

BYLAW 20658

Waste Services Bylaw 20363, Amendment No. 1

Recommendation

That Utility Committee recommend to City Council:

That Bylaw 20658 be given the appropriate readings.

Purpose

To introduce a new class of transitional waste utility rates for homes transferring to curbside collection service from apartment and condo collection service.

Readings

Bylaw 20658 is ready for three readings.

A majority vote of City Council on all three readings is required for passage.

If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 20658 be considered for third reading.”

REPORT

The City provides two residential waste collection services: curbside collection and apartment and condo collection (referred to as “communal collection” in Bylaw 20363). Curbside collection is most common in single-unit households, while apartment and condo collection is most common in multi-unit buildings. As Administration advances the goals outlined in the 25-year Waste Strategy, collection services are changing to reflect the City’s corporate and environmental priorities.

Bylaw 20363 - Waste Services Bylaw authorizes the City to determine the collection service type for each residential property in the municipality and can change the service type based on operational considerations. When homes are changed from apartment and condo collection to curbside collection, the monthly waste utility rate increases. Administration proposes amending

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Bylaw 20363 to authorize a recurring schedule of transitional waste utility rates (Attachment 1) to reduce the rate shock for customers transferring to curbside collection.

Three-stream waste collection (food scraps, recycling and garbage) is being adopted for homes receiving apartment and condo collection between 2023 and 2027. While determining the appropriate level of service and providing buildings with the correct amount of waste containers, some properties were identified that are more suitable for curbside collection. Reasons for the change at these properties include the space available for new waste containers, the operational needs of collection trucks and alignment with similar properties receiving the same service. These properties would move to curbside collection service in January 2024, the accompanying transitional rate in February 2024 and reach rate parity in 2028. As the three-stream apartment and condo collection rollout is a four-year process, the City expects to identify other properties that are better suited to curbside collection in the next three years.

Bylaw 20658 introduces a transitional waste utility rate structure (further detailed in Attachment 2) that provides transparent rate information for properties changing service. Transitional rates increase gradually over a five-year period until they reach parity with the appropriate rates and only apply to the utility account holder (i.e. homeowner or renter) at the time the collection service type was changed. If the account holder changes, a home is sold or the account holder requests to share carts or change their garbage cart size, the appropriate curbside collection rate will take immediate effect for the new account holder.

The proposed transitional rate structure is aligned with the rate-setting principles established in City Policy C558B - Waste Services Fiscal Policy. Administration will submit the next two-year rate filing in late 2024 for approval which will include updated transitional rates at that time.

Community Insight

Extensive public engagement with residents and stakeholders was conducted for the approved 25-year Waste Strategy. This input was used to support decision making and inform both the operating and capital budget in the 2023-2024 Waste Services Utility Rate Filing.

Budget/Financial Implications

The utility rates outlined in Bylaw 20363 were approved in the November 25, 2022, City Operations report CO01380, 2023-2024 Waste Services Utility Rate Filing. Adjustments to utility rates are standard practice for the Waste Services Utility and are in accordance with Policy C558B - Waste Services Utility Fiscal Policy.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 20658 - Waste Services Bylaw 20363, Amendment No. 1
2. Side-by-side Comparison

Others Reviewing the Report

- M. Plouffe, City Solicitor