



City of Hamilton

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 25-008
Date: July 7, 2025
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Carrie McIntosh, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2729

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6. DELEGATIONS	
*6.2 Delegations respecting Motion 10.5, MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION to Support the Need for Provincial Action on Salt Pollution from Road Salt from the following individuals:	
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8. PUBLIC HEARINGS	
8.1 PW25043	
*b. Correspondence from Sacajawea Non-Profit Housing Inc. respecting Report PW25043, Proposed Permanent Closure and Sale of a Portion of Public Road Allowances Abutting 95 Dundurn Street South, Hamilton (Ward 1) (Item 8.1)	5
9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION	
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Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026 (City Wide)	
<i>(This Item includes a Presentation)</i>	

- *b. Correspondence from Casie FitzGibbon, Ancaster Little Gems Children's Centre respecting Report Report PW25046, Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026 (City Wide) (Item 9.4) 27

9.6 Amendments to the Outstanding Business List:

- *b. Items Considered Complete and Needing to be Removed:

- *a. Stormwater Gap Evaluation

Added: November 23, 2020

Completed: December 6, 2021 (Report PW21074)

11. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

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- *11.2 Bennetto Community Centre – Basketball and Tennis Court, 450 Hughson Street North, Hamilton (Ward 2) 30
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Submitted on Thu, 07/03/2025 - 16:18

Reference number 74241

Submitted on

Committee Requested

Committee

Public Works Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?

In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?

No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information

Joe Salemi

Landscape Ontario

7856 Fifth Line South

Milton, ON. L9T 2X8

jsalemi@landscapeontario.com

905-220-4106

Preferred Pronoun

he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request

Speaking in support of Motion 10.5 to Support the Need for Provincial Action on Salt Pollution from Road Salt

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

No

Submitted on Thu, 07/03/2025 - 19:29

Reference number 74261

Submitted on

Committee Requested

Committee

Public Works Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?

Virtually

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?

No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information

Caroline Hill Smith

Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition



Reason(s) for delegation request

Representing Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition on the municipal Salt resolution before this committee

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

No



July 2, 2025

Dear Councillor Wilson:

Thank you for supporting Sacajawea's efforts to develop new affordable housing options for Indigenous households in Hamilton, specifically in Ward 1. We are pleased to be working with the City of Hamilton in a co-operative and productive way, and appreciate the efforts of everyone involved throughout the development since we purchased the former City property at 95 Dundurn St. South in January 2024.

When the property was listed for sale, Part 2 was excluded. We expressed to Staff that we would appreciate if it was part of the sale, as it would benefit our development. Staff indicated it was likely needed for a future street widening, so was not available at that time. Regardless, we agreed to pay the listed price for the vacant parcel, maximizing the municipal financial benefits.

We have since worked closely with Staff through the pilot All4One site plan process which has proven very effective in streamlining City reviews and approvals. It was during an All4One meeting that we identified that the Part 2 parcel would indeed optimize Sacajawea's project, enabling it to effectively meet the outcome goals of each department without undue costs or extreme complexity. It was subsequently confirmed through the surplus property processes that the remnant parcels would indeed *not* be needed for municipal purposes.

As Council reviews our request to purchase the two small parcels from the City, we ask that these be transferred at a nominal cost. These remnants have no economic value to any other developments, nor utility to the City. A nominal fee would also be considered a municipal co-investment, bolstering Sacajawea's applications to CMHC. Ultimately, Sacajawea and the City of Hamilton have shared goals of developing affordable housing while practicing reconciliation with Indigenous communities. Having paid full value for the original parcel, adding these remnants at a nominal cost would continue to facilitate those goals in practical ways.

Thank you for considering this request.
Sincerely,

Miranda Rappazzo
Executive Director



RECYCLING SERVICE FOR NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 (PW25046) (CITY WIDE)

Public Works Committee

July 7, 2025

Key information related to Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026:

- Background
- Recommendations
- Rationale for recommendations
- Alternatives
- Budget impact
- RRCEA amendment

BACKGROUND

- On April 1, 2025, the City of Hamilton transitioned to a Producer Responsibility model under the Ontario Blue Box Regulation. This model makes producers financially responsible for the collection and recycling of blue box material from eligible properties.
- Businesses, City facilities, places of worship, and daycares are considered non-eligible under the new regulation. The City of Hamilton has 2,499 such properties.
- Council approved maintaining Blue Box collection for all non-eligible properties between April 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025, at a cost of \$566,000.
- The City must now decide whether to continue this service starting January 1, 2026.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue collecting and processing recyclables from non-eligible properties and large events from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026, at a cost of \$2,824,000.
- Fund the first quarter of the program with \$706,000 from Reserve 112270 – Waste Management Recycling prior to the 2026 Tax budget approval.
- Consider the annual funding requirement of \$2,824,000 as part of the 2026 Tax Budget, and annually thereafter, in alignment with the current waste collection contract that expires on March 31, 2029.
- As of January 1, 2026, alter recycling collection schedules as per recommendations from Green For Life Environmental Inc. to receive more favourable pricing.
- Report back on costs for continuing the program after the current waste collection contract expires, following a competitive procurement process.

- Continuing blue box service for non-eligible properties would divert approximately 500 tonnes of recycling annually from Hamilton's Glanbrook Landfill.
- Continuing recycling at municipal facilities sets a positive example for residents and aligns with public expectations and reinforces recycling habits.
- Business Improvement Areas support the continuation of recycling services citing financial challenges faced by businesses.
- Revising the recycling collection schedule for non-eligible properties to one proposed by Green For Life Environmental Inc. will result in significant cost savings compared to maintaining current collection schedules.
- Continuing blue box service for all non-eligible properties provides a level of equity.

ALTERNATIVES

- **Alternative 1:** Continue service for City-owned facilities and special events only.
- **Alternative 2:** Continue service for City facilities, large special events, and non-eligible properties within Business Improvement Areas with a revised collection schedule.
- **Alternative 3:** Continue service for all non-eligible properties and large special events while maintaining the current collection schedule.
- **Alternative 4:** Discontinue service for all non-eligible properties.

BUDGET IMPACT

Option	Annual Cost
Recommendation	\$2,824,000
Alternative 1: City-owned facilities and special events only.	\$239,000
Alternative 2: City facilities, large special events, and non-eligible properties within Business Improvement Areas with a revised collection schedule.	\$1,256,000
Alternative 3: All non-eligible properties and large special events while maintaining the current collection schedule.	\$6,507,000
Alternative 4: Discontinue service for all non-eligible properties.	\$0

*All costs are subject to annual increases consistent with collection contract escalators.

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COST INCREASE

- The cost to provide blue box collection from non-eligible properties from April 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, is approximately \$566,000.
- The cost associated with the recommendation is \$2,824,000.
- The reason for the significant increase in costs is that blue box material from eligible properties and non-eligible properties can be collected in the same waste collection vehicle in 2025. However, starting on January 1, 2026, eligible and non-eligible properties must have blue box material collected separately.
- This separation results in losses of efficiency found in economies of scale.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION CHANGES

- Proposed amendments to the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016, could require Producer Responsibility Organizations to provide an offer to municipalities for blue box collection to non-eligible properties.
- Intent is to provide municipalities with options for maintaining blue box service to non-eligible properties.
- The proposed amendment would still require municipalities to pay for the recycling service to non-eligible small business properties; however, the costs could be more competitive due to economies of scale.
- Staff have submitted formal comments to the ERO posting in support of the proposed amendment.



Hamilton

THANK YOU



City of Hamilton Report for Consideration

To: Chair and Members
Public Works Committee
Date: July 7, 2025
Report No: PW25046
Subject/Title: Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties
Beginning January 1, 2026
Ward(s) Affected: City Wide

Recommendations

- 1) That staff **BE AUTHORIZED**, to continue the collection and processing of recyclables from all non-eligible properties that were serviced prior to April 1, 2025, and large special events, for the period of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026;
- 2) That staff **BE AUTHORIZED** to fund the first quarter of the program from January 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026, in the amount of \$706,000 from Reserve 112270 – Waste Management Recycling prior to the approval of the 2026 Tax budget;
- 3) That the annual funding requirement for 2026 of \$2,824,000, **BE CONSIDERED** as part of the 2026 Tax budget, and in alignment with the City's current waste collection contract which expires on March 31, 2029;
- 4) That subject to approval of the extension of the program that staff **BE AUTHORIZED** to alter the recycling collection schedules for non-eligible properties with collection days recommended by Green For Life Environmental Inc., to allow for more favourable pricing; and,
- 5) That staff **BE DIRECTED** to report back to the Public Works Committee, the costs for continuing the collection and processing of recyclables from non-eligible properties and large special events after the expiration of the current waste collection contract with Green For Life Environmental Inc., following a competitive procurement process.

Key Facts

- On April 1, 2025, the City of Hamilton transitioned to a Producer Responsibility model under the Ontario Blue Box Regulation. Only certain properties, including residential, schools and specified long term care homes are eligible for collection, under the new regulation.
- Other sites such as businesses, city facilities, places of worship, and daycares are considered non-eligible and are no longer covered by the Regulation. There are 2,499 such properties in Hamilton, and the City is responsible for their recycling services if it chooses to continue them.
- Through Report PW24021, Council approved maintaining Blue Box collection for all 2,499 non-eligible sources with the City's current recycling contractor, Green For Life Environmental Inc., until December 31, 2025.
- The purpose of this report is to seek approval to continue Blue Box collection and processing services for all 2,499 properties, starting on January 1, 2026, with weekly pickup, and the development of a collection schedule to maximize collection efficiency and lower collection costs.

Financial Considerations

The cost to continue to provide recycling collection services included in Report PW25046 is approximately \$2,824,000 in 2026 and is subject to applicable annual escalations due to the consumer price index and fuel costs. The funding for this program is currently budgeted across the different Recycling Program Dept IDs. As the 2026 Operating Budget will not be approved until the end of the first quarter in 2026, the first three months, January to March 2026 will be funded by Reserve 112270 – Waste Management Recycling. Following budget approval, the Reserve would be paid back.

The City's multi-year Tax Budget does not reflect this potential investment and represents an additional residential tax impact of 0.2% if adopted.

For comparison, the cost to provide this service during transition (April 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025) is approximately \$566,000. The difference in cost is due to material from both eligible (residential) and non-eligible (businesses and City buildings) properties being collected in the same collection vehicle on a shared / continuous route. The Regulation restricts this beyond December 31, 2025.

The net operating cost of the City's Blue Box Program in 2024 was \$13,700,000 and was budgeted to be \$4,415,000 in 2025. The costs in 2025 include being fully responsible for the Blue Box Program in Hamilton until April 1, 2025, the collection and processing of blue box material from all non-eligible properties from April 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, and the operating expenses for the Material Recycling Facility at 1579 Burlington Street East.

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
(PW25046) (City Wide)

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There are no direct staffing impacts (FTE impacts) associated with the recommendations or alternatives. The Waste Management Division has a Project Manager for Waste Collections Contracts as part of existing complement.

Background

The Provincial Blue Box Program Regulation (O. Reg. 391/21) was enacted by the provincial government on June 3, 2021 and required all municipalities and First Nation Communities to transition to a Producer Responsibility model for the collection and processing of blue box materials.

All municipalities were scheduled to transition between July 1, 2023 and December 31, 2025. The City of Hamilton was assigned the transition date of April 1, 2025.

The Regulation makes the Producers of paper and packaging products financially responsible for the collection and recycling at eligible properties including residential, schools and specified long term care homes. Other property types, such as businesses, city facilities, places of worship and day care centres are deemed non-eligible and municipalities continue to bear the costs, should they continue to be provided with the service.

In preparation for transition in April 2025, staff brought forward Report PW24021 to the Public Works Committee on April 2, 2024 recommending that the City of Hamilton continue to provide the collection of recyclables to non-eligible properties during the transition period between April 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025. Report PW24021 was approved and the recycling material from these properties continues to be collected by the City through Green For Life Environmental Inc.

Report PW25046 is the report back to the Public Works Committee to provide more information on the costs and consideration of continuing a Blue Box Collection Program to non-eligible properties post-transition, beginning January 1, 2026.

Analysis

During transition between April 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, under the current collection contract, curbside recycling collection services are provided to 2,499 non-eligible properties as well as qualifying special events at a total budgeted cost of \$566,000. Under the Blue Box Regulation, these sources of blue box material are considered non-eligible properties, meaning that Producers are not required to collect and process blue box material from them. A breakdown can be found in Table 1.

Table 1: Estimated number of non-eligible properties receiving Blue Box collection by the City

Property Type	Number of Properties
City Facilities	184

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
(PW25046) (City Wide)

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Non-eligible properties	2,315
Total	2,499

Report PW25046 recommends that the City of Hamilton continue providing Blue Box collection and processing services for all non-eligible properties currently collected by the City. The rationale to continue collecting blue box material from all non-eligible properties includes ensuring that blue box materials from all sources are properly processed reducing landfill waste, providing a level of equity amongst all properties that currently receive this service, demonstrating that the City will lead by example, and providing the service while allowing time for the province to address non-eligible properties.

Report PW25046 recommends that the continuation of this service be funded by the levy. Staff have discussed options for funding that include a Recycling tax levy or user fee to applicable properties who subscribe to this service however more investigation is needed on how this could be implemented.

Staff found during a recent municipal scan that there is no trend in what direction other municipalities are taking with non-eligible properties. Table 2 identifies the decisions of 24 municipalities surveyed on continuing to collect blue box material from non-eligible properties beginning January 1, 2026. 25% of these municipalities have approval to continue to collect blue box material from at least some non-eligible properties (some municipalities in this group are servicing all non-eligible properties while others are only servicing those in downtown / Business Improvement Areas), 50% have not made decisions yet, and 25% have approval to discontinue collecting blue box material from non-eligible properties. It is important to note that one municipality approved to continue servicing non-eligible properties will be imposing a waste management fee for service and another will require businesses to purchase bag-tags or subscribe to a collection bin for the continued collection of blue box recyclables.

Table 2: Municipal Decisions on continuing collection of Blue Box material to non-eligible properties beginning January 1, 2026

	Will Continue Service to Non-Eligible Properties	Undecided on Servicing Non-Eligible Properties	Will Not Continue Service to Non-Eligible Properties
Number of Municipalities	6	12	6
Municipalities	Barrie, Peel Region, Richmond Hill, Sarnia,	Brantford, Essex-Windsor, Guelph, Halton Region, London, Markham,	Chatham-Kent, Durham Region, Kingston, Norfolk County, Simcoe

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	Toronto, Waterloo Region	Muskoka, Niagara Region, Ottawa, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury	County, Thunder Bay
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Proposed Amendments to the Regulations

On June 4, 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks released proposed amendments to both the Blue Box Regulation and the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016. Staff are currently reviewing the proposed amendments and will be responding to them to comment on how the proposed amendments would impact the City of Hamilton Waste Management programs. Of specific interest to this report, the proposed amendment to the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act includes an amendment that could require Producer Responsibility Organizations to make an offer to municipalities to collect recycling from small businesses. The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks heard loud and clear prior to Transition that arranging collection for these limited locations is neither environmentally nor financially reasonable and is not affordable for many communities. Staff are awaiting more information on how this would be administered and what the financial impact would look like.

Waste Diversion and the Environment

Diverting waste is the most direct way to secure the remaining life of Hamilton's only operating landfill, the Glanbrook Landfill. By continuing to collect recyclables from non-eligible properties, such as businesses and City facilities that the City also collects garbage from, the City can prevent these materials from taking up valuable space in the landfill. It is estimated that approximately 500 tonnes of recyclable material are generated from non-eligible properties in the City annually.

Equity Amongst Non-Eligible Properties

Providing the service of collecting blue box material from all non-eligible properties currently receiving the service demonstrates the City's commitment to providing a high level of customer service to all its customers. The City committed to providing waste collection services and are continuing the service without being selective.

Leading by Example

By continuing to collect blue box material at its municipal facilities, the City would continue to demonstrate its goal to be a leader in waste management. By doing so, the City sets a positive example for residents, reinforcing the importance of recycling and waste diversion initiatives. This commitment aligns with public expectations, reduces recyclables going to landfill, ensures operational continuity, reinforces recycling habits at home, and contributes to environmental stewardship.

Province Addressing Non-Eligible Properties

City Waste Management staff continue to advocate to the province to expand the list of eligible properties that Producers are responsible for providing a Blue Box Program to include businesses and other currently non-eligible property types. Continuing this service for, at minimum, an additional 39 months, will give time to see if the regulation changes. Cancelling the service too soon could lead to these properties losing interest in recycling and putting them in the City's garbage stream instead.

Feedback from Business Improvement Areas

At the Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee there was consensus that the continuation of the collection of recyclable material from these properties is a service level that should continue past January 1, 2026. These businesses currently face financial challenges, and many will not take on an additional financial burden of paying for the private collection of blue box materials. In these cases, blue box material would be disposed of in the garbage and potentially illegally dumped. In addition, these properties pay commercial taxes for services such as waste collection and it is not the role of Business Improvement Areas to fund services such as the collection of blue box material. The point was also made by this stakeholder group that Businesses within the Business Improvement Areas contribute to the financial well-being of the City and service reduction in any way is a concern.

Recommended Approach

The costs for the continued collection of recyclables from non-eligible properties will increase significantly after January 1, 2026, compared to costs for the same service today. The increase is based on restrictions being introduced on January 1, 2026 that limit the collection in the same vehicle as recyclables from eligible properties.

To mitigate the cost increase, Report PW25046 recommends adjusting the collection schedule through the City's contractor to improve efficiency. This schedule adjustment results in costs being approximately 56% lower than if the current collection schedule was maintained, which is presented as Alternative 3, for comparison purposes and is summarized on Table 3.

In addition to City facilities and other non-eligible properties, the City also provides recycling collection to approximately 10 large special events per year. These large special events are characterized by:

- Having at least 1,000 attendees;
- Being located on City property;
- Are organized by non-profit organizations;
- Having food service; and
- Being located where infrastructure is in place to support collection.

Smaller events on City property are generally held in parks or City facilities. For these events, City staff provide additional waste and recycling receptacles. Since these

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
(PW25046) (City Wide)

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events are at non-eligible locations, they will be included in the City ongoing recycling services.

Table 3 provides a comparison of the annual costs for the recommended approach included in Report PW25046 with the annual costs to maintaining current service levels and collection schedule.

Table 3: Costs related to collecting and processing Blue Box materials from all non-eligible properties

Non-eligible Property Type	Estimated Annual Cost of Recommendation, Weekly Collection with revised Schedule	Estimated Annual Cost to Continue with Existing Service Levels and Collection Schedule
City Facilities	\$239,000	\$469,000
Business and other non-eligible properties	\$2,581,000	\$6,034,000
Large Special Events	\$4,000	\$4,000
Total	\$2,824,000	\$6,507,000

Alternatives

There are several alternative options to providing the recommended level of service after December 31, 2025,

Alternative 1 - Continue Blue Box collection service for City-owned facilities and special events only

Council could direct staff to only continue to provide the collection of blue box material from City-owned facilities, such as municipal service centres and recreation centres, as well as large special events that are organized or supported by the City. The City would discontinue the collection of blue box material for businesses, places of worship, and other non-eligible properties, requiring those property owners to source their own contractor for the collection of blue box materials at their own expense.

The annual costs associated with Alternative 1 are approximately \$239,000.

The transition to the Province's Individual Producer Responsibility (IPR) model, shifts the financial and operational burden of recycling to producers of paper products and packaging. This change aims to streamline recycling processes and reduce municipal costs. Continuing to service businesses and other non-eligible sources could strain municipal budgets and divert funds from other essential and strategic priorities. Furthermore, aligning with provincial regulations ensures consistency and compliance

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
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across municipalities, promotion a more efficient and standardized recycling system. Other municipalities such as Durham Region, Kingston, and Thunder Bay, have decided to discontinue collecting blue box materials from non-eligible properties.

Alternative 2 - Continue Blue Box collection service for City facilities, large special events, and non-eligible properties located within Business Improvement Areas and enhanced collection areas with a revised collection schedule. Discontinue Blue Box collection service for non-eligible properties outside of these areas.

Council could direct staff to continue collecting blue box materials from City facilities, large special events, and non-eligible properties located within Business Improvement Areas and enhanced collection areas on a revised collection schedule determined by Green For Life Environmental Inc.

The 11 Business Improvement Areas are:

- Ancaster Village
- Barton Village
- Concession Street
- Downtown Dundas
- Downtown Hamilton
- International Village
- Locke Street
- Ottawa Street
- Stoney Creek
- Waterdown Village
- Westdale Village

The four areas currently defined as enhanced collection areas are:

- King Street West (Queen Street North to Caroline Street North)
- Main Street Esplanade (Dundurn Street South to Queen Street South)
- Hess Village
- Augusta Street

The annual costs associated with Alternative 2 are approximately \$1,256,000.

This alternative would achieve a balance between providing waste diversion services to some non-eligible properties while reducing the operating budget impacts of this service. It is estimated that a total of approximately 500 tonnes of recyclable material is generated from non-eligible properties in the City.

This alternative responds to the needs of downtown businesses. Continuing the collection of blue box material from businesses located in Business Improvement Areas reflects the need to support these businesses in their roles for the success of commercial districts throughout the City.

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
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The four enhanced collection areas currently receive a higher level of garbage and / or recycling collection than other parts of the City indicating the need for these services as they generate a higher amount of waste than other businesses.

Alternative 3 - Continue Blue Box collection service for all non-eligible properties and large special events while maintaining the current collection schedule.

Council could direct staff to continue collecting blue box materials from all 2,499 non-eligible properties while maintaining the same collection day and frequency for those properties that receive more than one collection per week. This would include City-owned facilities, special events, and businesses and places of worship currently serviced within and outside Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) and special collection areas.

Alternative 3 will basically result in no noticeable changes in the collection of blue box material from all non-eligible properties from current service. The cost of this option is significant and would require additional funds being required in the 2026 operating budget to cover these costs.

The annual collection costs associated with Alternative 5 is approximately \$6,507,000 annually.

Alternative 4 - Discontinue Blue Box collection service for all non-eligible properties.

Council could direct staff to stop providing Blue Box Program collection services to all non-eligible properties, including City facilities, businesses, and special events. Beginning January 1, 2026, non-eligible properties and special events would be required to source their own contractor for the collection of Blue Box materials at their own expense and recycling services would not be offered at City facilities. Following contact with private waste collectors, estimated costs for recycling collection for each property is estimated to be \$3,600. Close attention would need to be paid to the properties to ensure the recyclables are not being disposed of with regular garbage and sent to our landfill. The current estimated remaining life of the Glanbrook landfill is 34 years which brings us to closure in 2059. By adding an additional 500 tonnes of waste per year due to recyclables being disposed of in garbage, the landfill life could be reduced by 0.3 years.

This alternative would result in the elimination of any costs related to the City collecting or processing Blue Box Program material starting on January 1, 2026.

Table 4 provides a summary matrix of the alternatives and their associated estimated annual cost to collect.

Table 4: Options and annual costs for continuing collection of Blue Box materials starting on January 1, 2026

Options	City Facilities	Special Events	BIA Businesses	Non-BIA Businesses	Custom Collection Schedule	Cost to Collect

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
(PW25046) (City Wide)

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Recommendation	X	X	X	X	X	\$2,824,000
Alternative 1	X	X			X	\$239,000
Alternative 2	X	X	X		X	\$1,256,000
Alternative 3	X	X	X	X		\$6,507,000
Alternative 4						\$0

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

Sustainable Economic & Ecological Development

Accelerate our response to climate change (1.3): Maintaining recycling services for non-eligible properties supports waste diversion goals, reducing landfill use and greenhouse gas emissions. This aligns with the City's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

Responsiveness & Transparency

Prioritize customer service and proactive communication (3.1): By continuing services to Business Improvement Areas, City facilities, and events, the City demonstrates its commitment to reliable and consistent service delivery, enhancing public trust and satisfaction. The recommendation to continue services allows the City to evaluate long-term options and make informed decisions, ensuring efficient and effective public service delivery.

Previous Reports Submitted

- [Recycling Services for Non-Eligible Properties Following the Transition of the Blue Box Program \(PW24021\)](#), Public Works Committee, April 2, 2024.
- [Blue Box Transition Update and Servicing \(PW22064\)](#), Public Works Committee, August 10, 2022.

Consultation

- Municipal Scan – other Ontario Municipalities that have transitioned or are preparing to transition to see how they are servicing their non-eligible sources.
- Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee

Appendices and Schedules Attached

N/A

Prepared by:

Ryan Kent, Manager of Waste Policy and Planning
Public Works Department, Waste Management Division

Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026
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Submitted and recommended by:	Angela Storey, Director of Waste Management Public Works Department, Waste Management Division
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To:
City of Hamilton – Office of the City Clerk
Email: clerk@hamilton.ca

Re: Written Submission – Public Works Committee Meeting #25-008 – July 7, 2025
Agenda Item 9.4: Recycling Service for Non-Eligible Properties Beginning January 1, 2026 (City Wide)

Dear Members of the Public Works Committee,

As a business owner and BIA board member, I am submitting this letter in response to the proposed changes regarding the removal of recycling services for non-residential properties, set to begin January 1, 2026.

I represent Ancaster Little Gems Children's Centre, a licensed early learning and child care facility located in the heart of the Ancaster Business Improvement Area. Our centre has proudly served families in this community since 1988 (37 years), providing care and education for children from infancy through school age. We are also a proud member of the Ancaster BIA and actively support initiatives that promote a strong, sustainable local business community.

I write today to express strong concern and opposition to the removal of municipal recycling services for businesses.

At Little Gems, sustainability and environmental responsibility are not optional – they are central to our operations and an integral part of the learning environment we provide for the children in our care. We teach our children about reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling properly. These practices are embedded in our curriculum and our daily operations. Eliminating access to recycling services for businesses directly undermines these values and creates serious logistical and financial burdens.

Specifically, I would like to highlight the following concerns:

1. Environmental Impact

Removing recycling services for businesses may lead to a significant increase in landfill waste across the city. Businesses—especially in the education and childcare sectors—generate a high volume of recyclable materials. Without a reliable system in place, even the most environmentally conscious operators may be forced to dispose of recyclables in general waste, a decision that runs contrary to our shared climate goals.

2. Financial Burden on Small Businesses

Many small businesses operate on tight budgets, and adding the cost of private recycling services—on top of existing rising expenses—is unsustainable. For centres like ours, where every dollar is accounted for in staffing, food, programming, and maintenance, the shift to private recycling may mean cutting other essential services or supports.



3. Mixed Messaging to the Next Generation

As educators of young children, we are shaping future citizens. We emphasize the importance of environmental care, and children take great pride in their roles as “recycling helpers” within our centre. The message that recycling is no longer prioritized by the city creates confusion and undermines what we are working hard to teach them.

4. Equity and Inclusion

Excluding businesses from recycling services creates a two-tiered system, where residential properties are supported in their sustainability efforts while businesses are left to manage independently. This approach feels inequitable and short-sighted, especially given the volume of businesses within the city and their essential role in Hamilton’s economy.

I respectfully urge the Committee to reconsider the proposed removal of recycling services for businesses and instead work toward a collaborative, city-supported solution that maintains or expands recycling access for all property types.

Whether this involves a city-subsidized program, inclusion in residential routes, or partnership through BIAs and business clusters, we believe a path forward is possible—one that supports environmental goals without penalizing small businesses.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to a cleaner, more sustainable Hamilton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. FitzGibbon".

Casie FitzGibbon
Owner/Director, Ancaster Little Gems Children’s Centre
BIA Board Member, Ancaster BIA

11.1

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Public Works Committee: July 7, 2025

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. CASSAR.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....

Portable Toilets in Ward 12 Community Parks

WHEREAS, Ward 12 community parks are used by multiple user groups for activities including baseball and soccer and by the general public;

WHEREAS, the parks can include features such as a spray pads, baseball diamonds, tennis courts and playground amenities that attract visitors from throughout Ward 12 and outlying communities who would benefit from washroom facilities; and

WHEREAS, additional funding for the rental and cleaning of accessible portable toilet(s) for the 2025 season through to September 2025, is required.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the provision of a portable toilet at each of Meadowlands Community Park (160 Meadowlands Boulevard), Amberly Park (284 Nakoma Road) and James Smith Park (50 Braithwaite Avenue) for the remainder of the summer season (July-September) of 2025, to be funded from the Ward 12 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account #3301609612, at an upset limit including contingency not to exceed a total of \$5,000, be approved; and
- (b) That the General Manager, Public Works or designate be authorized and directed to approve and execute any and all required agreements and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

11.2

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Public Works Committee: July 7, 2025

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. KROETSCH.....

Bennetto Community Centre – Basketball and Tennis Court, 450 Hughson Street North, Hamilton (Ward 2)

WHEREAS, the existing double play court, maintaining a basketball court and tennis court at Bennetto Community Centre, located at 450 Hughson Street North, Hamilton, is in poor condition;

WHEREAS, there is no capital funding to support the full replacement of this community asset and additional funding is needed to support the full replacement of the basketball and tennis court;

WHEREAS, this work will be undertaken by the Parks Section capital team and completed in addition to the existing work plan and ongoing projects; and

WHEREAS, resources are limited and this work will be initiated in 2025, scheduled to be completed within 12-24 months, subject to unforeseen challenges such as procurement timing, supply chain issues, weather, etc.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the replacement of the basketball and tennis courts at Bennetto Community Centre, located at 450 Hughson Street North, Hamilton, be funded from the Ward 2 Capital Re-Investment Reserve #108052 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$350,000; and
- (b) That the General Manager, Public Works or designate be authorized and directed to approve and execute any and all required agreements and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Public Works Committee Date: July 7, 2025

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. KROETSCH.....

To Permit the Inclusion of Permanent Waste Enclosures as an Eligible Expense Under the Existing Commercial Districts Revitalization Grant Program

WHEREAS, the Commercial District Revitalization Grant Program (the Program) provides cost sharing grants with commercial tenants or property owners for exterior physical building and property improvements that improve the appearance, accessibility and/or environmental sustainability of a commercial property within strategic commercial districts, including Business Improvement Areas, whose success contributes to Hamilton's image for both residents and visitor;

WHEREAS, the Program is authorized under the Revitalizing Hamilton's Commercial Districts Community Improvement Project Area and Community Improvement Plan By-laws 21-163 and 21-164 respectively, with Program specific administrative and eligibility criteria approved by City Council via Appendix E to the Community Improvement Plan;

WHEREAS; the existing Program permits permanent waste enclosures as an eligible improvement only where the waste enclosure will be immediately adjacent to a public street facing façade and does not permit standalone waste enclosures nor any that would not be visible from a public facing street (such as in laneways); and

WHEREAS, the density of businesses in some parts of downtown Hamilton make it very difficult for standard commercial waste collection solutions; and

WHEREAS, implementing custom solutions to safely dispose of commercial waste is often costly, requiring the hiring of engineers, architects, and consultants.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Economic Development Division staff be directed to report back to the Public Works Committee with an amendment to the Program terms contained in Appendix E to the Revitalizing Hamilton's Commercial Districts Community Improvement Plan, by early Q4 2025, to permit permanent waste enclosures on any portion of a Program eligible commercial property along with any additional eligibility criteria which may be required to ensure such improvements are in keeping with the existing purpose and intent of the Program.

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Public Works Committee: July 7, 2025

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR T. HWANG.....

Pilot Project for Greening Kenilworth Avenue North, Hamilton (Ward 4)

WHEREAS, Kenilworth Avenue North between Britannia Avenue and Barton Street has a limited number of trees and green spaces;

WHEREAS, this section of Kenilworth Avenue North has been identified as high to very high on the heat vulnerability index used by Public Health;

WHEREAS, pedestrians can benefit from the addition of shade from trees;

WHEREAS, this section of Kenilworth Avenue North has limited plantable space to support the installation of new street trees in the public right-of-way;

WHEREAS, adding insulated planters to the right-of-way containing trees and perennials may offer improved aesthetics and shade as an interim solution; and

WHEREAS the survivability of trees in insulated planters is variable based on environmental conditions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That a two-year pilot project to determine the efficacy and survivability of planting trees in insulated planters be administered by the Forestry and Horticulture section, including five large, insulated planters at various locations in the right-of-way on Kenilworth Avenue North between Britannia Avenue and Barton Street;
- (b) That the two-year pilot project be funded from the Ward 4 Capital Discretionary Account #3302309400 with an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$24,000;
- (c) That the Forestry and Horticulture section be directed to report back on the success of the pilot; and

- (d) That the General Manager, Public Works or designate be authorized and directed to approve and execute any and all required agreements and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

11.5

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Public Works Committee: July 7, 2025

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR M. WILSON.....

Capital Infrastructure Annual Report

WHEREAS, Council identified the importance of communicating in an accessible and transparent manner as part of its 2022-2026 set of priorities;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton delivers many important services that are dependent on infrastructure such as transit, roads, bridges, facilities, clean water and wastewater treatment;

WHEREAS, the City's annual budget identifies planned capital investments but doesn't account for annual completion rates;

WHEREAS, the City is working to fulfill the requirements of Ontario Regulation 588/17 Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure with the goal of improved financial efficiency, allowing for more effective management of risk, driving accountability and effective, sustainable decisions for residents;

WHEREAS, there is growing public interest in the condition of Hamilton's municipal assets and planned actions to renew, restore and remediate;

WHEREAS, details on infrastructure investments and how they are being allocated, along with progress updates on the status of key infrastructure projects, including timelines, milestones and completion rates would support the goals of transparency and accountability; and

WHEREAS, an annual report on infrastructure works in coordination with ongoing asset management work could provide details on infrastructure investments and data on how infrastructure projects are meeting service level targets and addressing the needs of Hamiltonians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

That City staff be directed to publish an annual infrastructure report to inventory key capital work that would offer progress updates, financial information, asset management, performance metrics, and completion rates to enable the public to ensure these investments align with the City's strategic direction and Council priorities.