

DATE OF MEETING DECEMBER 4, 2023

AUTHORED BY JAMIE SLATER, MANAGER, FINANCIAL SERVICES & SPECIAL PROJECTS

SUBJECT **AMENDMENT TO RATES AND CHARGES FOR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To introduce “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15”, for first, second, and third reading.

### **Recommendation**

That:

1. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15” (a bylaw to set the solid waste collection rates for 2024) pass first reading;
2. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15” pass second reading; and
3. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15” pass third reading.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Nanaimo provides regular collection of organics, recyclables, and solid waste for disposal for residential properties throughout the City using automated curbside collection. This service is 100% funded by user fees.

## **DISCUSSION**

In order to recover the costs of collection, the rate for municipal curbside collection will require an increase of 3.2% in 2024. There are inflationary pressures that contribute to increased costs of this service including increases in fuel costs and rising interest costs of borrowing incurred for the automated curbside collection fleet.

The increase will be effective 2024-JAN-01, and is summarized in the table below:

Standard Fee	2023 Annual Fee	2024 Proposed Fee	\$ Change	% Change	2023 Daily Fee	2024 Proposed Daily Fee
Residential	\$221	\$228	\$7	3.17%	0.60547	\$0.62467

The additional fee for each garbage cart upsize would also increase by 3.2% for a total annual cost of \$105.

### **Lost, Damaged, or Disposal of Bins**

Staff are recommending adding an 'at cost' charge under Schedule 'A' to allow for a mechanism to charge for the replacement of a bin that has been lost, damaged or disposed of by a homeowner or resident. Current practice is to replace the bin (garbage, organics and/or recycling) at no charge to the homeowner. When the bin is damaged or lost at no fault of the homeowner or resident, Staff would not add a charge to the utility account.

### **Housekeeping change:**

During the year Staff identified a housekeeping change to the municipal solid waste collection bylaw that was noted for revision. Since the bylaw required an update for sewer rates, Staff took the opportunity to incorporate the following change to Section 18(1):

*Current bylaw:*

#### 18. Fees Discontinued

- (1) Fees for the Municipal Solid Waste Collection System will only be discontinued if:
  - (a) the premises are permanently vacated;
  - (b) the premises are temporarily rendered uninhabitable because of fire or other similar disaster; or
  - (c) because of extended temporary vacancy, the owner of the premises has obtained a water disconnect permit from the City, in which case charges will resume when water service is reconnected.

*Addition:*

- (2) In the event where the premises is permanently vacated or temporarily rendered uninhabitable, the charge will be adjusted and stopped as of the date the event happened, unless the written notification exceeds the one-year complaint time frame. |

### **OPTIONS**

#### 1. That:

"Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15" (a bylaw to set the solid waste collection rates for 2024) pass first reading;

"Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15" pass second reading; and

"Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128. 15" pass third reading.

- **Advantages:** The proposed rate utilizes a full cost recovery model for the provision of municipal collection services to the residents of Nanaimo.
- **Disadvantages:** The annual costs of municipal collection would increase by \$7 per residential household.

2. That Council deny first three readings to the “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, No. 7128.15”.
- **Advantages:** The annual costs of municipal collection would not increase by \$7 per residential household.
  - **Disadvantages:** There would not be full cost recovery for the provision of municipal collection services to the residents of Nanaimo. |

#### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The municipal collection service is funded 100% by user fees
- The collection fees are proposed to increase by 3.17% to provide for full cost recovery
- The annual impact to a single-family residential home will be an increase of \$7

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2023, NO. 7128.15. |

#### **Submitted by:**

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#### **Concurrence by:**

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