



Scoping Report on Reducing Waste from Single-Use Items

UCS2019-0370

ISC: Unrestricted

Standing Policy Committee on Utilities and Corporate Services

15 May 2019





Waste & Recycling Services Trends

Waste & Recycling Services Outlook for 2018 to 2025 (UCS2018-0153)

Trend #1: Increasing customer expectations

Trend #2: Changing market standards for recycled materials

Trend #3: Increasing contamination of recyclables

Trend #4: Decreasing tonnage of waste for disposal

Trend #5: Advancing technology

The plan for achieving 70% by 2025

Waste & Recycling Services Outlook for 2018 to 2025 (UCS2018-0153)





Previous Council Direction

On 2018 May 28, as part of the Waste & Recycling Services Outlook for 2018 to 2025 (UCS2018-0153), Council directed Administration:

“to undertake a scoping report that investigates options and unintended consequences for significantly reducing waste, “avoidable” plastic waste, and single-use items, engage citizens and waste generators, and the costs of doing this work, and report back to the SPC on Utilities and Corporate Services with a scoping report no later than Q2 2019.”

Single-Use Items

These are convenience items, typically distributed by businesses with other purchases, that are designed to be used once before being thrown away.



Take-out Containers

- Plastic containers
- Styrofoam containers



Disposable Cups

- Plastic drink cups
- Foam cups
- Plastic lids
- Paper coffee and fountain pop cups



Plastic Utensils

- Plastic spoons, forks, knives
- Plastic stir sticks
- Coffee stoppers



Plastic Bags

- Bags provided to customers with the aim of holding purchases made in stores



Disposable Plastic Straws



Why is this important for Calgarians?



82% of Canadians urging government action to tackle waste from plastic items.





Policy Options

- Bans on distributing items
- Fees charged to customers
- On-demand strategies
- Mandatory reduction plans

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
PLASTIC 
BAG BAN

**SINGLE-USE
 PLASTIC BAGS
 BANNED FROM
 1 JULY.**

Re-usable, eco friendly,
 alternative bags are
 available for purchase here.



Help keep our planet beautiful.

MGA
 INDEPENDENT RETAILERS



Many jurisdictions are taking action to reduce waste from single-use items





Example Jurisdictions



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**



It's time to shift our thinking about waste.



#ReduceSingleUse





Potential Unintended Consequences

- 1 Increased costs for businesses and consumers**
- 2 Health risks**
- 3 Environmental impact of alternatives**
- 4 Enforcement costs**
- 5 Legal considerations**



Preliminary Engagement



Single-use items waste reduction strategy

Help us decide if Calgary should consider developing programs to reduce waste from single-use items.



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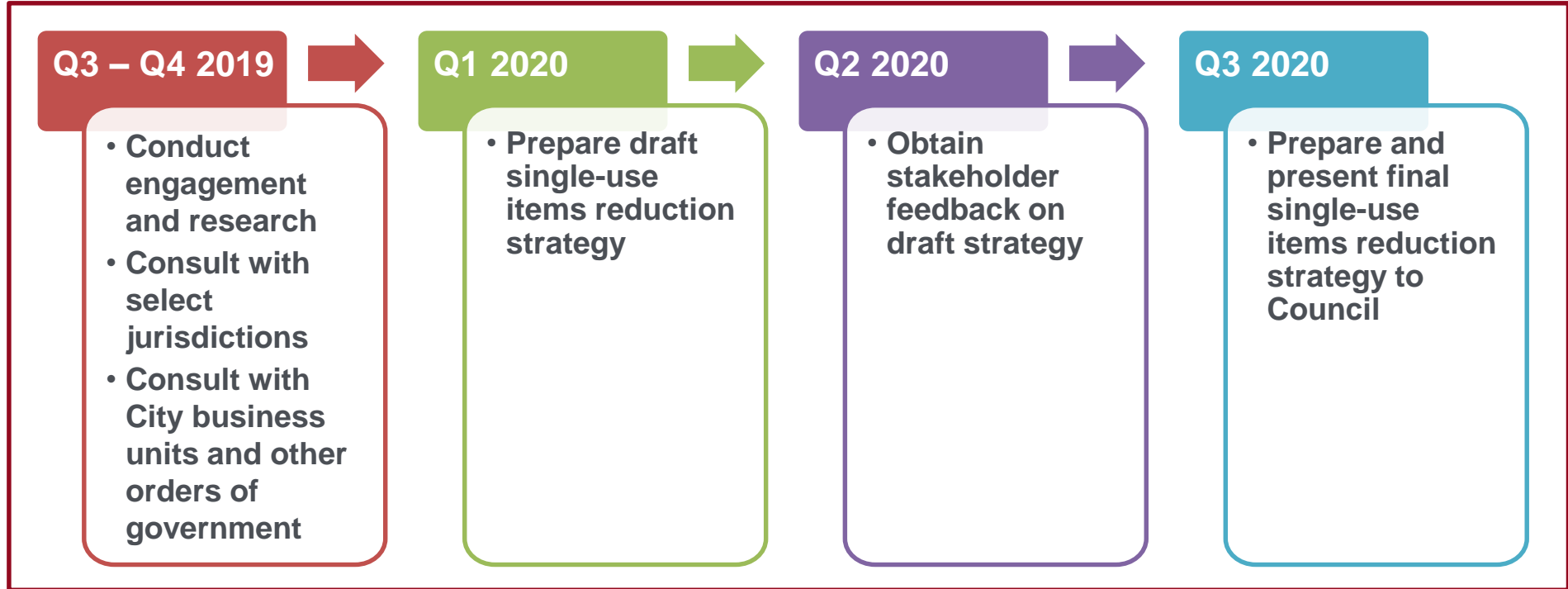


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SUSTAINABLE / LOCAL / SEASONAL



Proposed Approach



The estimated cost for this work is \$250,000 to \$300,000



Recommendation

That the Standing Policy Committee on Utilities and Corporate Services recommend that Council direct Administration to develop a single-use items reduction strategy and return to Committee with a strategy no later than Q3 2020.