



**City of Kingston
Report to Council
Report Number 19-217**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Sheila Kidd, Commissioner, Transportation & Public Works
Resource Staff: Heather Roberts, Director, Solid Waste Services
Date of Meeting: August 13, 2019
Subject: Amendment to Fees and Charges By-law to Remove Fees for Green Bin, Source Separated Organics at Schools

Executive Summary:

This report requests approval of an amendment to By-law Number 2005-10, "*A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended*", to remove all fees associated with the Solid Waste schedule for Source Separated Organics - Schools in Schedule "A".

The Solid Waste Services Department provides elementary and secondary schools in Kingston with access to the residential source separated organics program (Green Bin), for fees as established in By-law Number 2005-10.

Participation from schools is low because of the start-up costs, annual fees, and the lack of discretionary budget that is provided to the schools. The cost to the City to provide schools with Green Bin service is minimal and can be absorbed into the operating budget. Since most schools promote and enforce litter-free lunches, the food waste is already returning to the household and being managed in the residential garbage and/or Green Bin programs operated by the City.

Staff is recommending that the Green Bin fees for schools be removed to support the students' curriculum to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste, and take action on reducing greenhouse gases from organic waste sent to landfill.

The proposed change is in alignment with Council's Strategic Priority to *Demonstrate Leadership on Climate Action*, to enroll at least 20 schools into the Green Bin program by 2022.

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Recommendation:

That the By-law attached as Exhibit A to Report Number 19-217 be presented to amend By-law Number 2005-10, *“A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended”*, to remove the fees and charges to provide source separated organic services (Green Bin) to elementary and secondary schools in Kingston, to increase participation at schools; and

That the amending by-law be presented for all three readings to allow for the removal of the fees in time for the start of the 2019 school year.

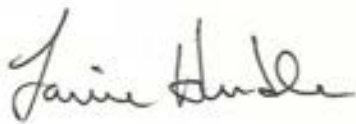
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Authorizing Signatures:



**Sheila Kidd, Commissioner,
Transportation & Public Works**



**Lanie Hurdle, Interim Chief
Administrative Officer**

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Peter Huigenbos, Acting Commissioner, Community Services	Not required
Jim Keech, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	OK
Deanne Roberge, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services	Not required

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Options/Discussion:**Background**

In 2012, the Solid Waste Services Department added fees to By-law Number 2005-10 "*A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended*", to provide curbside source separated organics (Green Bin) services to elementary and secondary schools located within the City of Kingston.

Connection to Council's Strategic Priorities

As part of Council's Strategic Priority to *Demonstrate Leadership on Climate Action*, the Solid Waste Department set a target to enroll at least 20 schools into the Green Bin program by 2022. Stopping organic waste from going to landfill reduces the release of carbon dioxide and methane (greenhouse) gases into the environment from the decay of organics buried in landfill.

Fees and Participation

The 2019 fees are \$27.74 for each Green Bin cart and \$3.19 for each classroom container, with fees of \$0.90 per secondary student or \$1.39 per elementary student.

To date, only six schools are using the Green Bin program. Schools have reported that they do not have the discretionary budget spending to cover the start-up or annual fees. The schools have between one to eight green bins each, with a kitchen container in each classroom. The average cost to supply a school with the required containers is about \$185. The average elementary school with 300 students pays an annual fee of about \$420.

Proposed Changes

Curriculum now includes units on sustainability with emphasis on the actions students can take to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste. Most of the schools have recycling programs for paper and plastic, but lack funds to operate a separation program for food and organic wastes. Kingston schools/students have expressed interest to have the Green Bin program to help them take action on climate change.

Staff is recommending that the fees for Source Separated Organics – Schools be removed from the fee schedule (Schedule "A") Solid Waste attached to By-law Number 2005-10, "*A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended*". This will allow schools to participate free of charge, and gives students the opportunity to learn how to properly manage waste and provides an opportunity for students to do their part to reduce greenhouse gases from waste sent to landfill.

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Consultation

Staff has informed the school boards of the potential removal of the Green Bin fees. The school boards are in support of this change and trust that the removal of fees will increase participation.

Next Steps

This report requests that the amending by-law be presented for all three readings to allow for the removal of fees to come into effect for the start of the 2019 school year. The department will work with the school boards and schools on an implementation plan to suit their needs.

Existing Policy/By-law:

By-law Number 2005-10 *"A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended"*.

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable.

Accessibility Considerations:

Not applicable.

Financial Considerations:

The Solid Waste Services operating budget contains sufficient funds to absorb the cost of providing Green Bin service to schools.

Contacts:

Lana Foulds, Director, Financial Services, 613-546-4291, Extension 2209

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Carl Smith, Supervisor of Collection, Solid Waste Services

Jason Hollett, Supervisor of Disposal, Solid Waste Services

Exhibits Attached:

Exhibit A: Proposed Changes to By-law Number 2005-10

By-law Number 2019-XX

A By-law to Amend By-law Number 2005-10 “A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended”

Passed: August XX, 2019

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Kingston hereby enacts as follows:

- 1. By-law Number 2005-10 of the Corporation of the City of Kingston entitled “A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges to be Collected by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, as Amended”, is hereby further amended as follows:
 - 1.1 Schedule “A” Solid Waste is hereby amended by removing the following therefrom:

Source Separated Organics – Schools	2019 Fees
Kitchen Containers (each)	\$3.19
Green Bins – small	\$18.32
Green Bins – large	\$27.74
Cost per student per year – elementary school	\$1.39
Cost per student per year – secondary school	\$0.90

Given All Three Readings and Passed August XX, 2019

John Bolognone
City Clerk

Bryan Paterson
Mayor