

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: EXPEDITED PROVINCIAL REGULATION OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council endorse the resolution outlined in Section 3.0 of this report for submission to the 2022 LMLGA AGM and 2022 UBCM Convention.
2. THAT Council forward this report to Burnaby Members of the Legislated Assembly.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on 2022 February 16, received a report from the General Manager Engineering recommending that Council direct staff to begin development of a municipal bylaw to regulate single-use plastics. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy has recently granted local governments the authority under *Ministerial Order M309-2021* to enact municipal bylaws which restrict the usage of plastic bags and other single-use plastic items. The Committee expressed concern that increasingly, local governments are being tasked with enacting their own bylaws that would be more effective and equitable if regulated on a Provincial or Federal level.

Arising from discussion, the Committee recommended Council endorse a Resolution, as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report, for submission to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) and Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

2.0 POLICY SECTION

This report supports the following goals and sub-goals of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy Environment –
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
From: Environment Committee
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3.0 Resolution

This section provides background information on a resolution that has been prepared for Council's consideration and submission to the 2022 LMLGA AGM and 2022 UBCM Convention.

Under the *Environmental Management Act*, the Provincial Government has the authority to regulate or ban single-use plastic items that are harmful to the environment.

As such, the following resolution has been prepared for Council's consideration:

WHEREAS in 2019, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy published the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan which included the consideration for a provincial ban on single-use plastic items to provide a consistent approach to reducing single-use plastics; and

WHEREAS the authorization of local governments to enact municipal bylaws to ban plastic checkout bags has created inconsistency between municipalities specifically in regards to the minimum fees applied to recycled paper bags and reusable bags; and

WHEREAS the enactment of municipal single-use plastic bylaws is voluntary and thereby creating a patchwork of regulations between neighboring municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government's proposed Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations published December 25, 2021 will be registered and in force by the end of 2022; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government's proposed Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations do not include replacement fees for single-use plastic items;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Government expedite the development of single-use plastic regulations by the end of 2022 and the regulations will not include replacement fees for single-use plastic items; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse the resolution for consideration at the 2022 Lower Mainland Local Government Association AGM and 2022 UBCM Convention, and forward the resolution to the Burnaby Members of the Legislated Assembly.

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
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4.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The Committee recommends Council endorse the resolution for consideration at the 2022 LMLGA AGM and 2022 UBCM Convention, and forward this report to Burnaby Members of the Legislated Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Keithley
Chair

Councillor C. Jordan
Vice Chair

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer GM Corporate Services GM Engineering GM Planning and Development
