

Single-Use and Takeaway Item Reduction Strategy – Phase 2 Consultation

September 26, 2019

Toronto City Hall, Committee Room #1

What are single-use and takeaway items?

A single-use or takeaway item is any product designed for a single use after which it is disposed of, either into the garbage, Blue Bin or Green Bin.

Typically, these products are not designed for durability or reuse.

Accessibility

The City of Toronto recognizes that:

- some single-use and takeaway items support accessibility for individuals with disabilities
- programs and policies must be inclusive
- impacts to accessibility will be considered in this round of consultation as well as any future consultations on specific programs and policies

Background

- The Waste Strategy (July 2016) focuses on reduction and reuse
- Public Engagement: Educate Toronto's diverse communities on program changes, good waste management practices and encourage waste reduction and reuse.

Goal and Objectives

Goal of the consultation process is

Waste reduction of single-use and takeaway items

not

Substitution with alternative materials

Goal and Objectives

- Create a “Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy” for Toronto
- Reduce the consumption, use and/or disposal of designated items, regardless of which waste stream (e.g. garbage, recycling, organics) they are currently managed in

Phase 1 Consultation – Accessibility

- Types of single-use or takeaway items most important for accessibility:
 - Bendable straws for eating and drinking
 - Water bottles for hydration
 - Coffee lids for safety
 - Medical, health, and sanitary items
 - Packaging for prepared meals

Phase 1 Consultation – Accessibility

- An equity lens should be used to review policies and programs
- Ensure information is accessible, use braille, large text, contrasting colours

Phase 1 Consultation – Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee

- Not a matter of convenience, but health and safety
- Do not have accessible-focused consultation; include accessibility in all consultation
- Glassware as an alternative container could be dangerous if dropped
- If incentives are used, this could be barrier
- Provide list of alternatives

Phase 2 Consultation Details

- Comment Period – September 24 – November 4, 2019
- Public Event & Webcast – September 24, 2019
- Stakeholder Meetings:
 - September 27, 2019
 - October 7, 2019
- Telephone Town Halls
 - October 10, 2019
 - October 24, 2019

Notification and Communications

- Information shared with internal City divisions
- Extensive city-wide print and digital advertising campaign
- Eblast to Waste Strategy contact list, 7,000+ contacts
- Invitations to stakeholder meetings sent to 300+ organizations, including 100+ accessibility and social service providers
- Requests to share information through additional stakeholder networks sent to range of City contacts (including TAAC and Clerks Accessibility Network)

Goal of Phase 2 Consultation

The City of Toronto is seeking feedback on:

1. Approaches being considered for reduction of specific single-use and takeaway items
2. Implementation considerations (e.g. timeline)

Guiding Principles

- Address materials which are not recyclable or are not effectively recycled in Toronto's Blue Bin Recycling Program
- Target materials known to contribute to litter on streets and in waterways
- Reflect survey and polling data on preferred approaches and items to target
- Achieve a measurable environmental impact
- Are harmonized or consistent with policies and programs being developed nationally and locally to reduce single-use or takeaway items

Items and Approaches Being Considered

- Additional information is being finalized and will be provided to the Committee closer to the meeting date

Ongoing Initiatives and Advocacy

The City's Solid Waste Management Services will continue with:

- 3Rs Ambassador Volunteer Program
engage residents in buildings to reduce, reuse and recycle
- Community Reduce and Reuse Programs:
Urban Harvest, Sewing Repair Hubs, Bicycle Repair Hubs,
Community Composting, Sharing and Reuse Spaces
- Work to transition the Blue Box Program to extended
producer responsibility, following the Provincial direction
letter that initiated process in August 2019

Consultation Contact

For more information contact us at:
wastestrategy@toronto.ca
416-392-3760

For the on-line survey go to:
toronto.ca/single-use

Comments must be received by November 4, 2019 to be
considered

Questions

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