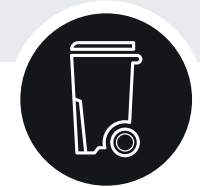




Evolution of Waste & Recycling Services residential service and financial model



Residential service

The Blue Cart Program is rolled out to single-family households to complement the existing community recycling depot program.

2009

Black carts are introduced to replace garbage bag collection (collected by hand).

2011-12

The number of community recycling depots (CRDs) is reduced from 52 to 17 following updates to diversion bylaws and programs. This lowers program costs while maintaining access for Calgarians.

2016-21

The Green Cart Program is rolled out to provide curbside collection and the processing of food and yard waste.

2018

Extended Producer Responsibility is introduced province-wide, shifting the responsibility and costs for recycling to producers. This reduces the costs for municipalities and residents.

2024



Financial model

The Blue Cart Program charge is established based on the cost of providing the cart service, and a waste management fee is established to fund the processing costs for residential garbage.

2009

The WRS sustainment reserve is created (combining four existing reserves into one) to provide contingency for operations.

2011

Separate green cart and black cart charges are introduced, and are calculated based on the cost of operating the services. These charges replace the waste management fee and WRS relinquishes \$20M in property tax funding.

2018-19

WRS relinquishes a total of \$12M in property tax funding by optimizing the CRD program and other efficiencies. WRS sets a new reserve target based on 120 days of operations and maintenance.

2019-23

The Council User Fee policy is amended to better align customer benefits with the fees charged.

2024

As a result of Extended Producer Responsibility, the Blue Cart Program monthly charge is reduced from \$9.34 to \$2.17 (77%) and WRS relinquishes \$0.5M in property tax funding.

2025-26