



CITY OF ST. ALBERT ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: 2020 AUMA SECONDING CALGARY'S PROPOSED RESOLUTION

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present a motion for which Mayor Heron gave notice on June 4, 2020.

PROPOSED MOTION(S):

That the City of St. Albert second the City of Calgary's proposed 2020 AUMA resolution "Providing a Long Term Source of Financial Relief for Albertans".

ALIGNMENT TO PRIORITIES IN COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority #6: Environmental Stewardship: Explore innovative environmental and conservation opportunities.

ALIGNMENT TO LEVELS OF SERVICE DELIVERY

N/A

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL DIRECTION OR MANDATORY STATUTORY PROVISION

On February 4, 2019 Council passed the following motion:

(CM 19-001)

That Administration cooperate with other Alberta municipalities, AUMA, producers and recyclers of packaging and paper products, and the Province of Alberta to develop a baseline that can inform the design of a provincial Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program by researching: the benefit, challenges, and risks of an EPR program in Alberta for these groups and their constituents; the current recycling systems and supply chains across the province, and potential impacts of an EPR program in Alberta; and that Administration report back through Council no later than 2019 October.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Calgary has approached the City of St. Albert to second a resolution for the 2020 AUMA Convention regarding Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), through a resolution titled “Providing a Long Term Source of Financial Relief for Albertans.”

The City of Calgary Council approved the resolution at their June 15, 2020 Council Meeting.

Under the AUMA’s recently revised Resolution Policy, in order for a resolution to be seconded, it must be approved by Council Motion by the seconding municipality. The deadline for submissions for resolutions this year is June 30, 2020.

The proposed resolution is enclosed within Council’s agenda package.

St. Albert City Council has historically supported the call for the establishment of a Provincial EPR program, a program which exists in other provinces and is designed to prevent waste at the source and prevent Albertans from paying for recycling twice (which currently occurs).

Earlier this year, the Cities of Edmonton and Calgary, alongside the AUMA released a report titled “Extended Producer Responsibility for Residential Packaging and Paper Products: Alberta Collaborative Extended Producer Responsibility Study” whose development was supported by the City of St. Albert as a project partner.

The report has previously been shared with the Government of Alberta, and the study indicates that an Alberta EPR program can:

- Reduce the recycling collection services costs that municipalities charge their residents each year by up to \$105 million; this is Albertans’ money and it can be reinvested in other municipal services or provided as a cost saving to municipal residents
- Add \$16 million to the Alberta economy every year
- Add approximately 220 new jobs in Alberta’s recycling industry
- Recycle an additional 21,000 tonnes of packaging and paper products each year
- Reduce CO2 emissions by 72,000 tonnes each year – the equivalent of removing 15,000 cars from the road annually
- Increase recycling opportunities for rural Alberta and people who live in multi-dwelling residences

- Make recycling more convenient for Albertans by collecting the same materials province-wide
- Incentivize industry to design products that are more efficient to collect and recycle
- Incentivize industry to invest in recycling innovations and infrastructure

Calgary's proposed resolution re-articulates the value of an EPR program, and states that it will provide savings to Alberta taxpayers.

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