

Staff Report for Decision

DATE OF MEETING DECEMBER 1, 2025

AUTHORED BY ANA FRANCISCO, MANAGER, REVENUE SERVICES

SUBJECT 2026 AMENDMENT TO RATES AND CHARGES FOR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To introduce “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” for first, second, and third reading.

Recommendation

That:

1. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” (a bylaw to set the solid waste collection rates for 2026) pass first reading;
2. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” pass second reading; and
3. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” pass third reading.

BACKGROUND

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

DISCUSSION

User fees are calculated based on the projected cost to provide collection services which includes related activities such as public education for waste reduction and funding for the future replacement of the collection carts and refuse trucks.

The proposed 2026 rates will increase to \$253 per year. Cost pressures that are contributing to the increase includes tipping fees, wages and benefits increases, and the ongoing maintenance and asset management of the sanitation fleet.

The annual cost for an average residential property would change as follows:

2025 Annual Cost	Proposed 2026 Annual Cost	\$ Annual Change	% Annual Change
\$241.00	\$253.00	\$12.00	5%

The additional fee for each cart upsize would also increase by 5% for a total annual cost of \$116.53.

Housekeeping Changes

Proposed changes to section 9 are being made to clarify the language around additional waste to align with current practices.

Definitions

Added the definition for a “Dwelling Unit:

“means a habitable room consisting of a self-contained unit with a separate entrance for the residential accommodation of only one family and contains a cooking facility but excludes all accommodation for the travelling public other than a Short-Term Rental.”.

Current Bylaw:

9. Additional Waste

(1) Additional Waste for users receiving Automated Collection Services

- (1) A Basic Service User who requires additional garbage collected must request an upsized garbage cart from the City. Fees will apply as set out in schedule A.
- (2) The upsized garbage cart will be 120 litres larger than the standard cart; single family dwellings may increase their garbage cart size from 120 to 240 litres. Homes with secondary suites may increase their garbage cart size from 240 litres to 360 litres.
- (3) A Basic Service User who requires additional recycling collected must request an upsized recycling cart (or an additional cart) from the City. An Administrative Fee may apply, as set out in schedule A.
The upsized recycling cart will be 120 litres larger than the standard cart. Single family dwellings may increase their recycling cart size from 240 to 360 litres or request an additional cart. Homes with secondary suites may request an additional recycling cart of either 240 or 360 litre capacity.
There is no permitted upsize to the comingled organic waste cart.
A resident may opt to change the size of their carts once every 12 months.”

Proposed Amendment

9. Additional Waste

(1) Additional Waste for users receiving Automated Collection Services

- (1) A Basic Service User who requires additional garbage collected must request an upsized cart from the City. Fees will apply as set out in Schedule A.
 - i. Each dwelling unit shall be entitled to one standard upsize of 120 litres in garbage collection capacity.
- (2) A Basic Service User who requires additional recycling collected must request an upsized recycling cart (or an additional cart) from the City. Fees will apply as set out in Schedule A.
 - i. Each dwelling unit shall be entitled to one standard upsize of 120 litres in recycling collection capacity.
- (3) No upsizing of the organic waste cart is permitted.

(4) A Basic Service User may opt to change the size of their carts once every twelve months. Fees will apply as set out in Schedule A. |

OPTIONS

1. That:

1. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” (a bylaw to set the solid waste collection rates for 2026) pass first reading;
2. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” pass second reading; and
3. “Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17” pass third reading.

Advantages:

- The proposed rate was set based on a full cost recovery model for the provision of municipal solid waste collection services to the residents of Nanaimo.

Disadvantages:

- The annual cost of municipal solid waste collection for the average residential single-family property would increase by 5%, or \$12 annually.

2. That Council provide alternative direction. |

SUMMARY POINTS

- The municipal solid waste collection service is fully funded by user fees.
- The 2026 collection rates are proposed to increase to \$253.00 per year.
- The increase would allow the City to maintain full cost recovery.

ATTACHMENTS:

Municipal Solid Waste Collection Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7128.17. |

Submitted by:

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