

Honoring Trailblazers



Councilwoman Jan Perry

■ **LAABP to honor four City Employees who have advanced the cause of African Americans in City government.**

LAABP — The Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel is hosting a Trailblazers reception.

The reception will honor:

- Councilwoman Jan Perry
- Acting Fire Chief Douglas Barry
- Public Works Commissioner Valerie Shaw
- Public Works Chief Industrial Waste Inspector Pamela LaBeau

The reception, scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14. The reception will be held in the Tom Bradley Room atop City Hall.

It is free and open to the public, but reservations are required, as seating is limited. Call (213) 978-0319 for reservations and information.

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City Employees Club of Los Angeles with the LA Avengers



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vs.

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Newsbrief

SHOPPING CARTS

On Jan. 8, Public Works' Bureau of Sanitation and Councilmember Tony Cardenas launched an abandoned shopping cart program.

The first-of-its-kind, six-month pilot program is aimed at addressing the ongoing problem of abandoned shopping carts in the Sixth District. It is funded through the District's Street Furniture Account that will provide up to \$55,000 over the next six months to pay for the program.

Sixth District Councilmember Tony Cardenas, in the news conference, urged those in the areas of Van Nuys, Arleta, Panorama City and Sun Valley to call (818) 778-4999 and report abandoned shopping carts for pickup.

"We are wheeling out blight in the New Year with a program that will raise pride in our communities and remove junky, hazardous shopping carts from our streets," Cardenas said. "The presence of abandoned carts can provoke other neglectful activity and cause dangerous hazards when they roll out into our streets and sidewalks."



"On any given day, Public Works' Bureau of Sanitation picks up anywhere between 60 to 100 shopping carts in the Sixth District alone. Most come from recycling centers, which are magnets for abandoned shopping carts and are a cause of concern to those who operate these centers as well as to surrounding businesses and residences. Abandoned shopping carts have the potential of rolling out onto sidewalks and into streets and causing accidents. The Sixth District alone has 33 such centers. We support Councilmember Cardenas and his program and with him pledge a 48-hour turnaround when residents call in to report abandoned shopping carts," said Bureau of Sanitation Executive Officer Enrique Zaldivar.

Commissioner Yolanda Fuentes of Public Works appealed to the business community as well to join Councilmember Cardenas and Public Works in its programs to keep the Sixth District and all of Los Angeles beautiful. "Letters explaining this program have been sent out to businesses in the community. A number of storeowners have already agreed to support the Abandoned Shopping Cart Program by placing devices on their carts to prevent individuals from taking the carts out of parking lots and into our streets," Fuentes said. "We ask others in the business community to join us and work with us as the success of this program hinges on full community involvement."

The Bureau of Sanitation will contact storeowners via telephone and letter when their carts have been picked up. Owners will then have up to ten days to retrieve their carts. Shopping carts with no identifying signage or that are not claimed will be recycled.