

Councillor Request for Information

/ Included on Agenda

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office
by Noon Thursday)

☐ Added Item

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office
by Noon Monday)

Date of Council Meeting: **April 1, 2008**

Subject: Prohibition on the use of Garborators in HRM

Request:

I will be asking for Council's support in requesting a staff report to investigate options to prohibit in-sink garborators in new home construction and other options such as inclusion under By-law W-101, to reduce organic waste into our systems.

Reason:

Many municipalities have investigated the use of garborators and their effect on wastewater systems. There have been numerous negative findings regarding their use, such as grease accumulation and associated pump maintenance requirements and they can lead to a significant increase in the volume of solids produced. This increase adds to the loads requiring expansion of existing facilities and have been shown to increase costs to the sewage collections systems. As a result of the adverse impacts to the water and wastewater systems, there have been total bans placed on garborators.

In discussions with applicable HRM staff it was agreed that garborators do add to the organic loading to the municipal wastewater system and contribute to fat, oil and grease accumulation in both the private and public side of the wastewater infrastructure. Currently By-law W-101, which regulates the discharge of wastewater to both municipal storm and sanitary sewer systems, does not prohibit the use of garborators, nor is it a building code requirement. However, the Pollution Prevention Program did identify this as a possible tool should loadings be identified as problematic for collection and treatment processes.

I would like this response as:

- ☐ Email to Mayor, Council and Municipal Clerk's Office
☐ Memo to Mayor, Council and Municipal Clerk's Office
☐ Information Report to ☐ Community Council ☐ Regional Council
/Recommendation Report to ☐ Community Council / Regional Council

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