

# Sour words for Sweetbay from Temple Terrace dais

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About the same time in 2004 it began changing its name to Sweetbay Supermarkets, Kash n' Karry announced plans to close nearly 40 stores throughout Florida. While company executives have called the Sweetbay conversion highly successful, Temple Terrace City Councilman Ken Halloway thinks otherwise.

During a meeting last week discussing the future of that city's downtown redevelopment project where Sweetbay converted an old Kash n' Karry to the new concept, Halloway described the store as underperforming.

"They are not a big player in the grocery market here," Halloway said of the chain, which is a part of Brussels-based Delhaize Group's (NYSE: DEG) Delhaize America division. "I don't think they are making any money. If they are making money on that store, they must be doing it in other activities besides just a grocery store."

Halloway didn't say where he's getting his information, but it's not from Sweetbay.

Company spokeswoman Nicole LeBeau said the company doesn't comment on individual store performance with anyone, whether it be media or a city councilman.

Of course, Halloway does have a beef with Sweetbay. The company reportedly is asking for \$3 million to relocate its facility within the downtown redevelopment district, a price Halloway has said is too high.