



**BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM**

Page: 1
File:
Pending #:

TO: MAYOR, A. NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: S. BRUNET, B.SC., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EXT. 6140

NOTED: B. ARANIYASUNDARAN, P.ENG., GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH MANAGEMENT

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: PREPARING FOR BARRIE'S TRANSITION TO A PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY MODEL FOR THE BLUE BOX PROGRAM

DATE: NOVEMBER 7TH, 2022

This purpose of this Memorandum is to inform members of Council of the status of the City of Barrie's preparations to transition under the Blue Box Transition Regulation (Reg. 392/21 as amended through Reg. 349/22).

Pursuant to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act (2016)*, on June 3rd, 2021, the passing of Ontario Regulation 391/21 effectively removed the responsibility for all residential blue box collection, public space bin collection, the collection from non-for-profit long-term care and retirement facilities and schools from municipalities to Producers (i.e., the companies whose paper products and packaging are collected in the City's Blue Box Program).

The intent of this legislation is to create consistency and standardization of services across the province, reduce consumer confusion, and to ensure Producers are fully responsible and financially accountable for the paper products and packaging that residents dispose of. Producers have engaged with Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) for the transition to and management of the new Common Collection System.

A phased approach will be taken from July 1st, 2023, to December 31st, 2025, with Producers/PRO obligations changing over time. The City of Barrie (City) has a transition date of May 1st, 2024, when its obligation to provide Blue Box service to residents will end. This date aligns with the end date of the current waste collection contract (April 30th, 2024).

For Barrie, this means:

1. From May 1st, 2024 to December 2025, existing services and service levels will continue with respect to collection from current single-family and multi-family households, long-term care and retirement facilities, public space recycling containers, and the operation of the depot.

Materials currently accepted in Barrie's Blue Box Program will continue to be diverted.

2. After January 1st, 2026, under the Producer Common Collection System, Blue Box material from all single family residences, multi-family dwellings, registered facilities, households without curbside recycling but receiving curbside garbage collection, and defined public space recycling containers will be collected.

The City will continue to provide Blue Box services for 'ineligible' or non-residential customers, as defined under the Blue Box Regulation, such as collection from the BIA, places of worship, and municipal facilities.



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Page: 2
File:
Pending #:

To prepare for the City's transition, a comprehensive Municipal Transition Plan has been developed that will assist the City in navigating the impacts and managing the risks to its current Integrated Waste Management System.

Additionally, at the time of transition, a new waste collection contract will be in place. The current contract which was procured in 2014 is a 10-year contract with allowable cost increases of only 1-2% per year. Having said this, the cost for collection under the new contract will increase due to the current economic drivers including but not limited to CPI, supply chain issues, as well as fuel escalation costs and other industry and market related factors that were not built into the previous contract.

The City initiated a procurement process to select a preferred service provider for waste collection in 2022. Proposals have been received and staff are evaluating the proposals. For the reasons stated above, it should be noted that the future contract will have significant cost increases.

While the services under the new contract will not start until 2024, contract award to the preferred vendor will be required in Q4 of 2022 to provide the vendor with sufficient time to secure equipment and vehicles for the new contract.

Staff will be preparing a Report to Council early in 2023, once the details of the future contract have been confirmed.

Further questions should be directed to Sandra Brunet, extension 6140.