

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM39.5	ACTION			Ward:All
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Innovative Dog Waste Solutions in our Parks - by Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Parks and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services, in consultation with the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to report to the Parks and Environment Committee in 2019 with:
 - a. statistics on the amount of dog waste collected by Solid Waste Management Services and how much recycling material gets contaminated by dog waste on an annual basis; and
 - b. the feasibility of installing dog-waste containers in City parks and dog off-leash areas, including options to conduct a dog-waste container pilot project in the City of Toronto.

Summary

With the continuing rise of dog ownership in Toronto, residents have expressed concerns over the management of dog-waste in our parks system and the resulting public health impacts. It is clear that a large amount of dog waste is not being disposed of properly, ending up in landfills and even recycling bins. Any amount of waste found in recycling bins can contaminate whole containers of recyclables.

Cities such as Waterloo, Cambridge and Mississauga are finding success in implementing dog waste containers, placed in key locations and parks. Waste has been diverted from landfills and recycling bins to organic waste plants where they are converted to electricity.

These waste containers include underground concrete receptacles to keep dog-waste cool to minimize odor and have been successful in keeping dog waste away from landfills and contaminating the recycling stream in these municipalities. As Canada's largest city and with our growing dog presence, it is quickly becoming more challenging to find viable and manageable dog waste solutions to ensure a healthy environment for all Torontonians.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM39.5