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Item No. 11.7.2
Halifax Regional Council
October 27, 2015
November 10, 2015

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by Director

Bruce Zvaniga, Director, Transportation and Public Works

DATE: October 14, 2015

SUBJECT: Weekly Collection Services for Recyclables

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the September 8, 2015 session of Regional Council, Council approved a motion that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report on implementing weekly collection service for recyclables throughout the municipality, including rural areas, commencing with the 2016/17 budget cycle.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM Charter, Part XIII, Solid –Waste Resource Management, Section 335 (b).

BACKGROUND

Under the Halifax Collection RFP No. 14-336, recyclables collection services are provided by the collection contractors in each of the eight Collection Areas. Collection of recyclables (i.e. blue bags and paper/cardboard) is designated for the various Collection Areas or portions of Collection Areas with the frequency specified as either weekly or every other week (biweekly).

Prior to the introduction of organics carts in 1998 and the opening of Halifax's two compost plants in 1999, Halifax reviewed the collection eligibility, service levels and collection limits to be utilized for the updated solid waste management system. Consolidation of curbside collection zones, standardization of service levels, limits and the frequency of collection were set up at that time for the initial Collection RFP which introduced organics collection. Some rural and suburban areas serviced by Halifax County Municipality had previously received once monthly collection of recyclables (prior to 1996). These areas were changed to every other week (biweekly) recyclables collection after the expiry of the then existing collection contract(s) in 1996/97. Generally, these are the same areas that currently receive biweekly recyclables collection (noting that some boundaries for collection areas have continued to evolve as housing development has occurred over the years).

DISCUSSION

The Collection RFP No. 14-336 provides for recyclables collection services in the eight Collection Areas with the current estimated # of serviced units and recyclables collection frequency as follows:

- Area 1 – Halifax; 31,686 estimated serviced units; weekly recyclables collection
- Area 2 – Dartmouth; 22,464 estimated serviced units; weekly recyclables collection
- Area 3 – Bedford, Hammonds Plains; 12,291 estimated serviced units; weekly recyclables collection
- Area 4 – Western County; 3,799 estimated serviced units receive weekly recyclables collection; 12,047 estimated serviced units receive biweekly recyclables collection; 15,846 total estimated serviced units
- Area 5 – Sackville, Beaver Bank, Fall River, Waverley; 16,991 estimated serviced units receive weekly recyclables collection; 5,997 estimated serviced units receive biweekly recyclables collection; 22,988 total estimated serviced units
- Area 6 – Cole Harbour, Eastern Passage, Cow Bay; 9,649 estimated serviced units receive weekly recyclables collection; 4,285 estimated serviced units receive biweekly recyclables collection; 13,934 total estimated serviced units
- Area 7 – Porters Lake, Preston, Lake Echo, etc.; 8,289 estimated serviced units; biweekly recyclables collection
- Area 8 – Eastern Shore, Musquodoboit Valley; 7,710 estimated serviced units; biweekly recyclables collection

Halifax contacted its curbside collection contractors to seek pricing for the option of changing those Collection Areas or portions of Collection Areas that currently receive biweekly recyclables collection to increase the service to have those Collection Areas or portions of Collection Areas receive weekly recyclables collection commencing April 1, 2016. The Collection RFP No. 14-336 allows for changes in the work and Halifax can seek pricing from the contractors for such changes to scope (pursuant to the General Provisions, subsection 6.13).

Below in the table is the pricing received for the above option with respect to increased recyclables collection frequency:

| Collection Area or Portion of Collection Area (SU = Serviced Units) | Additional Cost for Weekly Recyclables Apr/16 to Mar/17 | Additional Cost for Weekly Recyclables Apr/17 to Mar/18 | Additional Cost for Weekly Recyclables Apr/18 to Mar/19 | Additional Cost for Weekly Recyclables Apr/19 to Jun/19 |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Area 4 – Portion of Western County (est. 12,047 SU) | \$471,138 | \$480,558 | \$490,169 | \$123,266 |
| Portion of Area 5 – Sackville, Beaver Bank, Fall River (est. 5,997 SU) | \$269,220 | \$274,604 | \$280,096 | \$70,369 |
| Portion of Area 6 – Cole Harbour, Eastern Passage (est. 4,285 SU) | \$104,421 | \$105,465 | \$106,520 | \$26,696 |
| Area 7 – Lawrencetown, Porters Lake, Preston, etc. (est. 8,289 SU) | \$171,600 | \$176,400 | \$181,200 | \$45,600 |
| Area 8 – Eastern Shore, Musquodoboit Valley (est. 7,710 SU) | \$447,938 | \$459,137 | \$470,615 | \$118,376 |
| Totals | \$1,464,317 | \$1,496,164 | \$1,528,600 | \$384,307 |
| Totals (inc. net HST) | \$1,527,078 | \$1,560,290 | \$1,594,116 | \$400,779 |

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this time. Should Council decide to include this service commencing in Fiscal 2016/17, the additional cost over the remaining 39 months of the collection services contract would be \$5,082,263 (including net HST).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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