

Single Use Item Reduction Strategy (SUIRS)

Work Plan

Date

May 27, 2019

Presented by:

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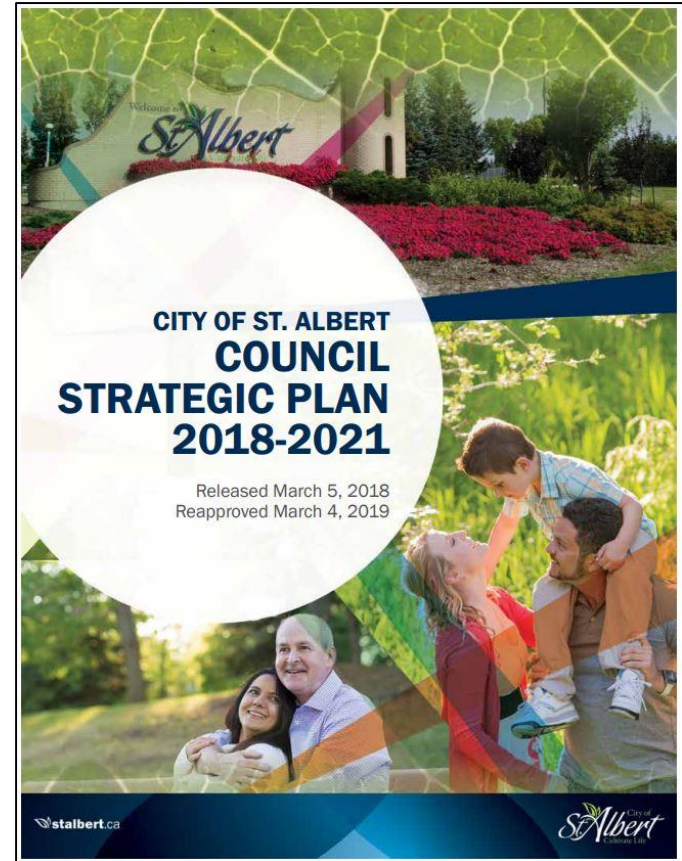
Supervisor, Waste & Diversion Programs

Utilities & Environment



Alignment to Priorities in Council's Strategic Plan

- Explore innovative environmental and conservation opportunities
 - Seek innovative practices to protect waterways and green spaces and reduce our environmental footprint, to ensure the vitality of our natural resources for future generations.
- Corporate Business Plan
 - 6.1 – Enhance waste minimization strategies with emphasis on reduce and reuse activities



Alignment to Council Direction

On January 14, 2019 GPFC passed the following motions:

AR-18-594

- That Administration prepare a proposed work plan that would identify the next steps in establishing a single use items (as defined by the EAC) reduction strategy including research, education and outreach with public participation incorporated and that the work plan including applicable cost impacts be reported to Council by the end of Q2 2019.
- That Administration investigate and report back on an increased business license fee for large businesses in which distribution of single-use items is pervasive, including grocery, fast-food, and retail stores.

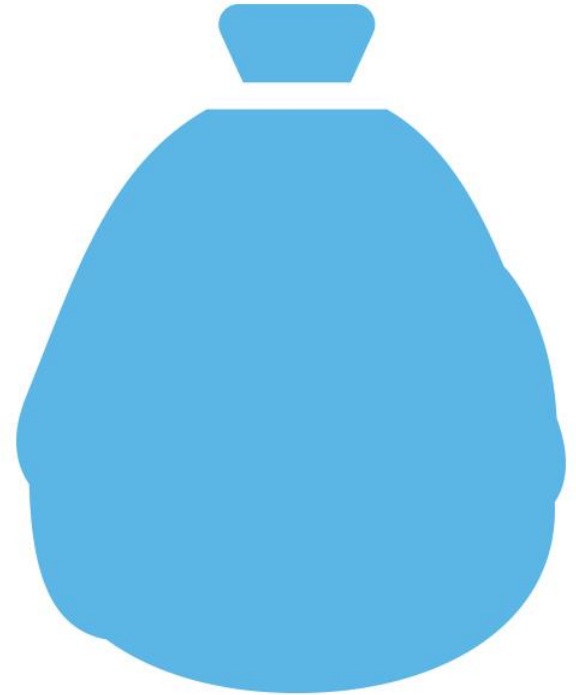
Background

- Attention to single use items
 - Changes in consumer behaviours and businesses operations
- Examples of single use items include plastic bags, straws, coffee cups, Styrofoam and utensils



Background

- Not accepted in the City's Blue Recycling Bag program, making them designated as garbage for landfill
- Commonly missorted items in the recycling, causing contamination



Background

- Recommend the SUIRS be executed in two phases
 - Phase One: Research, education and outreach and public participation
 - Phase Two: Deliver recommendations and a reasonable plan to be executed

Phase One

- Research what single items are distributed, used and disposed of in St. Albert
 - Businesses
 - City branches and departments
 - Litter clean up
 - Within City operations
 - Conduct a Curbside Waste Composition Study
 - Continue the Curbside Waste Education Program



Phase One

- Research business license fees
- Education and outreach
 - Inform target audiences about single use items in St. Albert
 - Inform target audience about public participation opportunities



Phase One

- Conduct public participation to engage with target audiences for feedback
 - Done through surveys, World Café, pop-up information booths, etc.
- Collaborate with other municipalities in the Edmonton Region
 - Using the same strategy (e.g. ban, incentives, reduction goals, etc.), focusing on the same items, sharing key messages and having similar education and outreach tactics

Phase One

- Assessment of any City infrastructure and services that would be required to be upgraded to support the reduction of single use items within Administrative offices
- Detailed SUIRS Work Plan attached with more information, specific goals, objectives and anticipated tactics
- Upon the completion of Phase One, Administration will have a better idea of any capital and/or operating costs required to support the implementation plan
- Additional funding will be required to execute Phase One of the SUIRS

Recommendation

1. That the May 27, 2019 Agenda Report titled “Single Use Items Workplan” be received as information
2. That the project funding of \$96,000 be provided from the Stabilization Reserve to complete Phase One
3. That Administration report the findings of Phase One of the Single Use Item Reduction Strategy back to Council by Q2 2021