

Calgary



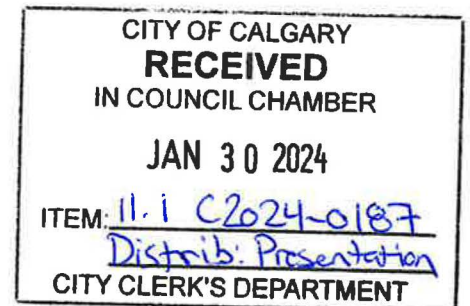
# Choose to reduce single-use items



## Single-use Items Bylaw Update

January 30, 2024

ISC: Unrestricted





# Recommendation



That Council:

1. Receive this presentation for information.

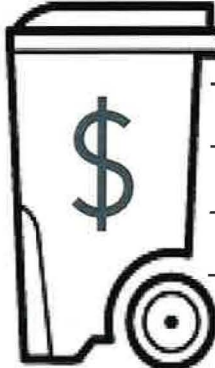
# Why does The City of Calgary have a Single-use Items Bylaw?

Each week in Calgary over 15 million single-use items are thrown in the garbage.



- 3.5 million plastic shopping bags
- 6.4 million plastic utensils
- 2.4 million takeout containers
- 2.4 million disposable cups

There are costs associated with these items that are only used once or not at all.



- Landfill costs and liability
- Recycling and composting costs
- Contamination costs
- Lifecycle costs

Reducing our use of single-use items mitigates the climate, environmental and financial costs associated with producing, distributing, managing and disposing of these materials.





# Single-Use Items Reduction Strategy Timeline



Educating and Supporting Calgarians and Businesses



## What does this mean for Calgarians?

### Only receive single-use items you need:

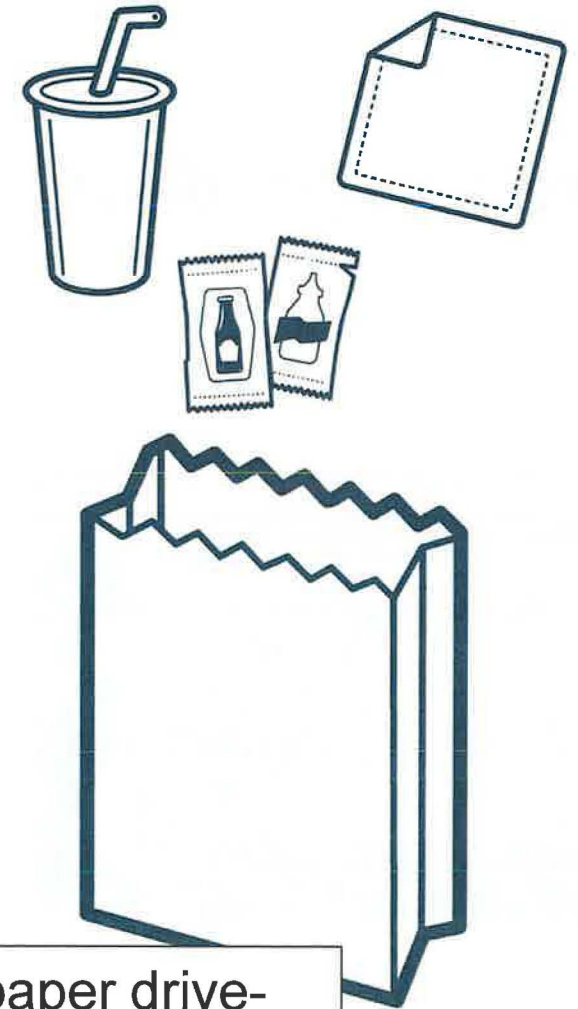
- Take or receive napkins, utensils and other foodware accessories only when you need them (no fee).
- Avoid the bag fee by bringing your own bag or skipping the bag altogether.
- Keep a washable container or insulated bag in your vehicle for use at the drive-thru.
- Pay for a single-use shopping or take-out bag when you need one.





## What happens at a drive-thru?

- Customer is asked if they need a bag and what foodware accessories they need.
- If a bag is not needed, a serving tray is used to make it easier and sanitary to hand over individual food items.
- No fees for any wrapping that is in direct contact with the food, i.e. burger wrappers or fry boxes.
- No fees for bags less than 400 sq cm (e.g. baked good or fry bags).

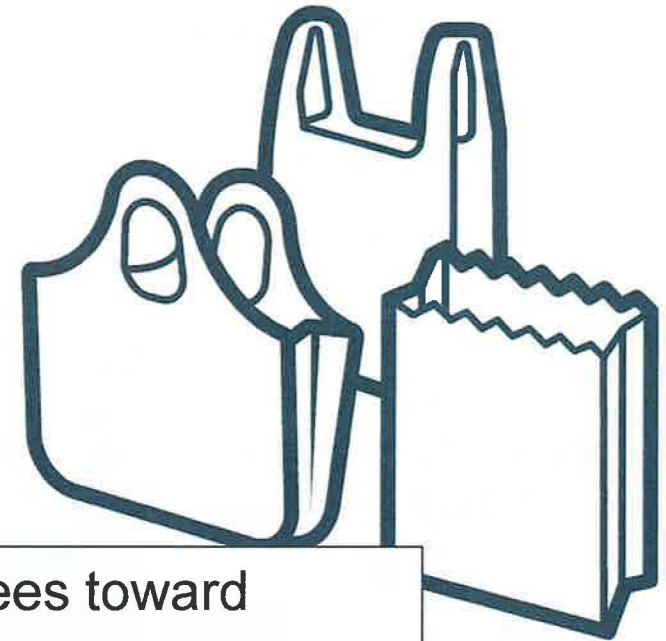


An estimated 850,000 – 1 million paper drive-thru bags are distributed each week in Calgary

# Supporting local businesses and their role

## Businesses shared the importance of:

- Creating a level playing field.
- Offsetting the costs of transitioning to more expensive and reusable alternatives.
- Providing education materials for customers and staff to support the change.



Encouraging businesses to direct fees toward waste reduction initiatives





# Engaging Calgarians and businesses

## Calgarians:

- Posters, till toppers, drive-thru signage
- Media campaign Nov 1, 2023 – Jan 31, 2024
- Social and web content
- Community events and information booths

## Businesses:

- Bylaw guide, handouts for staff
- Drive-thru guidelines
- Direct letter and email to businesses
- Door to door visits, workshops
- Media campaign Sept 5 – Dec 15, 2023



**Need help?**  
[calgary.ca/singleuse](http://calgary.ca/singleuse)  
Contact **311**





# Recommendations

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1. Receive this presentation for information.