

Laneway Collection – Ward 5

Date:	September 26, 2008
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services
Wards:	Ward 5
Reference Number:	p:/2008/swms/Oct./013PW

SUMMARY

As directed by City Council at its meetings on July 15, 16 and 17, 2008 during consideration of Motion MM23.17 moved by Councillor Milczyn, staff has investigated the re-establishment of commercial and residential garbage, recycling and organics collection from rear laneways on Bloor Street West, The Queensway and Dundas Street West, all in Ward 5 – Etobicoke/Lakeshore. As requested at the September 8, 2008 meeting of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, staff are reporting back through this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services recommends that:

1. Commercial/residential waste collection be re-established where feasible in the rear laneways of Bloor Street West, Dundas Street West and The Queensway in Ward 5 – Etobicoke/Lakeshore.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact as a result of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council approved the Yellow Bag program on March 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 2002 as part of the City of Toronto 2002 Recommended Operating Budget (refer to pages 110 and 127-177 in the attached link).

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2002/agendas/council/cc020304/pof4rpt/cl001.pdf>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Yellow Bag program provides curbside collection for garbage, recycling and organic materials for eligible commercial customers.

As part of the harmonization of the commercial collection program throughout the City, on July 1, 2008, City forces began collecting the garbage/recycling and organic materials from eligible customers in the former Etobicoke area.

This was the last area of the City where commercial materials were not collected by City forces. Prior to July 1, 2008, the collection had been provided by the private residential contractor who collected materials from the abutting rear laneways during the daytime collection of the residential areas.

The affected businesses/residents in the West Bloor Street, Dundas and The Queensway areas were moved to night-time collection to be consistent with the other areas of the City who receive the commercial/residential collection.

After the implementation of the new collection set out procedures, businesses, BIAs and residents voiced concerns about the curbside set out requirements.

COMMENTS

One of the requirements of businesses/residents who participate in the commercial Yellow Bag program is to place their waste, recycling and organic materials in front of their businesses for collection.

This requirement (established as part of the policy in 2002) was established because most laneways throughout the City (abutting main arterial roads) do not have sufficient space/width/lighting and storage capacity for efficient/safe waste collection.

In reviewing the West Bloor Street/Dundas Street and The Queensway areas, in consultation with the local BIAs and City Councillor, it was determined that the majority of laneways in these particular areas have sufficient capacity to allow the storage and collection of materials from both the commercial and residential units.

Staff are also reviewing the Yellow Bag program City-wide, and as the first phase demonstration of a City-wide project, we are looking at containerizing the yellow bags (providing bins) in conjunction with the residential units to consolidate collection operations.

Staff have consulted with the local Councillor, businesses, BIAs and where possible collection of waste/recycling and organic materials has been re-established in the rear laneways. The issuance of the new bins for the commercial/residential customers is being co-ordinated with property owners in this particular area.

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SIGNATURE

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