

Single-Use and Takeaway Item Reduction Strategy Bylaw Consultation

Public Presentation

Outline

- Reduction Strategy and Consultation Overview
- Background
- 2022 Bylaw Consultation
- Additional approaches being considered
- Next steps

Reduction Strategy and Consultation Overview

Reduction Strategy

- The City is continuing to move forward with its Reduction Strategy to reduce single-use and takeaway items in Toronto.
- Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Reduction Strategy was split into two (2) stages:

Stage 1	Stage 2
<p><u>Voluntary Measures Program</u></p> <p>Encourage and enable businesses to voluntarily reduce the use of single-use and takeaway items in their operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compliance with upcoming bylaws• Eliminate Polystyrene & Black Plastic containers• Accept and integrate reusables	<p><u>New bylaw</u></p> <p>Implementation of fees and ‘ask first/by request’ mandatory measures to reduce the use of single-use and takeaway items.</p>

Reduction Strategy

Consultation Objective

- Building on previous consultations, the City is now seeking additional input on expanding the originally proposed items and approaches, feedback on the proposed implementation timing and information on appropriate fees.
- The information will help to inform the final proposed Reduction Strategy that will be considered by Infrastructure and Environment Committee and City Council in 2022.
- This report will present the final proposed Reduction Strategy

Background

Definition

- 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.



Why explore a Reduction Strategy?



Single-Use Eating Utensils*

Over **615** pieces of plastic cutlery counted on Toronto shoreline



Foam Takeaway Containers and Cups**

Over **85M** units generated by single-family households



Single-Use Hot and Cold Drink Cups**

Over **39M** units generated by single-family households



Single-Use Straws*

1,485 straws counted on Toronto shoreline



Single-Use Plastic Bags**

Over **400M** bags generated by single-family households

Long-Term Waste Management Strategy

- The Waste Strategy (July 2016) provides a road map for the way waste will be managed in Toronto over the next 30-50 years. It focuses on **waste reduction, reuse and recycling**



Development of the Reduction Strategy



2018/2019 Consultations

1. What single-use items should be targeted for reduction?
2. What approaches should the City consider?
3. What should be the timelines for implementation?

Previous Consultations

- Independent polling during previous consultations identified strong support to use mandatory measures to restrict the following items:

	Single-Use Item	Percentage of respondents in support
	Food utensils	75%
	Straws	77%
	Checkout bags (paper and plastic)	77% (Plastic) 53% (Paper)
	Beverage cups	63%
	Expanded polystyrene (foam) containers and cups	76%

Alignment with Government Actions



Province of Ontario

- Prevent and reduce litter in neighbourhoods and parks
- Transition the Blue Box Program to extended producer responsibility by 2026 at which point producers will be responsible operationally and financially for the end-of-life management of Blue Box materials

Government of Canada's Proposed Regulation

Government of Canada

- December 2021 published their proposed regulations which is open for comment until March 5, 2022
- Committed to exploring bans, restrictions, and extended producer responsibility schemes for plastic waste
- Proposed the prohibition of manufacturing, import and sale of:
 - Plastic Straws
 - Plastic Utensils
 - Plastic Checkout Bag
 - Plastic Stir Stick
 - Plastic Ring Carries
 - Foodservice ware made from or containing problematic plastics

COVID-19 Pandemic



Impact to the Reduction Strategy

- In May 2020 the Reduction Strategy was put on hold as the City focused its efforts on the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

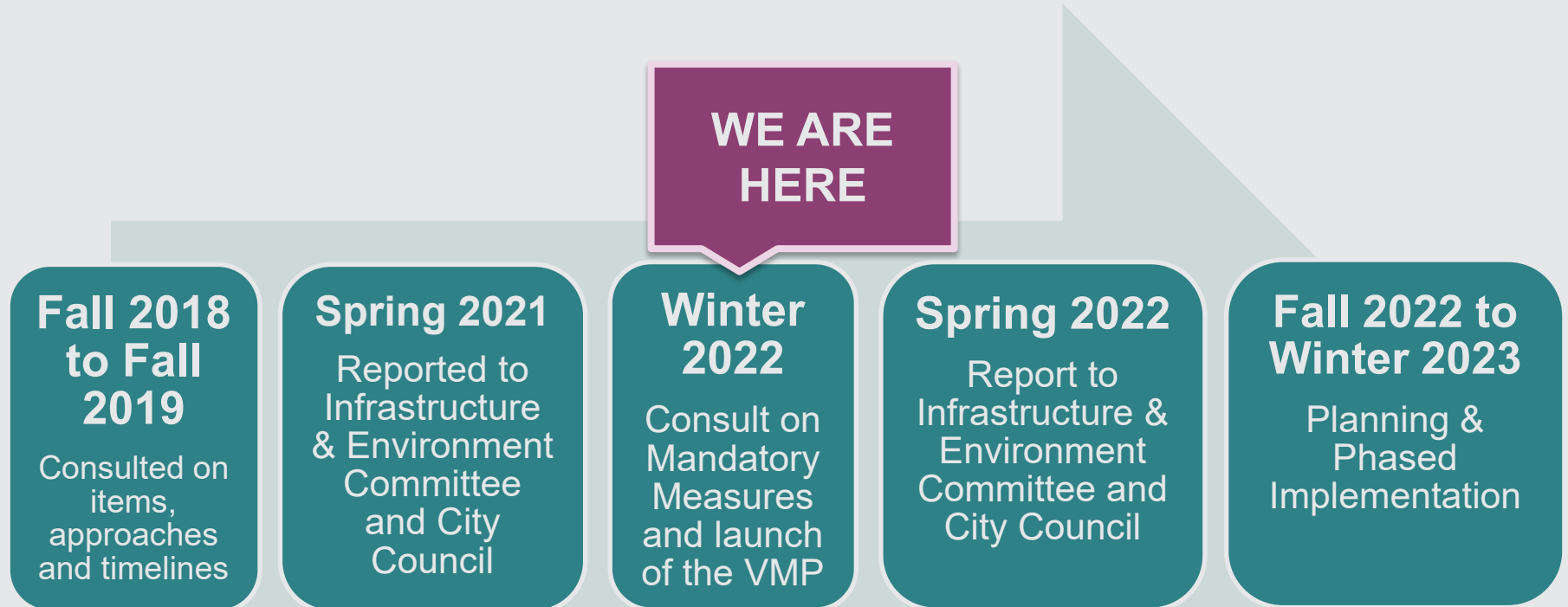
Reduction Strategy – Stage 1

- In June 2021, Council approved the updated **Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy – Stage 1** taking into consideration the social, financial, and health-related impacts on Toronto residents and businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Reduction Strategy recommended the Voluntary Measures Program encouraging businesses to voluntarily reduce the use of single-use and takeaway items in their operations

Reduction Strategy – Stage 2

- **Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy – Stage 2** is targeted to be presented to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee and City Council in May/June 2022.
- The report will include:
 - Proposed items, approaches, and implementation timelines
 - Budget
 - Policy rationale
 - Consultation Feedback
 - Voluntary Measures Program Update
 - Communications and engagement strategy
 - Enforcement and monitoring strategy

Reduction Strategy Timeline



2022 Bylaw Consultation

Proposed Items, Bylaw and Timelines

Ask First/By Request Bylaw

Previous

What is it?

- An ask first/by-request bylaw requires that single-use items be distributed to a customer only after asking or upon request.
 - Customer would ask for item/staff asks if the customer wants the item
 - Businesses would be restricted to keeping items behind the counter
 - Delivery services could be required to include confirmation that the items are required for online and mobile food orders
 - The bylaw would ensure no adverse effects for individuals who request single-use plastic straws for accessibility/health reasons

What was previously consulted on?

- Single-use straws
- Single-use food utensils

Ask First/By Request Bylaw Updates

What is new?

- Solid Waste is proposing that the Ask First/By Request approach be expanded to include other accessory items such as:
 - Napkins
 - Stir sticks
 - Beverage trays
 - Condiment packets
 - Cup sleeves
 - Other similar accessory or accompanying single-use items used as part of food or beverage service or packaging

Why are we adding it?

- Many of these items are sometimes provided to a customer unnecessarily and cannot be effectively processed in our Blue Bin or Organic Green Bin programs

Fee Bylaw

Previous



What is it?

- Businesses will be required to charge customers a fee per single-use item. All fees will be retained by the business.

What was previously consulted on?

- The City previously consulted on the fee amount for single-use checkout bags (paper and plastic) and single-use beverage cups (hot and cold).
- In consideration of the impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has caused for many residents and businesses, the City is seeking input again on the fee amounts for these items.

Fee Bylaw Updates

What is new?

- Proposing to add minimum fee for new 'reusable bags' being purchased at point of sale.

Why are we adding it?

- This addition is being considered as some businesses no longer distribute single-use bags and are instead offering reusable bags free-of-charge that may result in increased waste generation should the bags not be reused.
- Also, due to the economic hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the City is requesting feedback on what the fee amount should be for reusable bags, single-use bags, and single-use cups; the fees could be anywhere between \$0.05 and \$0.50 per single-use item, and more for a reusable bag.

Ban Bylaw

Previous



What is it?

- A bylaw that would prohibit businesses from distributing single-use and takeaway items.

What was previously consulted on?

- Expanded Polystyrene (foam) containers and cups

Ban Bylaw Updates







What is new?

- The City is proposing that takeout food containers no longer be restricted through a new bylaw (Foam or black plastic)

Why are we removing it?

- The Federal Government is proposing to ban EPS, black plastic, oxo-degradable, and PVC containers sometime in 2023. This is the same timeframe SWMS would have proposed to restrict ESP and other takeout food containers (Black Plastic).

Summary of Proposed Items, Approaches and Timelines

Item		Approach & Timing	
		Toronto	Government of Canada
NEW Single-Use Accessory Food Items (i.e. Straws, Utensils, Condiment Packets, Stir Sticks, Napkins etc.)		Ask First / By Request for all material types (2022)	Ban Plastic Straws (with exemptions), and Plastic Cutlery (2023 - 2025)
NEW Single-Use Bags (Paper & Plastic) & Reusable Bags		Fee (2023)	Ban Plastic Bags (2023 - 2025)
Single-Use Cups (Hot & Cold)		Fee (2023)	N/A
NEW Takeout Food Containers (Expanded Polystyrene, Black Plastic)		No restriction as timing would coincide with Federal timing.	Ban EPS, Black Plastic, PVC & Oxo- Degradable (2023 - 2025)

Enforcement

- The City is encouraging all businesses to make an effort to comply with the proposed bylaws once enacted.
- Once the bylaws are enacted, the City will focus on an education-first approach to help support businesses in achieve compliance based on the proposed implementation dates for each bylaw.

Bylaw	Public Education	Compliance & Enforcement
Ask First/By Request	Spring 2022	Fall 2022
Fees	Spring 2022-2023	Winter 2023

Feedback being requested

- During this current consultation, the City is seeking feedback on:
 1. The additional items to be addressed through the Reduction Strategy
 2. The proposed timing of implementing the previously proposed items and mandatory measures
 3. The fee amounts associated with fee-related mandatory measures

Additional approaches being considered

Additional Reduction Strategy Measures

Mandating the Acceptance of Reusables*

- The City is seeking feedback on considering mandating food establishments to accept reusable cups or food containers if presented by a patron.

* The City will not be proposing these approaches as part of the 2022 report back to Council, however we'd like to hear feedback from businesses and the general public regarding this practice.

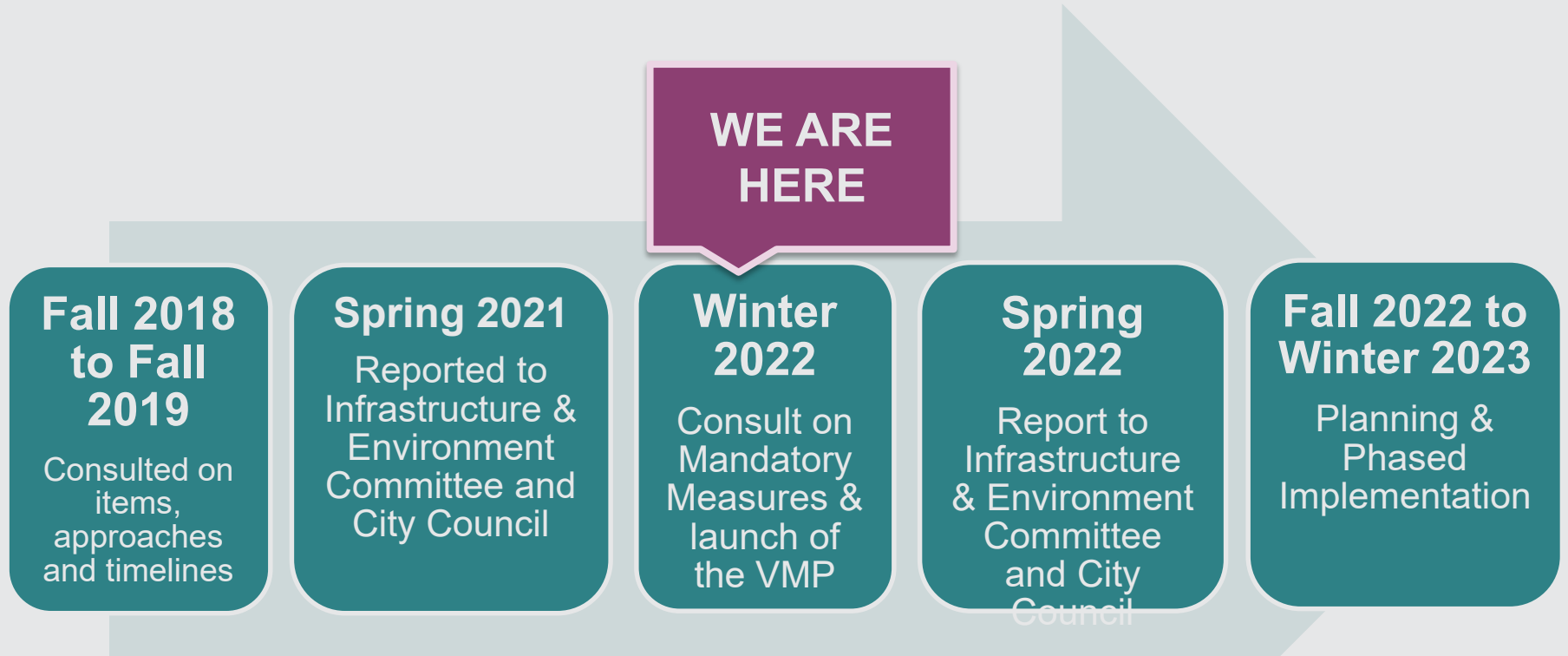
City Supports

Voluntary Measures Program

- The City plans to offer supports and resources to help businesses that face difficulty with compliance for the proposed restrictions and bans such as:
 - Online resources
 - Webinars/Workshops
 - Public recognition of business' reduction efforts by the City of Toronto
- The City is seeking feedback from businesses on how to support businesses transition away from single-use and takeaway items.
- Sign up to our email mailing list by visiting our webpage at www.toronto.ca/single-use or email wastestrategy@toronto.ca to find out when the Voluntary Measures Program launches.

Next Steps

Reduction Strategy Timeline



Report Back to City Council

- This report will recommend the proposed **Single Use and Takeaway Item Reduction Strategy** regulations, policies, and programs to reduce single-use and takeaway items in the City of Toronto including:
 - Proposed Timelines for Implementation
 - Resources and Budget Required
 - Promotion and Education Support
 - Voluntary Approaches to reducing single-use and takeaway items.

Consultation Activities

Consultation Period February 7, 2022 – March 4, 2022

Online Survey	February 7 to March 4
Public Opinion Polling – General Public	February 7 to March 4
Opinion Polling – Businesses	February 7 to March 4
Public Meetings (virtual)	Tuesday, February 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm Wednesday, February 16, 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Stakeholder Meetings (virtual)	Tuesday, February 15, 1:30 – 3:00 pm Wednesday, February 16, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

- Online survey: toronto.ca/single-use
- Email: wastestrategy@toronto.ca
- Comment Line: 416-392-3760

Thank you