face penalties for not doing so.

This resolution was brought forward by Coun. Matthew Shoemaker, who made it clear he was talking about Walmart, who instead of making an effort to collect carts scattered throughout the city themselves, leaves the job to city workers.



"There is a large retailer with blue colours and a yellow sun as their emblem that does not pay an individual in town to go pick up the carts," he said during Monday's meeting.

"Theirs are the ones that you see most often around town."

Shoemaker said he sees carts all over the city, in areas such as the Pine and McNabb St. bus stop (8), the bus stop near Cara Community Housing (20), and the pathway from Sault College to Pine Street (5-6).

"This for those retailers that refuse," Shoemaker explained saying that bylaw is for the retailers that don't already collect their own carts in some way.

"This will make sure there is a mechanism in place to recover their carts," he said, mentioning other communities that already have this bylaw in place, such as Guelph, Kitchener, London, Markham, Mississauga, Ottawa and Toronto.

Coun. Lisa Vezeau-Allen pointed out that people with disabilities or economic disadvantages use shopping carts as a means to carry food to their residences, urging council to dig into the larger issues behind this crisis and help people obtain food in a safer manner.

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City Council also unanimously passed a bylaw allowing veterans with a poppy license plate free all-day parking in at all municipal lots and on-street parking spaces on Remembrance Day.

"It's just a way of ensuring no one is getting a ticket for being at a Remembrance Day celebration," Coun. Shoemaker, who brought forward this motion, said.

Currently, veterans are allowed two hours of free parking throughout the year.

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#### **Megan Pounder**

Megan Pounder is an enthusiastic individual who's always striving to learn and grow. She's been a part of the SaultOnline team since May 2018. She has an Advanced Diploma in Journalism: Online, Broadcast and Print from Loyalist College. Along with her diploma, she has some freelance video journalism and social media experience. Growing up in Prince Edward County sparked her enthusiasm for all things nature. When she isn't reporting, you can find her reading, jamming out to music, or looking for new adventures.