



COUNCIL REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: February 5, 2024

SUBMITTED BY: S. Olson, Director, Engineering and Environment

PREPARED BY: N. Schaper, Energy Project Manager; S. Lowe, Environmental Project Manager

REPORT TITLE: Bylaw No. 1169-2023 – Waste Bylaw (Re: Multi-Unit Waste Diversion & Organics AI Enforcement) (1st Reading)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A new Waste Bylaw No. 1169-2023 is proposed to require recycling and organics diversion at multi-unit buildings. The new bylaw will also include updated enforcement measures from the current Waste Bylaw (No. 800-2012) for non-compliance which will allow for enforcement measures for both single family and multi-family developments.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council give Bylaw No. 1169-2023 first reading.

COUNCIL HISTORY

On February 28, 2022, Council directed Administration to proceed with multi-unit engagement in 2022, to be followed by a draft Waste Bylaw to be brought to Council with a gradual implementation timeline. This followed changes to the Land Use Bylaw which were completed to ensure all new multi-unit developments have appropriate space allocated for three stream diversion.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE

KEY ISSUES

The City of Leduc is proposing a new Waste Bylaw to allow for the inclusion of multi-unit developments in organics and recycling diversion, with an education first, regulatory approach. The Waste Bylaw, paired with a strong community education and outreach plan, are informed by existing best practices, and stakeholder engagement with local multi-unit property managers and owners, and haulers. Multi-unit property managers will have the flexibility to select haulers of their choice, and the City will work with them on a case-by-case basis to meet their specific building requirements. The diversion requirements for multi-unit properties will not come into effect, and be enforceable until January 1, 2026, to allow for existing multi-unit properties to plan and implement the diversion requirements and prevent the sector from having to prematurely terminate existing contracts. This program will align with Edmonton's roll-out for mandatory diversion at multi-unit properties which started in 2023, and Alberta's new Extended Producer Responsibility Regulation which will require all multi-unit dwellings to have a recycling service provided by a producer at no charge, by October 1, 2026.

The new Waste Bylaw will also include updated penalties from the current Waste Bylaw (No. 800-2012). Present penalties have not been examined in many years and the current fee structure does not provide a feasible deterrent to ensure compliance. Once approved, this will allow for enforcement to take place on single family and multi family developments. The need to move forward with enforcement actions has been demonstrated through the City of Leduc's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Program - in partnership with Telus. Out of the over 700 postcards mailed to residents since the program started in 2023, approximately 11 households have continued to repeatedly contaminate the organics stream with garbage bags despite Administration's repeated efforts to educate. In these situations, it has become clear that some form of

COUNCIL REQUEST FOR DECISION

enforcement is needed for these outliers, and the existing structure was not deemed to be a manageable deterrent by Enforcement Services.

A summary and rationale of the updates to the new Waste Bylaw (No. 1169-2023) from the current Waste Bylaw (No. 800-2012) is attached.

LEGISLATION, POLICY AND/OR BYLAW

New Waste Bylaw No. 1169-2023 will replace the current Waste Bylaw No. 800-2012.

STRATEGIC / RELEVANT PLANS ALIGNMENT

Support for this initiative is listed below:

- Environmental Plan (2012): 4. Waste: “The City of Leduc will create an organics diversion program with curbside pickup”
- Environmental Plan (2012): 4. Waste “Develop a waste reduction strategy for businesses and multi-family units”
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Action Plan (2019): 5. Waste Actions: “Waste reduction education for business and apartments”

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATION:

Engineering and Environment will support the multi-unit sector waste diversion program roll-out starting in 2024. This will include on-going collaboration with Planning and Communications.

RISK ANALYSIS: FINANCIAL / LEGAL:

There is a potential financial risk to the City of Leduc if organics contamination is not reduced to lower levels (i.e. denied organics processing which leads to faster filling of the landfill and thus higher costs over time).

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATIONS:

A multi-unit education program will launch in early 2024 to support multi-unit stakeholders in preparing for the bylaw to come into effect.

ALTERNATIVES:

That Council approve first reading of Bylaw No. 1169-2023, but direct Administration to modify the bylaw to keep the current penalty structure from Bylaw No. 800-2012.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bylaw No. 1169-2023
2. Bylaw No. 1169-2023 – Waste Bylaw Rationale & Summary
3. Presentation – Bylaw No. 1169-2023 – Waste Bylaw