



Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Recycling Strategy
Bylaw 20M2001 Amendment. Response by Larry Heather.
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Look at the proposed amendments before us this morning I see a lot of altruism embedded in the goals of the bylaw that is quite unconnected to the achievable reality of the real world. Passing programs and procedures that make people feel good if it in fact results in extensive efforts to suppress the evidence that contradicts the feel-goodism with harsh reality.

First of all, Attachment 1 proposes a goal of 80/20 by 2020. A nice rhyming phrase, but how achievable is it and at what cost. So in a mere five years the goal of transforming a waste reality into a recycling paradise is proclaimed. What exactly is our definition of waste? When resources are processed from our natural environment, a great deal of energy and skill is required to separate those resources into separate and unique products for which there is a marketable demand.

When you take the waste products left from this production and attempt to deconstruct it back to the elements, the marketable profit motive is profoundly decreased, and it's separation into useful elements justifying the labor and more waste of resources, far more difficult. The coping strategies that will inevitably result in trying to reach.

1. Attempts to hide mixed materials at other sites
2. Payments of third party agencies to do separation off site
3. Removal of mixed materials from the City of Calgary to less punitive regulatory areas for disposal. (ie. Office Depot - Ink containers.)
4. The arbitrary stamping of mixed materials as contaminated to avoid the real world intensive costs of labor and impossible frustration.
5. The necessity of subsidizing material recovery centres to process economically non-viable product and dispose of it in surreptitious ways.

The effect of passing this by-law for an enormous amount of waste produced by business and institutions can be expected to greatly increase the costs of doing business and providing institutional services in the City of Calgary. With the following results:

- 1. A veritable army of hundreds of inspectors that will be needed to enforce compliance to unreasonable expectations.**
- 2. A high incidence of injury and compensation to workers attempting to separate the intermix of materials so common to the transport of materials and goods. (Staples, banding, glued items... I have a lifetime in logistics of working with these materials.)**
- 3. A relocation of business to other less bankrupting environments around the City of Calgary or further afield.**
- 4. A total immunity of punitive fines from City owned enterprises which will find it impossible to comply with the same standards due to a starvation of resources divided among numerous other feel-goodism projects.**

I urge you to look ahead at the impossible demands that are being placed on business, particularly construction materials separation and pull back from these designs to a realistic evaluation of what is actually achievable.

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