

**YONGE +  
ST. CLAIR**

Yonge + St. Clair BIA  
2 St. Clair W, #1860  
Toronto, ON, M5A 0L8

info@yongestclair.ca  
647-255-8160

April 1, 2019

Via: Councillor James Pasternak, Chair  
Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
City of Toronto  
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON

Dear Councillor Pasternak,

**RE: INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM  
IE3.7 – COORDINATED STREET FURNITURE PROGRAM UPDATE – TO BE  
CONSIDERED ON APRIL 2, 2019**

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The above noted agenda item includes a report from the General Manager of Transportation Services, dated March 19, 2019. Part of this report includes a recommendation to increase litter receptacle cleaning in order to reduce service requests.

**We would like to propose a modification of this recommendation – a modification that we feel will better serve both the short and long term goals of reducing litter receptacle service requests.**

The original plastic format receptacles, as noted in the report, are disliked by residents (40% are dissatisfied as opposed to 25% with the new metal receptacles). These original plastic receptacles have significant issues, as is substantiated by the 2018 resident survey and by Astral Media's retrofit program of these existing bins.

For BIAs, Astral Media and the City's Transportation – Public Realm division have offered a 'swap' program that would allow BIAs to replace the original plastic receptacles with the new metal version at a discounted cost. However, the demand for these new metal receptacles is so popular that a waitlist of 2+ years now exists for the swap to actually occur. Our own request for such a swap is attached that illustrates this.

**Rather than focus on the short-term solution of increasing service of the original plastic receptacles, the replacement of the plastic receptacles to the newer, more functional metal receptacles should be expedited.**

**In order to facilitate this, the additional funds freed up due to a reduction in the servicing of benches and publication boxes should instead be directed towards the capital costs of expediting receptacle replacement.**

Service levels for litter cleaning would remain the same – as opposed to increasing – for the time being, to allow these new funds to expedite the swaps. Once all receptacles have been swapped to the newer metal bins, the excess funds can then at that time be utilized for increased litter cleaning.

The above proposal addresses the root of the issue, by facilitating a faster replacement of the original plastic receptacles, and allowing for the better-performing metal receptacles to come online sooner.

Please kindly consider these modifications to the General Manager's recommendations.

Thank you.



**Mackenzie Keast**  
Executive Director  
Yonge + St. Clair BIA

cc. *Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 12*  
*Councillor Mike Layton, Ward 11*  
*Jessica Myers, Chair, Yonge + St. Clair BIA*  
*John Kiru, Executive Director, TABIA*

Attached: *Email - March 15, 2019 - Requesting swap to black metal receptacles*



Mackenzie Keast &lt;mackenzie@yongestclair.ca&gt;

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**RE: Yonge + St. Clair BIA litter bins - SWAP TO BLACK**

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**Antonia Markos** <Antonia.Markos@toronto.ca>  
To: Mackenzie Keast <mackenzie@yongestclair.ca>

Fri, Mar 15, 2019 at 10:57 AM

Hi Mackenzie,

With regards to swaps, you are currently a grey BIA. If you would like to swap to black elements, they would be offered to BIAs at a discounted cost. We call this a "swap" cost and is priced as follows:

Litter bins - \$165 per bin

Benches - \$282 per bench

Postering Columns - \$165 per column

Included in this swap cost is the removal of the grey element, installation of the black element (for the bins this would be the black rectangular style), and ongoing maintenance on the elements.

If the BIA is serious about going forward with these swaps, I would ask that you confirm with an email that you would like to switch to a black BIA. At that point, we would do a complete inventory of your BIA, send the list to Astral, and they will provide you with a formal quote. Once the payment is made, Astral would add you to the existing waiting list of BIAs that have requested to swap to black elements. Due to the high demand, and the limit of BIAs we can swap each year, we are looking at the swaps taking place in 2021. Also, once you decide to swap to black, all new additional furniture would be installed in black free of charge.

Hope this information helps. I have included photos of the black elements for your reference.

Regards,

**Antonia Markos**

Supervisor

Transportation Services, Public Realm

City of Toronto

433 Eastern Ave

Block B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Toronto, Ont M4M 1B7

416-392-1552

[Antonia.Markos@toronto.ca](mailto:Antonia.Markos@toronto.ca)

**From:** Mackenzie Keast [mailto:mackenzie@yongestclair.ca]  
**Sent:** 26-Feb-19 9:34 AM  
**To:** Antonia Markos <Antonia.Markos@toronto.ca>  
**Subject:** Yonge + St. Clair BIA litter bins

Hi Antonia - Raj passed along your contact info. We currently have the older, chunky Astral bins in our area.

Wondering how we can go about getting the bins in our BIA swapped for the slim black ones?

Thanks!

mackenzie

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**Mackenzie Keast**  
**Executive Director**  
mackenzie@yongestclair.ca  
o: 647-255-8160

m: 647-470-7021

 @yongestclair

 @yongestclair

 /yongestclair.ca

yongestclair.ca



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**3 attachments**

**Litter Bin - WR4 (Black).jpg**  
113K



**Bench - Standard (Black).jpg**  
91K



**Poster Structure - Black.jpg**  
39K