

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MAY 22, 2001

PET WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS FOR PARKS

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Public Works, recommends:

That this report be received for information purposes.

Purpose

At the request of Council, staff were directed to report on the cost to install Lipa Dog Toilets in City of Vaughan parks (Committee of the Whole Report No. 11, Item 33, February 12, 2001).

Background

Lipa Dog Toilets are stand-alone units that are designed to assist pet owners with the proper disposal of animal feces in parks and open space settings. These units have a storage compartment for plastic bags on top, with a container for disposal of the bag, at the bottom (see attachments). The units are set into the ground, with concrete poured into the holes for support.

Staff contacted the supplier of Lipa Dog Toilets and the supplier has indicated that the cost of the unit is \$1,199.95 each, and a case of bags is \$129.00, both prices exclude the federal Goods and Sales Tax. To outfit each existing park and parkette in the City with a single Lipa Dog Toilet, the cost would be approximately \$192,550, excluding the purchase of the bags, and excluding installation costs.

There are a number of related products available, and most of them are significantly less expensive than the Lipa Dog Toilet. Most are containers designed to hold plastic bags, and some of them offer special disposal containers to dispose of the pet feces. The problems with all of these systems, including the Lipa Dog Toilet, are

- potential vandalism to the bag container;
- potential for the plastic bags to be littered around the park;
- the odour from a separate feces container;
- the need to empty the containers on a year round basis; and,
- the ongoing costs to supply bags all year round.

The cost of the Lipa Dog Toilet is a significant concern with respect to vandalism. At over \$1,200 each, replacement of damaged units would be prohibitive. As for the littering of plastic bags, this is a concern that Parks & Forestry staff have with all of these types of units. Vandalism results in increased maintenance costs to clean the parks, increased complaints from residents, and the increased costs to replenish the bags.

Notwithstanding the above, staff are continuing to research and investigate the various types of pet care stations available, and may try to obtain some units on a trial basis for the summer.

Conclusion

The cost to purchase Lipa Dog Toilets for all of the City's parks and parkettes is approximately \$192,550, excluding installation costs.

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Staff will continue to look into alternatives, and should Council wish to pursue the installation of Lipa Dog Toilets, or any other brand of pet care station, in its parks, staff will submit a request for funding as part of the 2002 Capital Budget process.

Attachments

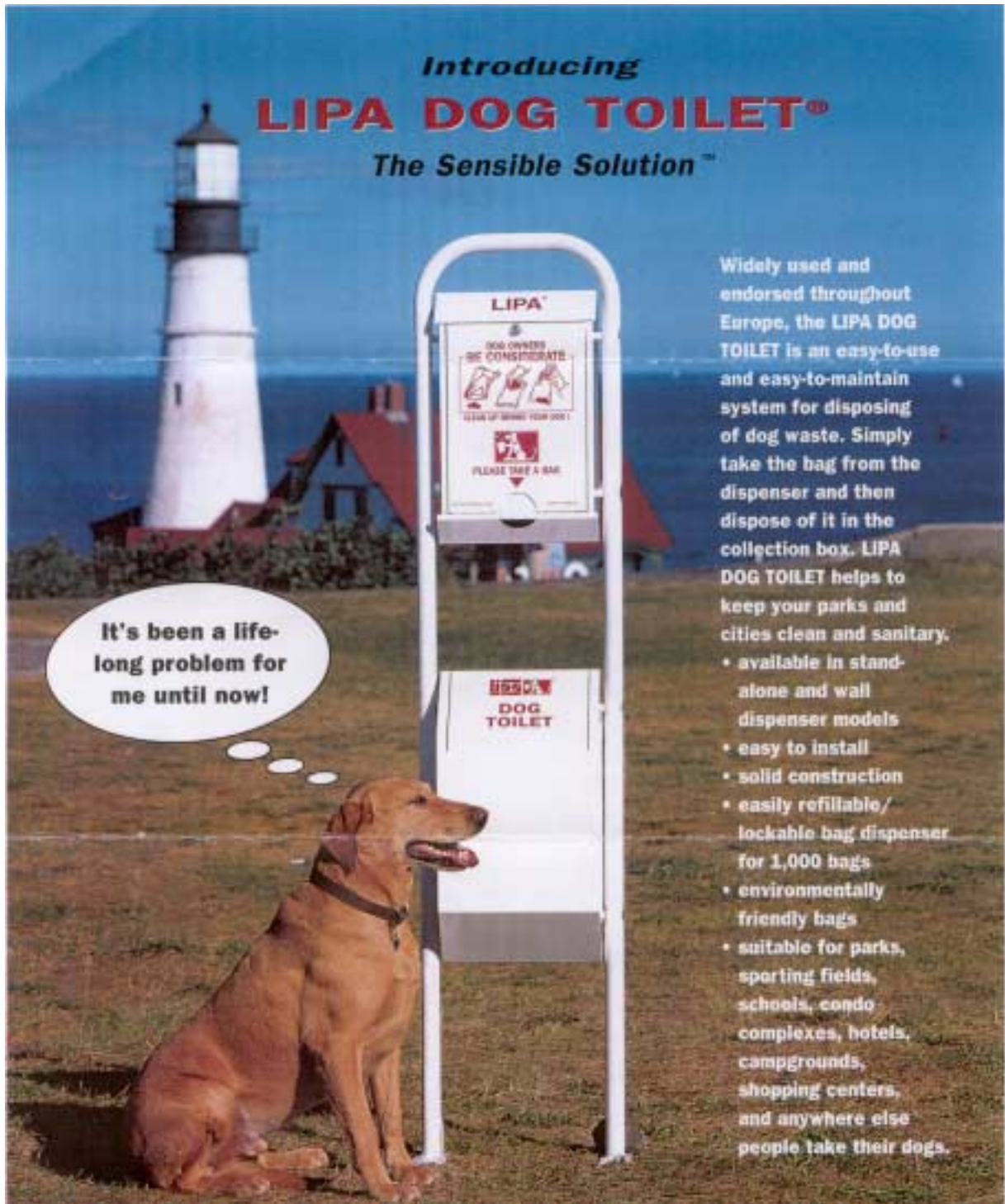
- Lipa Dog Toilet Brochure (2 pages)

Report prepared by: Brian T. Anthony, Director of Public Works, ext. 6116

Respectfully submitted,

G. Doris Haas
Commissioner of Community Services

BTA/



Introducing
LIPA DOG TOILET®
The Sensible Solution™

Widely used and endorsed throughout Europe, the LIPA DOG TOILET is an easy-to-use and easy-to-maintain system for disposing of dog waste. Simply take the bag from the dispenser and then dispose of it in the collection box. LIPA DOG TOILET helps to keep your parks and cities clean and sanitary.

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- solid construction
- easily refillable/lockable bag dispenser for 1,000 bags
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- suitable for parks, sporting fields, schools, condo complexes, hotels, campgrounds, shopping centers, and anywhere else people take their dogs.

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DOG OWNERS BE CONSIDERATE
PLEASE TAKE YOUR DOG WASTE
PLEASE TAKE A BAG
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LIPA DOG TOILET STANDING MODEL
Includes Bag Dispenser, Disposal Bin
and Installation Hardware

LIPA WALL DISPENSER MODEL
Includes Bag Dispenser for 1,000 Bags
and Installation Hardware for mounting on wall

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BOX OF 500 DISPOSAL BAGS

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LIPA DOG TOILET is 74" tall and 16 1/4" wide. The frame, the bag dispenser and disposal unit are made of galvanized, powder-coated steel. The bag dispenser holds a maximum of 1,000 bags and has a lockable front door. The disposal bin is easily emptied by opening the hinged door on the back of the bin.

SPECIFICATIONS

Materials:	Galvanized, powder-coated steel
Dimensions:	Total height above ground 74"
	Frame steel tube bore 1 1/2"
	Bag Dispenser 12 x 20 1/4 x 4 1/8"
	Capacity: 1,000 bags
	Disposal Bin 12 3/4 x 23 1/2 x 9 5/8"
Foundation:	Steel tube frame and bolts
Color:	White with Red Graphics
Installation:	LIPA DOG TOILET is easily installed upon delivery. Each model comes with complete easy-to-follow installation instructions.

