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Town of Aurora  
**Information Report**  
No. OPS23-017

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**Subject:** Bag Tag Program - Update

**Prepared by:** Amanda Cutler, Coordinator, Waste & Recycling

**Department:** Operational Services

**Date:** July 4, 2023

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**In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any Member of Council may request that this Information Report be placed on an upcoming General Committee or Council meeting agenda for discussion.**

## **Executive Summary**

In response to the direction from Council, staff are presenting this report for information on the current Bag Tag Program that has been in place since January 1, 2022. The report provides information in the following areas:

- Inquires to Operations have been minor as the Bag Tag Program rolls into its second year.
- The Bag Tag Program has continued to see a reduction of waste collected at the curb.

## **Background**

Operational Services prepared Report No. OPS21-010 Residential Waste Bag Program, which was presented to Council on July 6, 2021, with staff recommendations being endorsed by Council on July 13, 2021.

## **Analysis**

**Inquires to Operations have been minor as the Bag Tag Program rolls into its second year.**

As the Bag Tag Program moves into its second year, there have been no major complaints about the program. There were a handful of calls inquiring where to

purchase the bags tags or reasons why certain items were not collected, such as demolition or hazardous waste. But since the program was implemented on January 1, 2022, the calls have decreased significantly, and residents are educated and aware on how to utilize the Bag Tag Program if needed.

**The Bag Tag Program has continued to see a reduction of waste collected at the curb.**

Staff completed another comparison in the total solid waste collected during the months of January to April 2023. The results are showing a net reduction of 39 metric tonnes being collected to date in 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 for savings of \$4,160. This is a positive trend and staff will continue to monitor and compare tonnage each year end.

Year	Month	Total Tonnes Collected
2022	January	425.93
2022	February	348.20
2022	March	402.40
2022	April	438.83
	<b>2022 Total</b>	<b>1615.36</b>
2023	January	397.52
2023	February	378.84
2023	March	368.49
2023	April	431.51
	<b>2023 Total</b>	<b>1576.36</b>

During 2022, the Bag Tag Program has brought in \$17,800 revenue. Staff anticipate similar revenue in 2023 as month over month is tracking similar to 2023.

**Advisory Committee Review**

None.

## Legal Considerations

None.

## Financial Implications

### Cost Breakdown - Total Revenue vs Total Expenditures:

#### Expenditures:

\$1,950 Artwork and design of the bag tags

\$1,750 Mobile Signs

\$1,150 Calendar insert

\$5,055.20 GFL collection cost (assuming the average weight of the bag is 30lbs.)

Calculation – 30lbs converted to tonnes = 0.014 tonnes

GFL cost per ton is \$101.59

Total number of bag tags sold 3,560

$0.014 \times \$101.59 = \$1.42$  per bag

$3560 \text{ bags} \times \$1.42 = \$5,055.20$

**TOTAL Expenditures \$9,905.20**

Based on the total expenditures, the final revenue amount is **\$7,894.80**.

$\$17,800 - \$9,905.20 = \$7,894.80$

Furthermore, the operational revenues of \$7,894.80, will be redirected towards increased waste management costs and other operating budget pressures.

## Communications Considerations

The Town will inform the public about the information contained in this report by posting it to the Town's website. The Communications division will also continue to promote the Bag-Tag program through regular communications channels.

## **Climate Change Considerations**

The recommendations from this report do not impact greenhouse gas emissions or impact climate change adaptation.

## **Link to Strategic Plan**

Bag Tags reinforce the Strategic Plan goal of Supporting Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability for all through its accomplishment in satisfying requirements in the following key objectives within this goal statement:

Encouraging the stewardship of Aurora's natural resources: Assess the merits of measuring the Town's natural capital assets.

## **Alternative(s) to the Recommendation**

None.

## **Conclusions**

During the rollout of the Program, there were a handful of complaints as expected; however, as the Bag Tag Program progressed throughout the year inquiries subsided significantly. Staff are confident that residents of Aurora are familiar and understand the function of the implementation of the Bag Tag Program.

## **Attachments**

None.

## **Previous Reports**

OPS21-010 Residential Waste Bag Program, July 6, 2021

OPS20-005 Waste Collection Limits, March 24, 2020

## **Pre-submission Review**

Agenda Management Team review on June 14, 2023

## **Approvals**

**Approved by Sara Tienkamp, Director, Operational Services**

**Approved by Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer**