

BYLAW 20990

Waste Services Bylaw 20363, Amendment No. 2

Recommendation

That Utility Committee recommend to City Council - Budget:

That Bylaw 20990 be given the appropriate readings.

Purpose

To update waste utility rates for 2025 and remove a class of transitional waste utility rates.

Readings

Bylaw 20990 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 20990 be considered for third reading."

REPORT

This bylaw amendment is required for two reasons, to update waste utility rates for 2025 and to update transitional waste utility rates for administrative clarity. There are currently two classes of multi-unit transitional waste utility rates established by Waste Services. Both transitional rates are used to move ratepayers to the higher curbside collection rate from the lower communal collection rate over a five-year period to reduce rate shock.

2025 Waste Utility Rates

Waste utility rates are set out in Schedule 1 of Bylaw 20363 - Waste Services Bylaw. The rates are used to pay the cost of the residential waste utility services. The proposed 2025 Waste Utility Rates are presented in the November 8, 2024, City Operations report CO02415, Waste Services 2025 Rate Filing for Council approval. Once approved, Bylaw 20363 would be amended with the updated waste utility rates for 2025 included in Attachment 1.

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Removal of Curbside (Multi-unit Transition Rate 1 and 2) Class

The Multi-unit Transition Rate was established in 2020 after a review identified customers who were paying the lower waste utility rate for apartment and condo collection services despite receiving curbside collection. The previous Waste Services Bylaw 18590 was drafted to include transitional waste utility rates, enabling these homes to pay the higher curbside collection rates commensurate with the service they were receiving. Two rate cohorts were developed, starting in 2020 and 2021.

The 2020 rate cohort reached parity with the 240L garbage cart utility rate in 2024. The 2021 rate cohort will reach parity with the 240L garbage cart utility rate in 2025, which will enable the removal of this transitional waste utility class. This is further supported by the proposed reduction in utility rates, which affects all rate classes and would lower this rate regardless.

Removal of Year 5 from the Curbside Service Transition Rate Class

Because Year 5 of the Curbside Service Transition Rate is always set to equal the 240L garbage cart utility rate, Administration recommends removing this rate as it is redundant. There would be no ratepayers impacted as this transitional rate was established in 2023, but all ratepayers in this class would transition from Year 4 to to the standard Curbside (240L Garbage Cart) as seen in Attachment 1 with no operational or ratepayer impact.

Transitional waste utility rates are not available if a ratepayer moves properties, switches cart sizes, or chooses an alternative collection program (e.g. Secondary Suite Cart Sharing). The ratepayer would immediately move to the higher curbside collection rate on their next utility bill.

Community Insight

There was no community insight performed for this bylaw amendment, as utility rate adjustments are required practice for the Utility.

Budget/Financial Implications

Utility rate adjustments are standard practice for the Utility and are in accordance with City Policy C558C - Waste Services Utility Fiscal Policy.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 20990 - Waste Services Bylaw 20363, Amendment No. 2
2. Bylaw 20658 Redline Version

Others Reviewing the Report

- M. Plouffe, City Solicitor