



**Report  
Number:** C2024-0199

**Meeting:** Regular Meeting of Council

**Meeting Date:** 2024 January 30

## NOTICE OF MOTION

**RE: Repeal of the Single-Use Items Bylaw**

**Sponsoring Councillor(s):** Cllr Wyness, Cllr Chabot, Cllr McLean, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Chu, Cllr Wong

WHEREAS the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta have pending regulations, policies and programs relating to waste management and single-use items. These regulations will have social, environmental, and economic consequences and benefits for how individuals and businesses use and dispose of these items and how the City of Calgary manages and guides effective waste management. The City of Calgary's Single-Use Items Bylaw was prematurely designed, approved and implemented.

AND WHEREAS at the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting of Council, a rationale given for the fees charged on paper and re-usable bags was to help businesses pay for alternative bagging options. It has not been the role of municipalities to mandate fees to private companies relating to policy areas where decisions by other orders of government have impacted business' bottom lines. At the same meeting, a rationale for the 'by request' policy is to help businesses save money by distributing less single-use items. This bylaw fails to consider the impact on regular Calgarians.

AND WHEREAS consumption behaviour is complex, extends well beyond the scope of this policy and needs to have clear, aligned and practical approaches. This bylaw does not ensure that compostable, recyclable and re-usable items are maximized for re-use and re-manufacturing.

AND WHEREAS the Single-Use Items Bylaw selectively applies a cost to Calgarians on paper bags and re-usable bags. This fee does not comprehensively or effectively address the social, environmental, and economic impacts of single-use items or the bylaw itself. It is mis-aligned with pending waste management efforts of other levels of governments and has created a profit line for businesses and is an inflationary policy.

AND WHEREAS the selective fees and 'by request' policies have created confusion for businesses when fees should be charged, and sensibly when single-use items should be given to customers. Misapplication of the bylaw cannot be effectively enforced given the scale of businesses and daily transactions it applies to nor is this an effective use of city resources.

AND WHEREAS the bylaw lacks clear data collection, metrics and reporting to determine if selective fees and 'by request' policies have the intended social, environmental, and economic benefits.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to:

1. Advertise and bring forward the Bylaw for a public hearing to consider its repeal.
2. Develop a clear evaluation framework for collecting and reporting on the strategy.
3. Develop waste management infrastructure and communication for diversion options.

NOTICE OF MOTION

a. focus of single-use items alternative waste management options – accessibility of blue and green bins in city spaces.

4. Provide a report to Council no later than March 31, 2024.

