



CITY OF ST. ALBERT
ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: MEDICAL EXCEPTIONS TO GARBAGE COLLECTION

On August 21, 2017 Councillor Hughes provided notice in accordance with Section 23 of Procedure Bylaw 22/2016 that she intended to bring forward the proposed motion below.

In order for Council to debate the motion, the motion must be formally moved.

PROPOSED MOTION(S):

That the relevant policies and procedures are amended for Council's approval by the end of Q4 2017, to provide a medical exception to garbage collection maximums, with the requirements, limitations and any other considerations for this exemption.

BACKGROUND:

Exemptions for residential disposal of approved medical waste are fairly common in Canadian municipalities and this program could be introduced in the City of St. Albert through changes to the 'Residential Solid Waste Bylaw'. After contacting internal departments, representatives from the Roseridge Landfill and other municipalities with similar existing programs, Administration recommends the following changes could accommodate a 'medical exemption' within the Bylaw:

Bylaw Amendment

Amending the existing 'Residential Solid Waste Bylaw 24/2011' to include a definition of acceptable and unacceptable medical waste as well as section detailing the administration of the medical waste exemption program. These amendments could include details on the application process and time limitations of the program, similar to the City of Airdrie's Waste Management Bylaw No. B-07/2017 (section 8.2).

Acceptable Material

Administration has confirmed from the management of the Roseridge Landfill that they will accept most medical wastes as long as they are not deemed 'Biomedical Waste' as defined by the Province of Alberta's Environment Protection and Enhancement Act "Waste Control Regulation" AR 192/96. The types of acceptable and unacceptable medical wastes would be confirmed and listed in the Bylaw if it was amended.

Operational Impacts

The City's Utility Services Representatives have confirmed that a medical exemption could be administered through the existing Utility billing software. Public Works staff could deliver the additional cart once notification of a successful application for the 'medical exemption' program has been received from the Utilities Department.

Financial Impact

Based on discussions with Airdrie about the current enrollment of the 'medical exemption' program in their community, the City of St. Albert could expect up to 45 – 50 applicants per year. It is expected that this number will increase slightly each year with an increase in total population. The additional cost to implement this type of program would include the procurement of additional waste carts and the lost revenue from providing this as a free service for an approximate total financial impact of \$5,000 one-time costs and \$6,000 annual costs.

Due to the legislative requirements for updating a bylaw and the full Council meeting schedule for the last quarter of 2017, Administration is recommending that the timeline be changed from Q4 2017 to Q1 2018.

Report Date: September 5, 2017
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City Manager: Kevin Scoble