



Formal Statement adopted by the Concord City Council in open session on February 12, 2015

Citizens of Concord have contacted the City numerous times seeking the City's assistance with stopping the unsolicited and unwanted delivery of free newspapers to their residences.

The City Council fully supports the free press and their right to distribute newspapers or literature containing political and social commentary.

The City Council is concerned about the unsolicited distribution of newspapers which has multiple negative consequences including:

- Frustrating citizens who try to use the published method of cancelling the delivery only to have their request ignored;
- Environmental impacts caused by the waste of natural resources to create the papers and associated items which are unwanted and immediately thrown away;
- Environmental impacts caused by the papers being left to decay as litter in the street;
- Environmental impacts caused by the papers and plastic wrappings being washed into the City's stormwater system and the costs to the taxpayers to remediate this problem;
- Encourages crime by flagging property as empty when papers pile up.

Therefore, the City Council encourages publishers of unsolicited newspapers to take responsibility for their actions and products. Publishers are asked to pick up the old newspapers after one week as to eliminate litter and damage to our storm drains and streams. Publishers are also encouraged to respect the wishes of residents who request that the delivery be stopped and put into place effective methods of recording and enforcing these requests.

