



April 26, 2017

Chris Raynor, Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Sent via email

Dear Sir:

RE: LITTER PREVENTION (5.1)

This is to advise that Council of the City of Markham, at its meeting held on April 25, 2017, passed the following motion:

"Whereas the City of Markham is committed to being a sustainability leader and is committed to sustainable environmental practices as outlined in its Council approved Greenprint Sustainability Plan and Best of the Best Roadmap to 80% Diversion; and,

Whereas to meet our sustainability goals, the City must be bold and imaginative and not be afraid to make the tough decisions to move the City forward now and in the future; and,

Whereas the City of Markham and York Region provide integrated solid waste services to its residents that are designed to continually increase waste diversion, improve services to our residents, and support Markham's revised diversion target of 85%; and,

Whereas York Region requires the local municipalities to collect recyclables loose in Blue Boxes and prohibits the collection of recyclables in plastic bags which would reduce the amount of windblown litter and associated costs; and,

Whereas allowing residents to use bags for recyclables has many documented benefits such as allowing a higher volume of recyclables to be diverted at the curb, contains recyclables in our parks and public spaces; and reduces blue box litter on our streets; and,

Whereas York Region's 2014 report 'Assessment of the Installation of a Bag Breaker at the York Region Waste Management Facility' estimated Markham spends \$103,033 a year on litter clean-up; and all the local municipalities combined spend an estimated \$352,641 per year; and,

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Whereas a tinted blue clear bag or paper bag recycling option would reduce the amount of recyclables in the residue stream, protect recyclables from inclement weather, prevent material from blowing onto residential streets as litter, increase participation and diversion and reduce clean-up costs; and,

Now therefore be it hereby resolved:

- 1) That Council respectfully requests that York Region and City of Markham under their respective Waste Management departments report back on all options and costs for permitting residents to use tinted blue clear bag or paper bag recycling option in town home units, single family homes, multi-residential units and public spaces thereby reducing processing residue, increasing diversion and eliminating blue box litter; and,
- 2) That this Motion be circulated to all York Region municipalities."

Sincerely,



Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk

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cc. All York Region Municipalities (Sent via email)