

Councillor Frances Nunziata Chair, Etobicoke – York Community Council Toronto City Council Ward 11 York South-Weston

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August 12, 2009

Attn: Chair & Members of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Councillor Frances Nunziata

Re: Request for report on savings/losses realized as a result of in-sourcing collection services in the former City of York

In 2007, Toronto City Council voted 27-10 in favor of terminating the contract held by the former City of York with Turtle Island Recycling for collection services, and bringing it in-house. Today, in the wake of a recent 39-day labor disruption in which the City of Toronto was left without garbage collection, residents living in the former City of York, many of which enjoyed and preferred the contracted-out services they were receiving for waste collection, have been questioning why collection services were brought in-house to begin with.

In 2007, when City Council debated the change from contracting out to in-sourcing collection services for the former City of York, it was argued that by doing so, a savings of \$4 million annualized would be realized beginning in 2008. In-sourcing collection services for the former City of Etobicoke, the only other former municipality still receiving contracted out services, was not recommended at that time, as it was reported that significant investment in equipment and yards would be necessary.

During this year's labor disruption, I received many calls from residents in the former City of York who recalled that in 2002, when municipal workers went on strike, while other areas of the City were not receiving collection services, the former City of York did (as did the former City of Etobicoke), as its collection was contracted out at the time. Many residents feel that they were better off when collection was contracted out, and question whether the City has realized a savings of \$4 million annualized, one of the main arguments for bringing collection in-house.

At this time, I am requesting that the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee request staff to report back to the committee with a detailed report on the savings/losses incurred since 2007 as a result of bringing collection services in-house for the former City of York.

Yours Sincerely,

Frances Mungerta

Frances Nunziata Councillor, Ward 11, York South-Weston Chair, Etobicoke Community Council