



Angelos Bacopoulos, Associate Director, Facilities, Sustainability and Employee Services

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16 November 2016

Budget Committee
Toronto City Hall 2nd Floor
108 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON
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Dear Members of the Budget Committee;

Over the last 10 years, Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and City of Toronto staff have worked collaboratively to develop and maintain positive working relationships, as we share the common goals of supporting environmental sustainability through education and supporting waste diversion.

Recently, we have been informed by City staff that the City either will not pick up waste at a number of our sites or will only pick up waste curbside. This has resulted in a substantial increase in expense for the TDSB at these sites. Without using front end containers, we are now storing waste in schools with a concomitant increase in vermin in the school. At the sites, where the City will not pick up waste, we have no capacity to recycle organic waste.

It has come to the attention of the TDSB that Council is considering a by-law amendment to solid waste pick up rates that, if enacted, would cost the TDSB approximately \$100K per year over the next five years, on top of the additional expense incurred for the City's recent changes to waste collection practices as referenced in the previous paragraph.

Could members of the Budget Committee please review this plan and consider the impact on school boards who receive funding in the form of provincial grants. The TDSB does not have the means to pay for increased fees without a negative impact on the provision of other services. Nor do we have a means to receive extra financing from the Province, due to a specific funding formula which does not recognize these types of costing pressures.

We respectfully request that no increased waste management fees be applied to the TDSB or as a minimum, the proposed rate of increase be reduced. In addition, if any increased fees are applied, could they be effective September 1, 2017, since that is the start of our fiscal year.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bacopoulos'.

Angelos Bacopoulos
Associate Director, Facilities, Sustainability and Employees Services