

Council Memo



To	City Council
Service Area	Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services
Date	Monday, April 25, 2022
Subject	Solid Waste Management Master Plan - Single Use Items - Proposed Federal Regulation

During the discussion at the April 4, 2022, Committee of the Whole on the Solid Waste Management Master Plan (report 2022-127) on the Single Use Item Strategy recommendation, questions were raised by Council regarding the impact of the proposed federal Single-use Plastic Prohibition Regulation as it relates to superseding the proposed Waste Management By-law.

This memo serves to provide Council information known to date. At this point, in time it is unclear if the proposed federal regulation would supersede the By-law or require the municipality to repeal requirements of the proposed By-law, or if it would mandate the stricter of the requirements.

Based on the federal publication, [Canada Gazette, Part 1, Volume 155, Number 52](#), the section on Cooperating with provinces, territories, and municipalities, states that:

“The proposed Regulations would have implications for many of these provincial, territorial, and municipal measures. Currently, the existing bans on SUPs [Single Use Plastics] function as a patchwork of rules that seek to address issues that are, in essence, national and international in scope. SUPs are typically sold into regional or national markets that are beyond the reach of provincial, territorial, or municipal bans. Only federal measures are capable of effectively preventing pollution and waste from the six categories of SUPs subject to the proposed Regulations.

The proposed Regulations would address this patchwork by creating a single set of rules that are national in scope, reducing duplicative compliance and reporting obligations from multiple jurisdictions. This will help achieve many of the same objectives as the provincial, territorial, and municipal bans, while increasing regulatory certainty for business. **In addition, the Department is not expecting it to cause any conflicts with existing measures, as the proposed Regulations have been designed to align with as many existing municipal and provincial measures as possible.**”

The Council motion put forward on April 4th pulls forward the start date of this program from March 2023 to January 2023. It was always the intent to start promotion and educational outreach to our businesses and public starting in 2023 with existing resources but as noted in the report, the success of the Single Use Item program relies on the additional FTEs (a Solid Waste Programs Coordinator

and a Bylaw Officer) that will be requested through the 2024 budget. As such, while this program can start in 2023, there will be no capacity for enforcement until 2024.

The 2024 and 2025 forecasted levy impact received by Council on December 2, 2021 was 5.57 per cent and 5.22 per cent respectively.

The approximate additional levy impact of the budget requested to implement the Single Use Item program for 2023 and 2024; and for the remaining recommendations in the solid waste management master plan for 2025 and beyond is as follows:

2023 – no impact

2024 – 0.07 per cent

2025 and beyond - 0.14 per cent

It is staff's recommendation to also change the recommendation #3 to be more clear;

That staff be directed to implement phase one of the solid waste master plan *for the reduction of SUI* for January 1st, 2023.

Should any member of Council have any questions that arise from this clarifying memo, they are welcomed and encouraged to contact the General Manager of Environmental Services in advance of the Council meeting.

Attachments

None

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