

Single-Use & Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy Consultation

October 24, 2025

Purpose and Objective

- Staff previously presented to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee in February 2022 during the previous phase of Single-Use and Takeaway Item (SUTI) Reduction Strategy consultations
- We are now seeking to develop the next stage of the SUTI Reduction Strategy
- Given your expertise and important role working to eliminate barriers faced by people with disabilities, your perspective is essential for developing a practical and effective made-in-Toronto approach.

Single-Use and Takeaway Items (SUTI)

- Utensils
- Straws
- Stir Sticks
- Spill Plugs
- Napkins
- Condiment Cups and Condiment Packets
- Cup sleeves and trays
- Paper Bags



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

SUTI Reduction Strategy Stages

- Stage 1
 - Provided support for businesses to voluntarily reduce single-use items
- Stage 2
 - Adoption of the SUTI Bylaw in March 2024 which requires retail businesses to take an Ask-First/By-Request approach to distributing SUTI and accept reusable beverage cups

SUTI Reduction Strategy Stages

- The City is now exploring Stage 3 of the Strategy. Your perspective is key to a practical, effective and made-in-Toronto approach.
- Stage 3 involves assessing the feasibility of expanding the Reduction Strategy and Bylaw to include:
 - Large event venues (a venue that seats more than 9,000 individuals per event);
 - Restricted events (a temporary event that requires a ticket);
 - Events on City property (examples include parades, marathons, community events);
 - Requiring retail businesses to accept reusable food containers provided by customers
 - Requiring retail businesses to use reusable food and beverage containers for dine-in service.

Consultation Objectives

- Building on previous consultations, the City is now seeking additional input on expanding the SUTI Reduction Strategy and Bylaw specifically the challenges and/or benefits expansion may bring and on approaches and implementation timing.
- The City is also looking to gather feedback on the impact of the SUTI Bylaw to date
- The information gathered will help to inform recommendations that will be considered by Infrastructure and Environment Committee and City Council in 2026.

Audience Consultation Methods

- Targeted Polling (Conducted by Angus Reid Group)
 - General Public
 - Retail Businesses
- Surveys
 - General Public
 - Large Event Venue Operators
 - Restricted Events Organizers
 - City Property Events Organizers

Audience Consultation Methods

- Virtual Meetings
 - Retail Businesses
 - Large Event Venue Operators
 - Restricted Events Organizers
 - City Property Events Organizers
- Key Informant Interviews
 - All interest groups
 - The City has reached out to Centre for Independent Living in Toronto for an interview

Feedback We Are Seeking

Stage 2 Feedback:

- Awareness and experience with current Bylaw (like the Ask-First/By-Request requirement)

Stage 3 Feedback:

- The impacts, barriers, and benefits to retail businesses for
 - Providing reusable food containers and beverage cups for customers for dine-in operations.
 - Accepting reusable food containers from customers for take-out operations.
 - The support and resources required to comply with any additional SUTI reduction measures (for example accepting/providing reusables)
- The impacts, barriers, and benefits to large event venue operators and events organizers for expanding all requirements of the current Bylaw and future reusables requirements to their venues and events

Consultation Feedback on the Current Bylaw

- Before today, were you aware of the Single-Use & Takeaway Items Bylaw?
- How has your experience been with the ask-first/by-request approach?
- How often have you brought your own reusable beverage cup to retail food/beverage businesses?

Consultation Feedback on Stage 3

- Looking ahead, what would a successful expansion of Toronto's reusable and reduction strategy look like from your perspective?
- What opportunities or challenges do you anticipate if the Bylaw required events and large event venues to take an Ask-First/By-Request approach? Or provide or accept reusables?
- Is there anyone else you'd recommend that we speak to as part of this process?

Questions

For more information:

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Visit: toronto.ca/single-use

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