

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MAY 28, 2007

WASTE COLLECTION ZONE CHANGES

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. That the proposed collection zone changes be implemented the week of September 10, 2007 to coincide with the launch of Greening Vaughan Phase 3; and,
2. This report be received for information.

Economic Impact

The costs to implement this change are largely covered through existing communications programs. For example, a Greening Vaughan update brochure is scheduled to go out prior to Phase 3 implementation, and as such, there will be no additional cost to advertise this change through this medium. Similarly, mobile signs will be used to advertise the Phase 3 changes. Wording to reflect the change in collection days will be added at no additional cost. Any costs to implement the proposed zone change can be covered in the draft 2007 operating budget.

Communications Plan

City staff will aggressively advertise the collection zone changes, in conjunction with Phase 3 of Greening Vaughan, through a myriad of avenues, including:

- a door-to-door campaign (staff to create a neighbourhood-specific door hanger) conducted in late summer to affected neighbourhoods
- distribution (mail-out) of Greening Vaughan newsletter (Issue 6) in late August early September, 2007
- mobile signs erected in affected neighbourhoods
- newspaper advertisements in local papers
- participation in community events such as Bindertwine, Concerts in the Park etc.
- Access Vaughan staff informing residents of pending changes

Purpose

The purpose of the collection zone changes is to provide more balanced collection zones to ensure waste collection efficiencies are met both now and in the future.

Background - Analysis and Options

Although the collection zones were altered in a minor way in 1998, the current collection zones, as shown in Attachment 1, have been in place for more than a dozen years.

In 2007, the City is providing collection services to approximately 67,400 residential curbside dwelling units. Currently, all collections occur on a weekly basis, over a period of 4 collection days per week. It is anticipated that by 2010, the number of dwelling units requiring municipal collection services will swell to approximately 88,400. This represents an increase of approximately 31% in 3 years.

The current collection zones (shown in Attachment 1) are significantly out of balance and continue to become more skewed as residential developments proceed in the City, primarily in blocks 11, 12, 18, 33, and 39.

Prior to developing the revised collection zones, staff put forth several ground rules that had to be met in order that the proposed collection zones be considered. These requirements are as follows:

1. Where possible, proposed collection zone boundaries are to be delineated by concession blocks.
2. Where possible, proposed collection zones are to minimize the impact to the majority of residents receiving municipal collections.
3. Proposed collection zones must be easy to convey in printed material and easy to understand by residents.
4. Proposed collection zones are to be configured (i.e. balanced) in such a way as to minimize alterations to collection zones over the next 5 to 10 years.
5. Proposed collection zones be agreeable to both the City and its' collection contractor.

In order to determine possible collection zone configurations, City staff obtained current residential dwelling unit counts, on a per block basis, from PowerStream. The City's Engineering Department supplemented this data by providing projected growth rate data for the affected blocks, on a per block and per year basis. Growth rate figures were provided up to the year of 2010 inclusive.

With the ground rules and data in place staff, in conjunction with its contractor, developed a viable configuration for new collection zones. As shown in Attachment 2, the proposed collection zones meet all the requirements stipulated above. Similar to the existing collection map, the proposed collection map shows 4 collection zones, with each collection zone divided into "Week 1" and "Week 2". Unlike the current collection map, the collection zone boundaries are delineated by the centre line of the road. As an example, the boundary between the Wednesday and Tuesday collection zone is, in part, Pine Valley Drive. Those residents residing on the west side of Pine Valley Dr. would receive collections Wednesday, whereas those residents residing on the east side of Pine Valley Dr. would receive collections on Tuesday.

Waste and Recycling collections at multi-unit residential dwellings (i.e. condominiums) are not affected by the collection zone changes presented in this report. Multi-unit residential establishments will continue to receive municipal collection services as per their normal schedule.

After developing the revised collection zones, staff had to consider what the most appropriate time was to launch these changes. Phase 3 of Greening Vaughan starts the week of September 10, 2007. Phase 3 introduces every other week garbage collection. Further, the City's current collection schedule is valid until September 2007, at which time a new calendar will be issued. Although each one of the anticipated changes (i.e. collection zones and every other week garbage collection) will result in an increase of calls from residents, it was felt that it would be advantageous to harmonize these changes such that they fell upon the same week (September 10, 2007). In so doing, City staff can maximize the use of Waste Management's summer and fall students and the City will save a considerable amount of money but not having to issue an interim collection schedule prior to September.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by council, specifically:

- A-1 "Pursue Excellence in the Delivery of Core Services"
- A-5 "Plan and Manage Growth"
- D-1 "Enhance Productivity and Cost Effectiveness"

D-4 "Communicate Effectively"

Regional Implications

There are no Regional implications in implementing the collection zone changes.

Conclusion

The proposed collection zones are required to achieve more balanced collections for the four designated collection days. The reconfiguration has taken into account future growth, and as such, it is not anticipated that the collection zones, as presented, will require any significant alteration within the next 5 – 10 years.

In an effort to maximize the use of Public Works (Waste Management) summer / fall students, and to minimize costs to the City, the launch of the collection zone change is recommended to be synonymous to that of Phase 3 Greening Vaughan. To that end, the week of September 10, 2007 will bring upon every other week garbage collection and the proposed changes to the collection zones.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Existing Collection Zones

Attachment 2: New Collection Zone Changes

Report prepared by

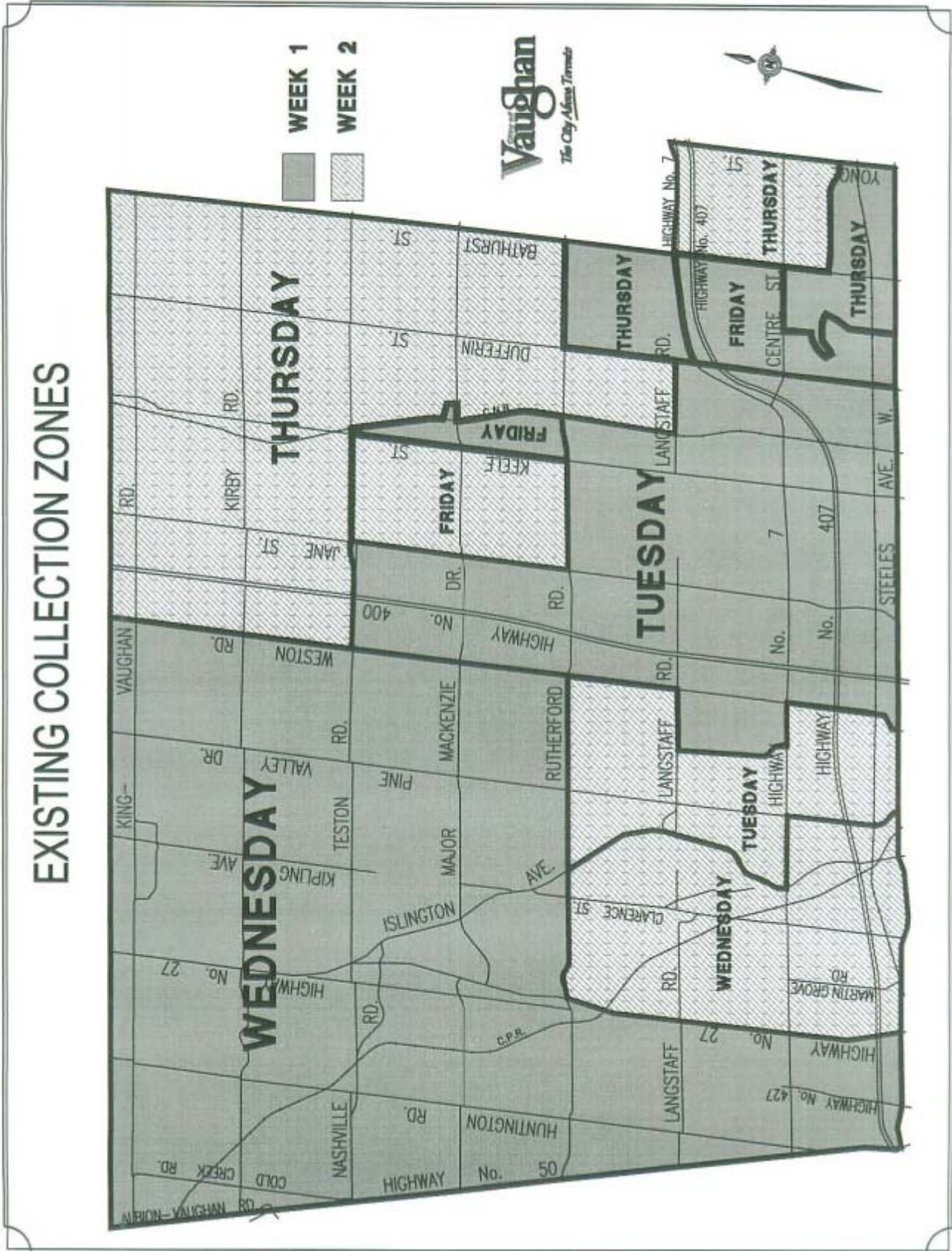
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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment 1: Existing Collection Zones



Attachment 2: Proposed Collection Zone Changes

