

August 12, 2015

**DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES REPORT
PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES 2015-49**

TO: Committee of the Whole
SUBJECT: Main Street – Waste Management Solutions
ORIGIN: Director, Public Works Services

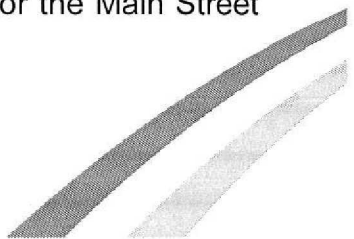
RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Development and Infrastructure Services Report Public Works Services – PWS 2015-49, dated August 4, 2015 regarding Main Street – Waste Management Solutions, be received and the following recommendation(s) be adopted:

- 1. THAT staff bring forward the purchase of new lids for the existing containers that have a larger opening to accept larger items during the 2016 draft capital budget requests;**
- 2. AND THAT staff send letters to the property owners and tenants advising that waste should only be placed out for collection on Tuesdays and Fridays by 6:00 a.m.;**
- 3. AND THAT staff bring forward the purchase of a mobile surveillance camera in the 2016 draft capital budget requests to provide evidence on the source of waste being left at the containers;**
- 4. AND THAT staff bring forward a proposal for weekend service for collection of waste in containers on Main Street from Water Street to Millard Avenue in the 2016 draft operating budget requests;**
- 5. AND THAT staff continue to explore options for waste collection improvements in the downtown core.**

BACKGROUND

This report has been prepared in response to Council's motion of June 1, 2015, that requested staff to prepare a report in 90 days on possible waste management solutions for the Main Street Area, specifically as it pertains to weekend waste storage and collection.



COMMENTS

An issue becoming more prevalent in the past few years is the accumulation and overflowing of debris on top of the waste containers on Main Street, especially in the downtown core. Presently, Main Street (from Water Street to Davis Drive), Cedar Street and Market Square receive curbside collection for waste, blue and green bin by the Town's solid waste contractor twice a week; Tuesdays and Fridays between 6:30 am and 8:00 am. These times were selected to minimize conflict with traffic and parking in the downtown area. In addition the Public Works Services Department provides a further service emptying the twenty (20) waste containers three more times a week; Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This enhanced level of service is not provided anywhere else in the Town.

The current lids on the waste containers are designed with a small opening to allow depositing of small items only and not grocery bags full of material, this contributes to material either being placed on top of the containers or on the sidewalk around the containers. Replacing the lids to allow for a larger opening should allow larger items/bags to be placed inside the containers.

The present service level still does not stop the "dumping/leaving" of the debris throughout the day, presumably by tenants occupying living areas above the businesses. This practice persists seven days a week as there is no waste storage area available for tenants within the buildings. Notices advising landlords and tenants were hand delivered by a BIA member in 2014 to each unit and notices were mailed to registered property owners at the same time indicating not to place material at the containers except for designated curbside collection days. Unfortunately this practice still takes place and decreases the aesthetics of the downtown core. Staff propose greater surveillance of this practice to determine the source of waste being left at containers.

The character and vibrancy of Main Street itself is changing, with many additional places to eat or purchase food items, longer hours and some businesses open seven days a week. An increase in the number of special events in the downtown core area also increases the demand on the waste containers outside of regular business hours and weekends.

Presently, there is no regularly scheduled weekend service provided by staff to empty the waste containers. It is only provided by exception if there is an approved road closure permit for an event on Main Street, where staff when setting up the traffic control devices for the closure will empty the waste containers and collect any bags/debris on Main Street. If the event draws large crowds, containers may fill up; however, they are not collected until the next regular business day. Weekend collection would improve the appearance of the downtown.

The Cedar Street and the downtown core area do not provide a suitable location for large bulk lift containers to be placed for tenants to use in the off hours because of the tight movement restrictions for the large garbage trucks required.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

No public consultation was obtained for this report.

BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES

Deliver affordable, efficient and effective solid waste collection services that meet or exceed provincially mandated requirements, Council, BIA and the public expectations, while promoting and encouraging solid waste diversion through recycling, composting, rethinking, reusing, reducing and implementing programs to achieve a realistic diversion rate and environmental protection.

HUMAN RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

None required at this time.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

Operating Budget (Current and Future)

Operating costs for staff to carry out collection of waste on weekends will be included in the 2016 draft Operating budget requests.

Capital Budget

Capital costs to change the waste container lids and purchase a mobile surveillance camera will be included in the 2016 draft Capital Budget requests.

CONTACT

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