Nighttime Waste Collection Schedules

Virtual Meeting October 20, 2025



Agenda

- Why are we here?
- What are we asking?
- Current night collection operations & CaféTO considerations
- Overview of night collection customers
- Broader operational review
- Extended Producer Responsibility



Project Team

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Street Furniture

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Nighttime Economy

Lauren McCallum, Manager Tourism Services



Why Are We Here?

City Council Direction

City Council requested Solid Waste Management Services to consider changing the night of waste
collection for parts of the west end (Ossington Avenue/Queen Street West/Dundas Street West and
College Street areas) that fall within the Ossington Avenue, West Queen West, Dundas West and Little
Portugal Business Improvement Areas (BIA), to support the current and future operations of CaféTO
and the overall nightlife experience on these commercial main streets

April 9, 2025 Infrastructure and Environment Committee considered Item IE20.11 Changing the Night of Garbage Collection for the West-End (Ossington/Queen West/College Promenade Areas). Adopted by City Council Apr. 23/24/2025

- 1. City Council request the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services, to consider changing the garbage collection schedule for the west-end areas of Ossington Avenue, College Street, Dundas Street West and Queen Street West areas from Thursdays to off-peak evenings such as Monday or Tuesday, in order to support the upcoming patio season and enhance the overall experience for residents and visitors, and:
- a. Engage and consult with local residents, businesses, the Ossington Business Improvement Area, the Queen West Business Improvement Area and the College Promenade Business Improvement Area to gather their input on whether this change would meet the community's needs; and
- b. Report to Infrastructure and Environment Committee, as needed, with any recommendations resulting from the consultations with residents, businesses, and the Business Improvement Area.



Why Are We Here?

Broader Operational Review

•The City is conducting a broader operational review of the entire nighttime collections operation (with any operational changes being implemented in 2026) and is therefore expanding on City Council's request, and including all customers with waste currently collected at night as part of this consultation

Your Role Tonight

•We want to hear from you – residents and businesses – about your experience with nighttime waste collection

Next Steps

 Your feedback will help the City understand the level of support for future considerations for changes in nighttime waste collection



Public Consultation – What Are We Asking?

The City is not proposing a specific change during the 2025 calendar year. We are gathering feedback to assess interest and feasibility on:

- Current nighttime waste collection experience, including satisfaction, challenges, CaféTO participation
- Impact of nighttime waste collection on operations, traffic and nightlife activities
- Level of support for changing the waste collection night
- Preferences for alternative waste collection nights
- Interest in a premium garbage collection service

Provide your feedback on current nighttime waste collection schedules by completing the online survey at **toronto.ca/CollectionChange** until Monday October 27,2025



Current Night Collection Operations - Overview

- Safety is a top priority for Solid Waste. Main streets are collected at night due to heavy pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle traffic during the day
- Main streets collected at night are intentional and aim to reduce traffic congestion compared to collecting these streets during the day
- Solid Waste operations reviews collection routes on a regular basis to optimize route balancing with the available staff and equipment





Night Collection - Change Considerations

- Privately serviced customers are not required to set out their waste on certain days
- As a result, their collection days may not align with City collection schedules







Night Collection Operations - CaféTO

- CaféTO program introduced in 2020 resulting in new operational considerations which evolved as the program has matured, including:
 - Providing collection services with reduced traffic lanes
 - Neighbouring CaféTO participants can result in conjoined structures requiring placement of waste material in shared set out points with many bins
 - Labelling of bins facilitates waste set out monitoring
 - Participants in CaféTO vary from year to year which can make it challenging to plan for impact on operations until program is in season





Night Collection Customers - Current

- Solid Waste Management Services collects waste from the following customer types:
 - Residential homes
 - Residential above commercial units (RUAC)
 - Multi-residential buildings
 - Small commercial businesses
 - Non-residential customers e.g. Charities, Institutions and Religious organizations (CIRO) and Divisions, Agencies and Corporations (DAC)



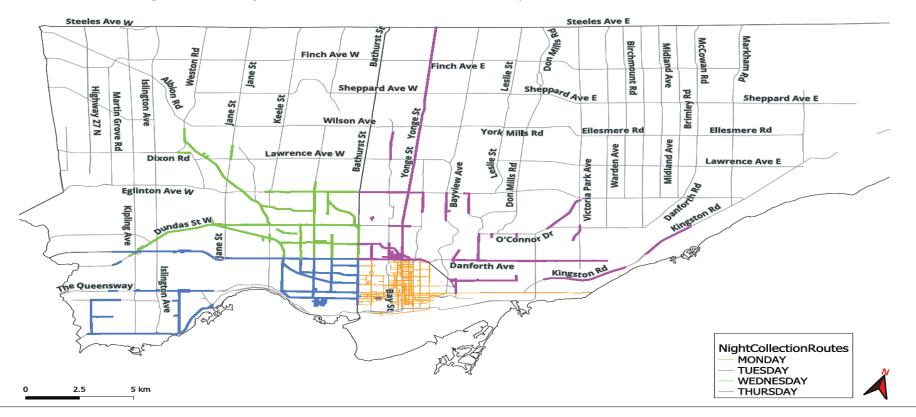
City Serviced vs. Non-City Serviced Customers

- Most residential homes and residential units above commercial buildings receive City waste collection, some may have chosen to opt-out of City service
- Not all commercial businesses and multi-residential building receive City waste collection services
- Commercial businesses and multi-residential buildings can choose not to receive City waste collection and can be serviced by a private waste collector
- To receive City collection services, small commercial businesses must meet eligibility criteria and complete an application



Future Night Collection Changes

A broader operational review of the City's entire nighttime collections operation will take place later this year through to early 2026, post Extended Producer Responsibility transition and as part of the Waste Strategy Update considerations (with any operational changes being implemented in 2026)





Extended Producer Responsibility - Recycling Changes

What are the changes to Toronto's recycling program for 2026?

- As of January 1, 2026, recycling services in Toronto will fully transition under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).
- Producers (companies that make packaging and paper products) will become responsible for collecting recycling for eligible sources.
- This change is happening across Ontario, not just Toronto
- The regulation allows Producer Responsibility
 Organizations PRO (e.g., Circular Materials) to represent Producers to help them meet their responsibilities.
- PROs contract the recycling services with Service Providers



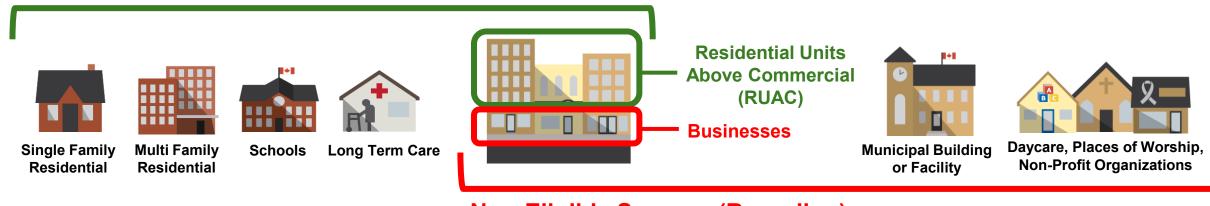


Extended Producer Responsibility – Who is affected?

Will the City still handle recycling as of January 1st 2026?

Eligible Sources (Recycling)

(City no longer collects recycling as of January 1, 2026)



Non-Eligible Sources (Recycling)
(City of Toronto continues to collect recycling after January 1, 2026)

City of Toronto will continue to collect all other waste streams that you normally receive collection of.



Extended Producer Responsibility - Impact

What are the other impacts to customers?



Collection Schedule

- In 2026, nighttime customers (residential & commercial) will still set out on the same night
- Long-term, producers set recycling schedules for eligible sources (residential)
- Truck volumes expected to balance out (fewer City trucks, more GFL trucks)



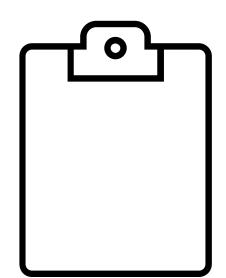
- Keep using your blue bin producers will rebrand bins with new stickers before 2026
- Bin repairs and requests will go through the producers service provider, not the City
- Residents will receive clear communications in late 2025 (postcards, ads, web updates)



- Keep using your blue bin (no rebranding)
- City of Toronto continue to provide recycling collection services and set schedule
- Bin repairs and requests continue to go through the City's 311 customer service



Public Consultation – Online Survey

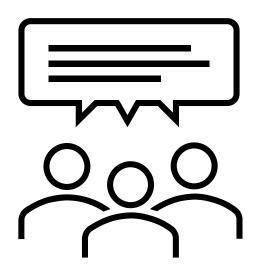


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Questions?



Thank you!

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