

# Report to Council



**Date:** November 4, 2024  
**To:** Council  
**From:** City Manager  
**Subject:** Curbside Waste Collection for Infill Housing  
**Department:** Utility Services

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the Report from Utility Services dated November 4, 2024, with regards to curbside waste collection for infill housing;

AND THAT Bylaw 12704, Amendment No. 15 to the Solid Waste Management Regulation Bylaw 10106, be forwarded for reading consideration.

## **Purpose:**

To amend the Solid Waste Management Regulation Bylaw to adapt the curbside collection program to more easily accommodate infill housing.

## **Council Priority Alignment:**

Affordable Housing

## **Background:**

Staff have been working to develop modifications to curbside waste collection practices and user requirements for the City's residential waste collection program since the province announced the Infill Housing Program in 2023. Two of the key concerns identified relating to infill housing are to;

- a) ensure adequate storage for waste and collection carts on user's properties, and
- b) prevent overloading of carts in alley ways that could impede collection and vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycling traffic lanes.

To evaluate the appropriate allocation of shared carts, staff visited areas of infill from the RU7 zoning and reviewed historical landfill data. While infill housing is not expected to increase the amount of residential garbage produced per household, an overall decrease in green waste is anticipated. This is due to less yard space and vegetation on higher density infill lots.

Staff contacted other municipalities that have undergone densification to assess what collection service modifications have been implemented. Based on their feedback and guidance documents, Zoning Bylaw 12375 was amended on March 18, 2024, to ensure that minimum storage requirements for waste containers on-site were considered for infill development sites.

### Discussion:

The standard curbside collection carts supplied for each dwelling in the curbside program are 120 litre (L) garbage cart, 240L yard waste cart, and 240L recycling cart.

It is recommended to have infill properties share carts as per the table below:

Number of Residential Dwelling Units	Garbage Cart	Yard Waste Cart	Recycling Cart
1	one 120L	one 240L	one 240L
2	one 240L	one 240L	two 240L
3	one 360L	one 240L	two 240L
4	two 240L	two 240L	two 360L
5	one 240L and one 360L	two 240L	two 360L
6	two 360L	two 240L	two 360L

The proposed shared cart allocations will maintain the volume of garbage capacity for each dwelling unit at the current level of service, while adjusting the yard waste capacity per infill unit. These volumes are generally consistent with City of Vancouver guidelines. The shared carts allocation will be monitored and may be adjusted in future bylaw amendments.

Some expected benefits of implementing shared carts include:

- Consistent with the ability to upsize carts and access Tag-a-Bag system;
- Lower program costs as the city will purchase fewer carts for same level of service;
- Less storage required for carts on the property and along laneways;
- Improved access to travel lanes for all modes of transport;
- More efficient waste collection for curbside collection contractor; and
- Expected to meet future need if food waste diversion is implemented.

Some expected challenges of implementing shared carts include:

- Potential for neighbor conflict if one "overuses" a cart;
- Shared accountability for storage and placement on collection day; and
- Unknown impacts from 2026 transition to RecycleBC providing collection services.

The proposed amendments will require infill and strata properties to perform annual education on appropriate waste sorting to minimize contamination and maximize recovery. There will also be a requirement to store and manage bulky waste in a timely fashion and minimize illegal dumping in the urban infill areas. This program has been used successfully in the City of Burnaby for many years.

Finally, the current Bylaw includes job titles that no longer exist due to city re-organizations. Staff recommend changing these to the title of "Manager" and align to other Utility Service bylaw definitions.

**Conclusion:**

The Solid Waste Management Regulation Bylaw requires minor amendments to adapt the City's curbside collection program to the Infill Housing Program by requiring adequate onsite storage and shared carts be used at infill properties.

**Internal Circulation:**

Development Planning  
Development Engineering  
Revenue

**Considerations applicable to this report:*****Consultation and Engagement:***

This proposed shared cart concept was discussed with staff at the RDCO Waste Reduction Office and the regional Solid Waste Technical Advisory committee. The curbside contractor was also contacted and believes that there is potential for improved collection efficiency with this service delivery model.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:*****Legal/Statutory Authority:******Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:******Existing Policy:******Financial/Budgetary Considerations:******Communications Comments:***

Submitted by: S. Hoekstra, Manager, Landfill and Compost Operations

Reviewed by: K. Van Vliet, Manager, Utility Services

Approved for inclusion: M. Logan, General Manager, Infrastructure

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - BL No 12704- Amendment 15 for Solid Waste Management Regulation Bylaw No. 10106

cc: Revenue Supervisor, Revenue