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**TO:** CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2012 October 31

**FROM:** ACTING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING **FILE:** 7000 04  
DIRECTOR FINANCE *Fees and Rates*

**SUBJECT: 2013 GARBAGE TOTER DISPOSAL FEES**

**PURPOSE:** To seek Council's approval to amend the garbage toter fees for residential properties curbside pickup.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** Council adopt the 2013 garbage toter disposal fees for residential property curbside pick-up as found in Table 3 of this report.
2. **THAT** Council authorize Bylaw 12875 – Burnaby Solid Waste and Recycling Bylaw to be amended as outlined in this report.

**REPORT**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The City provides a comprehensive solid waste and recycling service to residential, institutional and commercial customers. The program offered by the City ranges from curbside service to central depot collection, and is considered one of the most integral solid waste and recycling management models in the region.

Burnaby Council has made a long-term commitment to sustainability, encompassing economic prosperity, community well-being and environmental integrity. In 2007, Council adopted the Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Challenge initiative and more recently, in 2010, adopted a number of municipal actions and targets under the Metro Vancouver Regional Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan (ISWRMP).

Metro Vancouver and member municipalities work collaboratively to provide waste management services to the region. Jointly, the goal is to increase waste diversion efforts so that by 2015, a minimum of 70% of waste is kept out of the landfill. As a monetary incentive to encourage the reduction of garbage and to increase recycling efforts, Metro Vancouver has significantly increased garbage tipping charges to municipalities over the past four years.

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From 2008 to 2012 Burnaby’s garbage disposal costs have increased by 50% for disposal of garbage collected from residential toters. In 2008, Burnaby’s garbage disposal costs for residential properties (primarily single and two-family) were \$1.4 million. For the 2012 fiscal year end these costs are projected to be \$2.2 million.

Over the next four years from 2013 to 2016 Metro Vancouver tipping charges are budgeted to increase 41% from \$107 to \$151/tonne as shown below.

**Table 1: Metro Vancouver – Projected Tipping Fee Increase**

Garbage Disposal Tipping Fee (\$/tonne)	2013	2014	2015	2016
	\$107	\$108	\$137	\$151

The purpose of this report is to seek Committee and Council approval to amend the 2013 garbage toter disposal fees to reflect the increase in Metro Vancouver garbage tipping fees and to encourage more diversion through recycling.

**2.0 2012 RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE TOTER FEES**

The City’s automated garbage and yard waste collection program was deployed in late 2009 to achieve several key benefits, one of which was to encourage garbage diversion and cost reduction.

Under this program residential households were provided with one garbage and one yard waste toter. An incentive fee structure was established in 2010 for the garbage disposal program based on the principal that those who waste more pay more; and those who waste less pay less.

The garbage fee rate structure was designed to give homeowners the opportunity to see how much garbage they produced and to provide an incentive to reduce and recycle. It was expected that after adapting to the new toter system, property owners would over time increase their recycling efforts and reduce the amount of garbage going to the landfill.

Each residence had the option of selecting the appropriate sized garbage toter based on their expected usage.

The 2012 residential garbage toter fees are set out in Table 2.

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**Table 2: 2012 Residential Garbage Toter Fees**

Toters	Size (litre)	Rate
Small	120	-\$40.00
Default	180	\$0.00
Medium	240	\$117.50
Large	360	\$290.00

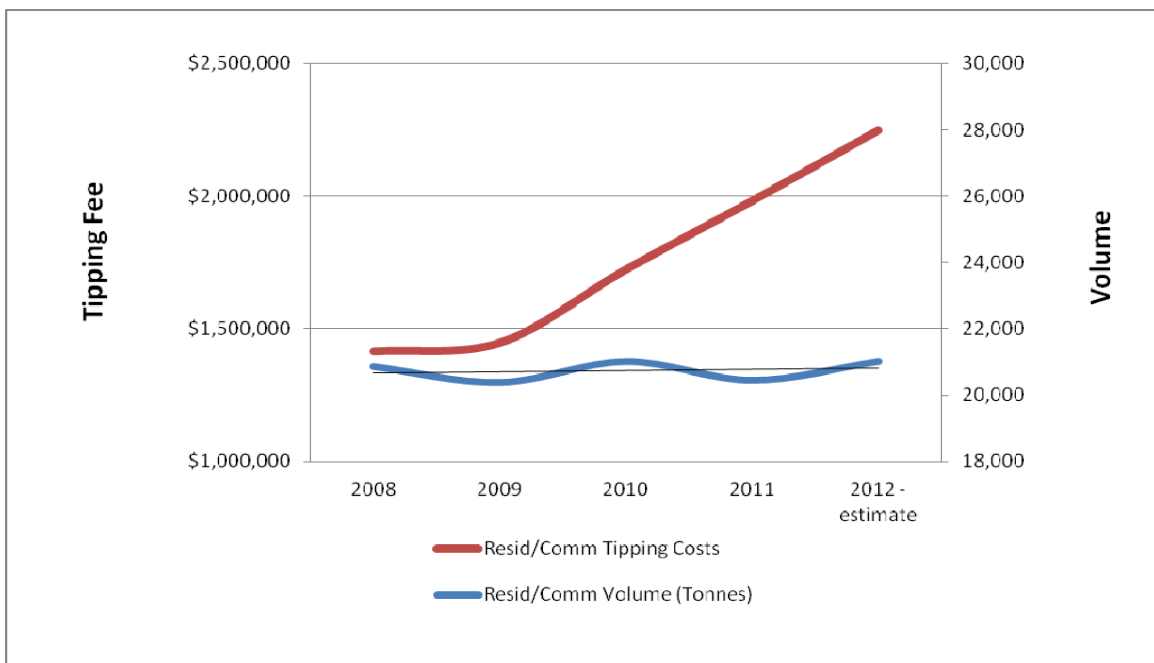
Toter fees apply primarily to single or two-family residential properties that have garbage toter pick-up. By selecting the smallest sized toter a resident can receive a discount of \$40; by selecting a medium or large sized toter, an annual fee of \$117.50 or \$290.00 is applied.

One garbage toter is allowed per household, however home owners are permitted to purchase an additional yard waste toter, at the cost of the toter. As part of the incentive program to increase waste diversion, no annual fee for yard waste disposal is currently charged.

For exchanges in toter size after six months of the program implementation, residents were charged a \$25 fee for the delivery, pick-up and cleaning related to the exchange.

**3.0 PROPOSED 2013 RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE TOTER DISPOSAL FEES**

A review of the waste diversion tonnage from the residential toter program has concluded that the incentive plan implemented in 2010 has not resulted in a decrease of household garbage disposed at the landfill. The following graph shows that despite incentive to encourage residents to reduce their waste, the volume of residential garbage has remained almost constant for the four years 2008 through 2012, while costs have increased by 50%.



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In addition, Metro Vancouver tipping charges are projected to increase by another 41% over the next four years. This substantial increase will significantly impact City costs unless further waste diversion is achieved. It is therefore recommended that garbage toter disposal fees for residential property owners be increased to reflect the substantial increase in Metro Vancouver garbage disposal charges with the intent to encourage more diversion through recycling.

The residential garbage fee structure, is based on the **use more pay more, use less pay less** principle, and is limited to the recovery of the City’s tipping charges paid directly to Metro Vancouver for residential garbage disposal at the landfill. It does not include other garbage service costs.

The garbage toter disposal fees for residential households are based on the property owner’s choice of toter size. All toters sizes have an increase in costs based on the principle of use more pay more, use less pay less. The smallest increase is for the 120 liter toter at a new fee of \$25.00, while the largest increase is for the 360 litre toter at a new fee of \$385.00.

The proposed residential garbage toter disposal fee increases are provided in Table 3.

**Table 3: Proposed 2013 Residential Garbage Toter Disposal Fees**

Toters	Size (litre)	Net Fee
Small	120	\$25.00
Default	180	\$75.00
Medium	240	\$205.00
Large	360	\$385.00

Upon receiving concurrence from the Committee and Council to adopt the proposed toter disposal fee schedule and amend Bylaw 12875 – Burnaby Solid Waste and Recycling Bylaw, a communication strategy will be developed to inform residential property owners of the proposed changes. Advertisements will be placed in local papers to inform residents of the opportunity to exchange the toters free of charge from 2013 January 01 up to the billing due date of 2013 March 15. After this time a \$50 service fee will be applied for any exchanges of toters.

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#### 4.0 RECOMMENDATION

Burnaby Council has made a long-term commitment to environmental sustainability and has joined other municipalities in supporting the regional ISWRMP target of 70% waste diversion from the landfill by 2015. While the City has initiated several waste diversion program options to enable residents to divert waste, it is noted that over the last four years, garbage volumes have not decreased. The City of Burnaby's Metro Vancouver residential garbage disposal charges have increased by 50% over the past four years and are projected to continue to increase by 41% over the next four years. Without change these escalating costs will continue to have a significant impact on Burnaby property taxes.

To encourage property owners to recycle and reduce their garbage, and to follow the principle of **use more pay more, use less pay less**, staff recommend a 2013 garbage toter disposal fee increase as set out in Table 3 for residential properties and that Council amend Bylaw 12875 – Burnaby Solid Waste and Recycling Bylaw as outlined in this report.

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ACTING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

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DD:RR/br

Copied to: City Manager  
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