

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – NOVEMBER 19, 2001

BY-LAW 350-94 – AMENDMENT GARBAGE BY-LAW/MAJOR APPLIANCES

Recommendation

The Director of Legal Services and the Director of Public Works, in consultation with the Senior Manager of By-law Enforcement, recommend:

1. That Section 4(b) of By-law 350-94, being a by-law to regulate and govern the disposal of garbage, be amended by adding the phrase “or the safety of any person” at the end of the Section, to read as follows:
 - b) the householder shall not deposit or permit the deposit upon any lands belonging to the householder, in the householder’s occupation or under the householder’s control of any garbage, or any material or thing which may endanger public health, or the safety of any person.
2. That Section 1 (I) of the definitions be deleted, and replaced with the following wording: “Director” means the Director of Public Works.”

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to amend the Garbage Bylaw regarding major appliance pickup, and reflect the proper title of the Director of Public Works.

Background - Analysis and Options

Public Works staff and By-law Enforcement staff are finding that major appliances are being placed at the curbside with the doors still attached, or are being placed out for collection without the owner having called for an appointment for pickup. Some appliances are placed at the curbside well before the scheduled pick up date, resulting in complaints to staff and Council.

The Disposal of Garbage By-law, By-law 350-94, as amended, outlines the roles and responsibilities of both the City and the residents with respect to waste collection, including the disposal of major appliances. In addition to specifying times that materials may be placed out for collection, the by-law requires that the doors be removed prior to placing the appliance at the curbside in order to avoid a safety hazard.

Residents are advised regarding the proper collection procedures for appliances, by collection schedules that are sent to residents twice per year, by advertisements placed in local newspapers, and information posted on the City’s web site. Residents must telephone and make an appointment for pickup and must not place the appliance at the curbside until 6:00 pm the evening before the scheduled pickup.

In an attempt to reduce the number of major appliances placed at the curbside with doors still attached, therefore creating a safety hazard, the By-Law Enforcement Department and the Public Works Department are prepared to embark on a joint effort to both educate householders on their requirements to phone in for an appointment, and, make safe any appliances placed out for collection in an unsafe manner.

This joint effort would see the By-Law Enforcement and Waste Management staff attend to the location of an improperly disposed of appliance and secure the appliance door with a resilient

tape. In addition, a bright orange notice would be attached to the appliance that would include instructions to the resident on how to properly dispose of the item. Together, this should resolve any safety concerns with children being closed in an appliance, and would inform the residents on the proper procedures for appliance collection. Through this effort, the community will be safer, and it should result in fewer appliances being placed out for collection without an appointment.

Conclusion

The joint effort between the City's By-law Enforcement Department and the City's Public Works Department will result in a safer community, and more informed residents.

The amendment to the by-law will allow By-law Enforcement Officers to issue tickets to ensure compliance of safe disposal of household appliances. The change in wording from "Director of Operations", to "Director of Public Works", will reflect the proper title of staff.

Attachments

None

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Respectfully submitted,

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