Date:  May 14, 2019

To: Chair and Members
   Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration

From:  E. (Beth) Goodger, General Manager
        Public Works Commission

1.0 Type of Report

   Consent Item  [ ]
   Item For Consideration  [X]

2.0 Topic

   Comments on Environmental Bill of Rights Registry – Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities: Discussion Paper [Financial Impact - None]

3.0 Recommendation

   A. THAT Report No. 2019-278 titled “Comments on Environmental Bill of Rights Registry – Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities: Discussion Paper” BE RECEIVED; and

   B. THAT the Province BE ADVISED The Corporation of the City of Brantford is generally supportive of the Discussion Paper for Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities (Environmental Registry posting - # 013-4689) as it aims to increase waste diversion within the Province and most importantly increase the financing to operate these programs, in particular the provincial Blue Box Program Plan; and

   C. THAT given the City of Brantford is required to be a service provider of waste diversion programs under the current legislation and has an interest in the
impacts the proposed initiatives contained within the Discussion Paper for Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities may have to its integrated municipal waste management system and services provided to its residents the following comments BE SUBMITTED in response to the Environmental Registry posting # 013-4689:

(i) The current provincial Blue Box Program Plan (BBPP) needs to be transitioned to a full Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program as soon as possible as municipalities are continually required to provide increased financial resources to manage these materials while having little control over the types of paper and packaging materials that are placed with the management system; and

(ii) The Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks should issue a letter to initiate the process for the development of the new full EPR regulation for the BBPP, under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, as soon as possible with the suggestion the regulation come into force by the third quarter of 2020 prior to the next provincial election; and

(iii) The Province needs to regulate the use of single-use products and packaging (e.g. plastic straws) at a provincial level in order to reduce the use and distribution of these materials on a consistent basis rather individually within each municipality; and

(iv) The City is supportive of expanding municipal Green Bin programs to reduce landfilling of food waste materials however no supporting financial mechanisms have been identified to address the increasing financial burden being placed on municipalities to manage waste materials within the province; and

(v) The City is supportive of the development of phased in approach proposal to ban food waste from landfills as it allows municipalities to develop and implement integrated diversion programs for these materials; and

(vi) The City is supportive of increasing the Province’s overall waste diversion rate through improved residential and IC&I recycling programs; and

(vii) The City is supportive of the development of new initiatives to decrease litter and illegal dumping in public spaces such as parks; and

(viii) The City is supportive of developing new initiatives to decrease the amount and types of waste sent to landfills, and,
(ix) The City is supportive of improving promotion and education activities to create awareness and drive the need to improve waste diversion rates within the province; and,

(x) The Province should work with the Federal Government on national strategies to reduce packaging and single use products, labelling to identify recyclable and compostable materials, producer responsibility for waste materials and food waste prevention; and

D. THAT the City of Brantford comments outlined in Appendix “A” of Report No. 2019-278, supporting a broader municipal perspective from across the province, also BE SUBMITTED in response to the request for input into the Discussion Paper for Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities as posted on the Environmental Registry (Posting # 013-4689); and

E. THAT the comments received from the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) outlined in Appendix “B” of 2019-278 also BE SUBMITTED in response to the request for input into the Discussion Paper for Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities as posted on the Environmental Registry (posting # 013-4689); and

F. THAT a copy of this resolution BE FORWARDED to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), Minister of Provincial Parliament – Brant, Member of Parliament – Brantford-Brant, Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Municipal Waste Association (MWA); and

G. THAT Report No. 2019-278 BE PROVIDED to the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) for their information.

4.0 Purpose and Overview

The purpose of this report is to provide:

(i) A summary of the Discussion Paper regarding Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities as posted by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) (hereafter referred to as the “Discussion Paper”); and

(ii) Comments on the Discussion Paper (Environmental Registry posting - # 013-4689) and forwarding to the MECP.
5.0 Background

5.1 Waste Free Ontario Act

As outlined in Council Report No. PW2017-020 titled “Comments on Environmental Bill of Rights Registry – Final Draft Strategy for a Waste Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy” a new legislative framework for managing waste in Ontario was proclaimed in the Fall 2016 Ontario under Bill 151, Waste Free Ontario Act (WFOA). The legislation is comprised of two Acts, the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act (RRCEA), and the Waste Diversion Transition Act (WDTA). At that time, the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) was created to support the transition to a circular economy and a waste-free Ontario and enforce the requirements of the RRCEA.

The WDTA allows the three existing Ontario stewardship programs (i.e. Blue Box Program Plan (BBPP), Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Municipal Hazardous and Special Wastes (MHSW)), operated by Stewardship Ontario (SO), to eventually wind-down and cease operations after new full extended producer responsibility (EPR) regulations are implemented under the RRCEA. All Ontario stewardship programs, except the BBPP have or are currently transitioning towards full EPR operation. On August 14th, 2017, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) issued a letter to the RPCA and SO requesting that an amended BBPP be submitted for approval by February 15th, 2018. Unfortunately, a finalized BBPP was not received by the Minister before June 2018 change in Provincial government. It is worth noting that the cost to operate the BBPP is currently split approximately 50/50 between municipalities and the businesses that produce paper and packing materials within the province.

5.2 Current City Waste Diversion Programs

Under the RRCEA the City operates four (4) waste diversion programs. Table 1 below outlines the programs operated by the City, types of materials targeted for diversion and tonnages collected in 2018.
Table 1 - 2018 Waste Diversion Programs and Tonnages Collected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diversion Program</th>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curbside Blue Box Program</td>
<td>Plastics #1 - #7 &amp; Paper Products (OCC, ONP, boxboard, etc.)</td>
<td>6,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW)</td>
<td>Paints, motor oil, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, etc.</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used Tire Collection</td>
<td>Used tires</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Collection</td>
<td>Used computers, cell phones, tablets, T.V.’s, VCR’s, etc.</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Total Tonnage: 6,274

As shown in Table 1, 6,274 tonnes of materials were collected in 2018 under the City’s RRCEA diversion programs. These materials programs represented 46% of the total residential waste diverted from disposal in 2018. An additional 7,567 tonnes of materials were diverted from landfill through (i) curbside collection program for leaf and yard wastes and (ii) materials collected at the landfill drop off area such as metal, old corrugated cardboard (OCC), brush, etc. The City’s residential diversion rate was 35% in 2018, up 1% from 34% in 2017.

5.3 Annual Waste Diversion Program Financing

The operation of the City’s waste diversion programs are currently funded through the following sources:

1. Provincial industry funding organizations (IFOs)
2. Sale of Blue Box Materials
3. Tax-supported and landfill tipping fee revenues

Table 2 below outlines the current IFOs operated within the province, under the authority of the RRCEA. Producers of materials designated under the RRCEA are required to pay annual contributions to an industry funding organization (IFO), which is a company that is established to administer the stewardship program. The IFO then distributes funding to diversion program operators. As an operator, the City currently receives annual funding from three (3) of these programs to operate the waste diversion programs offered to residents.
It should be noted, as of January 1, 2019, all recovery, collection, and recycling costs for used tires has been shifted to a full EPR program operated by producers, first importers, distributors, etc. of new tires. For now, the City remains a collection site for used tires at the City’s Drop Off Area at the Mohawk Street Landfill Site and during Household Hazardous Waste Event Days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Funding Program</th>
<th>Existing or Proposed Full EPR Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curbside Blue Box Program</td>
<td>Stewardship Ontario</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW)</td>
<td>Stewardship Ontario</td>
<td>January 1, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used Tire Collection</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ontario Tire Stewardship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Collection</td>
<td>Ontario Electronic Stewardship</td>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 - Provincial Waste Diversion Funding and EPR Programs

It is also worth noting that the Minister of the MECP has given direction RPRA to windup and introduce full EPR programs for WEEE and MHSW materials by July 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021, respectively. If this occurs as anticipated, all recovery and recycling costs will also be shifted to the producers, first importers, distributors, etc. of these materials under a full EPR program.

Further information regarding the annual funding received by the City is provided in the Financial Implications section (i.e. Section 9.1) of this report.

5.4 Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities: Discussion Paper

On March 6, 2019, the MECP posted the “Discussion Paper for Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities” on the EBR (posting # 013-4689) for public review and comment. The purpose of the Discussion Paper is to provide Ontarians with the opportunity to provide input on the following eight (8) items;

(i) Prevent and reduce litter in neighbourhoods and parks,
(ii) Increase opportunities for Ontarians to reduce and divert waste at home, at work and on the go,
(iii) Make producers responsible for the waste generated from their products and packaging,
(iv) Reduce and divert food and organic waste households and businesses,
(v) Reduce plastic waste going to landfills and waterways,
(vi) Provide clear rules for compostable products and packaging,
(vii) Recover the value of resources in waste and,
(viii) Support competitive and sustainable end-markets for Ontario’s waste.

Within each of the above noted items, the MECP has included discussion questions to seek input regarding future waste policy and the timing for next steps. Appendix “A” attached to this report provides a summary of the questions within the Discussion Paper.

5.5 Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement in Ontario


At that time the Framework consisted of two complementary components:

- Part A - Action Plan which outlined strategic commitments to be taken by the province to address food and organic waste; and
- Part B - Waste Policy Statement, issued under Section 11 of the RRCEA, which provides direction to the province, municipalities, producers, IC&I sector, waste management sector, and others to further the provincial interest in waste reduction and resource recovery as it relates to food and organic waste.

Subsequent to the June 2018 change in Provincial government, all proposed strategic commitments outlined in Part A by the province, including the plan to ban the disposal of food and organic wastes, from all residential and IC&I sources as early as 2022, have been cancelled and only the Waste Policy Statement (Part B) remains in force as legal policy document under the authority of the RRCEA. The most significant of the
Waste Policy Statement obligations require the City to complete the following, by the timelines indicated:

(i) Provide promotion and education materials to residents that support and increase participation in food and organic waste resource recovery efforts, as early as 2019,

(ii) Provide a curbside collection program for food and organic wastes to single-family dwellings and achieve a 70% waste reduction and resource recovery rate, no later than 2025, and

(iii) Update official plans, zoning by-laws, plan of subdivision approvals and site plan approvals support the resource recovery of food and organic waste for their residents, no time frame provided.

As outlined in Section 9.3, staff is currently undertaking a number of activities to determine the changes will be required to the City’s current Solid Waste Management Programs and Services in order to demonstrate compliance within the timeframes mandated by the Waste Policy Statement.

Section 2.4 of the Discussion Paper seeks input regarding future initiatives related to the diversion of food and organic waste materials.

5.6 Council Priorities – Next Two Years

At the Council meeting on February 26, 2019, the following resolution was adopted setting out Council priorities for the next two years:

THAT the following priorities identified as part of the February 2019 Priority Setting Exercise BE REFERRED to Staff for a report back addressing requirements for implementation, timelines, funding and other resources required:

(i) Road Development – Access to West Brant and Hwy. 403
(ii) Finalize Boundary Implementation Plan
(iii) External Review of Operations
(iv) Housing Continuum
(v) Green Bin Program and Digester
(vi) Affordability - tax Increase not to exceed Inflation
(vii) Relationships with Six Nations and County of Brant
(viii) Mohawk Greenwich Lands amendment approved revise to: "The development of a consolidated museum and archives facility along with a mid-size performance venue

(ix) Cost/Benefit of Services

(x) Police/Crime/Drugs

(xi) Value for Money Audit

(xii) Traffic Technology

As noted above, development of Green Bin Program and City owned Organics Digester ranked number five (5) on Council’s two year priority list. As noted in Section 9.3 of this report, staff is currently undertaking a number of activities in relation to Priority #5. Section 2.4 of the Discussion Paper seeks input regarding future initiatives related to the diversion of food and organic waste materials.

### 5.7 Future Solid Waste Service Contracts

In 2012, the Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Request for Tenders (RFT) included bids options for the Receiving, Transporting, Processing and Marketing of Household Organics. An unexpected result of the RFT process was that no bids were received for the processing and management of household organics. As a result, a curbside collection and diversion program for residential household organics could not be implemented at the commencement of the solid waste contracts on November 1, 2013 and these materials currently remain in the collection program for regular curbside garbage (i.e. landfilled).

At the City Council meeting held on August 22, 2017, Council approved a two year extension to the existing Solid Waste Service contracts from October 31, 2018 until October 31, 2020. Collection services for garbage, yard waste and recyclable materials were included in these contract extensions. One of the main reasons for extending the Solid Waste Service contracts was to provide time to monitor developments regarding the new waste management legislation for the diversion of food and organic waste materials and the development of a full EPR system for the provincial Blue Box Program Plan.

It should be noted staff was required to issue one-year emergency contracts for the Recycling Collections and as well as Recyclable Materials Processing Contracts commencing on November 1, 2018 as a
result the of the previous contractor not accepting the proposed renewal offer from the City. The one-year emergency contracts will expire on October 31, 2019.

Section 2.3 of the Discussion Paper seeks input regarding future initiatives related to the development of a full EPR system for the provincial Blue Box Program Plan.

5.8 Proposed Ban on the Sale and Distribution of Plastic Straws (i.e. Single Use Plastics) Within the City

At the Council meeting on March 26, 2019, the following resolution was adopted regarding single-use plastics:

WHEREAS section 8(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 requires that the powers of a municipality are to be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality’s ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS section 8(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 permits the municipality to pass by-laws under section 10 and 11 which: regulates or prohibits the matter; and to require persons to do things respecting the matter;

AND WHEREAS section 10(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 permits single-tier municipalities to pass by-laws respecting the following matters: economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality, including respecting climate change;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the City of Brantford wishes to consider regulating or prohibiting the sale and distribution of single-use plastic straws in the municipality in order to reduce: (a) littering; (b) the impact on landfills; (c) the impact on sewers; and (d) the contribution to climate change;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT City Staff BE DIRECTED to:

1. Analyze the impacts of single-use plastic straws in the municipality; and how to reduce those impacts through the regulation and prohibition of single-use plastic straws;
2. Consult with the public and impacted industries, including but not limited to:
   (i) Retail Stores;
   (ii) Restaurants;
   (iii) Manufacturers and Distributors, as applicable;
   (iv) Chamber of Commerce;
   (v) Brantford Accessibility Advisory Committee; and
   (vi) Brantford Environmental Policy Advisory Committee;

3. THAT City Staff REPORT BACK to Council on the results of their analysis and consultation; along with a process, including timelines, to:
   a) In the first phase, regulate the sale and distribution of single-use plastic straws, taking into account existing inventories and the sourcing of alternate suppliers; and
   b) In the final phase, prohibit the sale and distribution of single-use plastics straws.

Section 2.5 of the Discussion Paper seeks input from the public to address plastic and in particular single use plastic waste materials, such as straws, at a provincial level.

5.9 Anaerobic Digestion Facility and Green Energy Opportunities at Wastewater Treatment Facility

As outlined in Council Report No. 2018-046 titled "Anaerobic Digestion Facility and Green Energy Opportunities Feasibility Study" staff with the assistance of an engineering consultant has been investigating the potential integration of a waste diversion system for household organics (and possibly other sources of biodegradable organic materials) with the development of Green Energy initiatives while supporting initiatives to address climate change issues such as the reduction greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Completion of the Feasibility Study was also important to gain an understanding of the potential financial costs and opportunities as well as compliance requirements regarding the management food and organic waste materials.

The 2019 – 2028 Capital Budget Forecast, approved by Council, includes $19.85 million for the proposed project development based on receiving
on receiving approximately 50% funding from other levels of government. It should be noted that an approved recommendation of Report No, 2018-046 was that the General Manager of Public Works be directed to submit funding applications, on behalf of the Corporation, to Provincial and Federal Funding Programs in order to obtain the necessary funding related to the proposed construction of an anaerobic food and organic waste digester.

6.0 Corporate Policy Context

Monitoring developments regarding the Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities is in keeping with the Strategic Plan under the goal of Managed Growth & Environmental Leadership as it important to understand and forecast the potential implications to the City’s waste diversion programs and future contracted operations.

7.0 Input From Other Sources

Input regarding the preparation of responses to the Discussion Paper questions was received from the Municipal Resources Recovery and Research Collaborative (M3RC). M3RC is comprised of representatives from the City of Toronto, the Municipal Waste Association (MWA), the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario (RWPCO) and the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Staff advised the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) that the Discussion Paper had been posted on the EBR and that a report to Council is being submitted for the May cycle. Staff received recommendations from EPAC regarding the Discussion Paper and staff report. These recommendations have been attached to this report as Appendix “B”.

8.0 Analysis

8.1 Review and Proposed Responses to Discussion Paper Initiatives

Staff has reviewed the Discussion Paper as posted on the EBR and has prepared the following specific responses to the initiatives outlined:

(i) The current provincial BBPP needs to be transitioned to a full EPR program as soon as possible as municipalities are continually required to provide increased financial resources to manage these
materials while having little control over the types of paper and packaging materials that are placed with the management system;

(ii) The Minister of the MECP should issue a letter to initiate the process for the development of the new full EPR regulation for the BBPP, under the RRCEA, as soon as possible with the suggestion the regulation come into force by the third quarter of 2020 prior to the next provincial election;

(iii) The Province needs to address the use of single-use products and packaging (i.e. such as plastic straws) at a provincial level in order to manage the use and distribution of these materials on a consistent basis rather individually within each municipality;

(iv) The City is supportive of expanding municipal Green Bin programs to reduce landfilling of food waste materials however no supporting financial mechanisms have been identified to address the increasing financial burden being placed on municipalities to manage waste materials within the province;

(v) The City is supportive of the development of phased in approach proposal to ban food waste from landfills as it allows municipalities to develop and implement integrated diversion programs for these materials;

(vi) The City is supportive of increasing the Province’s overall waste diversion rate through improved residential and IC&I recycling programs;

(vii) The City is supportive of the development of new initiatives to decrease litter in public spaces;

(viii) The City is supportive of developing new initiatives to decrease the amount and types of waste sent to landfills;

(ix) The City is supportive of improving promotion and education activities to create awareness and drive the need to improve waste diversion rates within the province; and,

(x) The Province should work with the Federal Government on national strategies to reduce packaging and single use products, labelling to identify recyclable and compostable materials, producer responsibility for waste materials and food waste prevention.

Staff has submitted the above noted comments, specific to the concerns and issues within the City of Brantford, in response to the EBR posting, noting they are subject to Council approval through Report 2019-078.
In addition to the specific City of Brantford comments noted above, Appendix “A” attached to this report outlines detailed responses to each set of Discussion Paper questions. It is worth noting these responses were prepared with input from the collaboration of work undertaken by M3RCs (i.e. AMO, RPWCO, MWA and the City of Toronto) in order to develop a consistent municipal message to the MECP from across the province. Staff recommends that the Appendix A responses also be submitted in response to the EBR posting.

Overall, City staff is supportive of the initiatives within the Discussion Paper. However, as with previous undertakings within the province, implementation of the initiatives will require the combined effort of stakeholders, producers, municipalities and the Provincial government.

8.2 Integrated Waste Management System – Brantford

The City’s current Waste Management System is comprised of a number of service contracts and residential diversion programs which form an overall integrated waste management program. As noted in the following sections, Request for Tenders (RFTs) for existing or future diversion program services will be issued in order to meet current provincial diversion obligations.

8.2.1 Status of Brantford’s Recycling Collection and Processing Contracts

On April 3, 2019, staff issued RFTs for multi-year contracts for recycling collections and processing operations to replace the current emergency contracts which end on October 31, 2019. The proposed contracts include clauses to address the potential implementation of EPR programs for these services and possible transfer to provincially operated programs. Staff will be providing Council with a report for the June cycle regarding tender results and contract award recommendations.

8.2.2 Status of Brantford’s Household Organics Collection and Processing Contracts

As mentioned previously, the Food and Organic Waste Framework in Ontario requires the City to provide a curbside collection program for food and organic wastes to single-family dwellings and achieve a 70% waste reduction and resource recovery rate, no later than 2025. The best time to
implement a diversion program for these materials is at the commencement of the waste collection contract. Staff is currently preparing RFTs for multi-year contracts for the collection and processing of household organics for issue in Q3 2019 as part of the compliance investigations as required by the Framework. Once the RFT process is completed, staff will be providing Council with a full report regarding tender results and contract award recommendations.

8.3 Banning of Single-Use plastics (i.e. straws), Packaging and Problematic Materials

Section 2.5 of the Discussion Paper released by MECP seeks input from the public and stakeholders to address single-use plastics as well as packaging and other problematic plastic waste materials at a provincial level. The European Union passed a resolution banning single-use plastics such as straws by 2021. The Canadian government announced a target of 50% reduction in single-use plastics by 2030. More than 350 retailers have announced their intention to close the loop on plastic pollution and these numbers are increasing daily.

Staff will be monitoring the activities and initiatives undertaken by the Province in order to ensure and avoid any duplication of regulatory enforcement activities, such as provincial bans, diversion strategies and/or programs. Given the direction in the Discussion Paper, Staff will be deferring work on the Council direction to undertake any local consultations or implementation of use restrictions of single-use plastics within the City until a provincial approach is outlined. As with other diversion strategies, a consistent approach and application of enforcement activities will be key to achieving the waste diversion results desired.

Council approved a resolution at its April 2019 to lead by example and discontinue using disposable plates and cutlery for meals served in City Hall as outlined below:

Committee of the Whole Report#2019-04-16, Item 29

WHEREAS approximately 8 million metric tons of plastic are thrown into the ocean annually, with this amount of plastic set to increase tenfold by 2020; and
WHEREAS plastic is commonly transported into large bodies of water from land-based sources, both directly and via river systems; and

WHEREAS single-use plastics such as straws and plastic cutlery are frequently used at City Hall for various Council and Community events and meals; and

WHEREAS the impact of single-use plastics on our environment is a concern for young Citizens of Brantford, as demonstrated on March 19, 2019 when students from Russell Reid Elementary School made a presentation to Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration regarding the sale and use of plastic straws within the City of Brantford; and

WHEREAS at its Meeting on March 26, 2019 City Council adopted Item 21 of Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration Report #2019-03-19 City staff were directed to report back on prohibition of sale and distribution of plastic straws within the City of Brantford; and

WHEREAS the City currently spends approximately $125.00 per year on single use plates and cutlery to support Council meals; and

WHEREAS it is important to lead by example when establishing policies to reduce waste in our Community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

a. THAT single-use plastics at City Hall, such as straws, cutlery and plates BE PHASED OUT by exhausting existing on-hand stocks of such products; and

b. THAT these items BE REPLACED with reusable dishware and cutlery; and

c. THAT the Facilities Management Operating Budget line 152510.62676 – City Hall Janitorial Services BE INCREASED by $1,655.00 on an annual basis as required to cover the labour costs for cleaning the reusable dishware and cutlery and the one-time purchase of materials; and

d. THAT Corporate Council Meals Operating Budget line 102101.61134 BE REDUCED by $125.00 on an annual basis to reflect the elimination of disposable plates and cutlery.
8.4 Decreasing Litter in Public Spaces

The City is supportive of any initiatives and funding to decrease litter in public spaces. It is a common issue for all municipalities and would benefit from a coordinated approach at the provincial level. Illegal dumping is also an ongoing concern for the City and there are ongoing efforts with municipal partners to take action against perpetrators.

Litter containers are provided in public spaces in Parks and the downtown core. Litter pick-up is provided by the Parks Division in the City’s Parks and roadside clean-up is done by the Operational Services Department. Council recently approved an initiative to support a recycling program at the City’s Canada Day event through the purchase of sorting containers and mobilizing volunteers through the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee to operate the program.

Community clean-ups are coordinated by the Brantford / Brant Earth Week Committee. The Committee was formed in August 2007 to promote / encourage / sponsor some local environmental events on or around April 22nd – Earth Day. The Parks Division also coordinates park clean-up events. A day of action on litter in Ontario, coordinating with municipalities, schools, etc. would raise awareness of the impact of litter and such an initiative, if funded, could be supported by the City’s Neighbourhood Associations. A conservation leaders program working with students would also be a benefit.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 Impact to Current Waste Diversion Program Operating Budgets

Table 3 below outlines the 2019 Budget for the City’s diversion programs that are currently provided under the RRCEA. As shown, the City will receive an estimated $869,500 in funding from IFOs for 2019 to collect and divert from disposal materials such as Blue Box recyclables, WEEE and MHSW. The City also receives revenue from the sale of Blue Box Materials. Together these revenues cover 57% of the operating costs, resulting in a net cost of $1,217,500 for the City. This amount would represent the current unfunded obligation the stewards will become
financially responsible for under future full EPR programs for these materials under RRCEA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Budget</th>
<th>Operating Expenditures</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stewardship Funding¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Diversion</td>
<td>$2,590,000</td>
<td>$759,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Curbside Collection (BBPP) and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing Blue Box Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Hazardous Waste</td>
<td>$248,000</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Municipal Hazardous or Special</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste (MHSW)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Waste Electrical and Electronic</td>
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<td>Equipment (WEEE) Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub Totals</td>
<td>$2,838,000</td>
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<td>Totals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Tax Supported Funding</td>
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<td>$1,217,500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 - 2019 Waste Diversion Programs Operating Budgets

9.2 Transition of Current Provincial Industry Funding Organizations (IFOs) Diversion Programs to Full Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs

As mentioned in Section 5.2 of this report, a full EPR program for used tires was implemented, as of January 1, 2019. Under the program all collection, recovery and recycling expenditures for used tires is now the responsibility of the tire producers, first importers, distributors, etc. of new tires. Under the full EPR program the City remains a collection site for residential used tires.

¹ Sources include Stewardship Ontario and Ontario Electronic Stewardship

² Revenues from the sale of Blue Box Materials
The Minister of the MECP has given direction RPRA to introduce full EPR programs for WEEE and MHSW materials by July 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021, respectively. If full EPR programs are implemented by the province for these materials, staff is expecting annual operating costs for these programs to be significantly reduced. As shown in Table 3, the cost of these programs is currently offset by $110,000 in stewardship funding, with $138,000 or 55.6% being funded by the City.

To date, the Minister of MECP has not given direction to RPRA to windup the provincial BBPP. However, the recently released Discussion Paper has requested input from municipalities and stakeholders regarding how a windup program would be undertaken and the timing for implementation. Municipalities, with the input of AMO, are suggesting the MECP move as quickly as possible on a BBPP windup plan with transition operations beginning as early as Q4 2021. Key elements of a windup plan and timing for the various components are noted in Section 2.3 of the attached Appendix “A”. Staff is closely monitoring developments regarding a possible EPR program for the provincial BBPP given the potential financial impact to the City’s Blue Box waste diversion program, as noted in Table 3.

9.3 Provincial Waste Policy Statement – Collection and Diversion of Food and Organic Waste Materials

In order to comply with the requirements of the Province’s Waste Policy Statement, the City will need to develop a curbside collection program for food and organic wastes to single-family dwellings, no later than 2025.

As outlined in Council Report No. PW2018-043 titled “Environmental Bill of Rights Registry – Decision Posting Regarding Food and Organic Waste Framework in Ontario” implementation of a new residential diversion program for food and organic wastes is expected to have significant financial implications to the City’s Solid Waste Management Program. As outlined in report No. PW2018-043, in order to assess the potential impacts, staff will be completing a number of investigations including the following:

(i) Review changes required to collection contracts to allow separation and diversion of targeted materials,
(ii) Estimate program start up expenditures for items such as promotion and education, purchase of containers, operational improvements to public drop off at the Mohawk Street Landfill Site, etc.

(iii) Estimate future annual operating and capital budget requirements,

(iv) Estimate future impacts to annual operating budget revenues (i.e. reduction of tipping fees and generation facility revenues based on diversion of food and organic waste tonnage residential and IC&I sources),

(v) Long term financing requirements and potential funding sources,

As directed by Council, staff continue to investigate potential funding sources, at both the provincial and federal levels, for the proposed Anaerobic Digestion Facility and Green Energy Opportunities project at the City’s Wastewater Treatment Facility.

10.0 Conclusion

On March 6, 2019, the MECP, posted the “Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities: Discussion Paper” on the EBR (posting #013-4689) for review and input by municipalities and stakeholders.

City staff and municipal waste management professionals are supportive of the initiatives outlined in the Discussion Paper as they will potentially decrease the amount of waste going to landfill, address wasteful practices of single-use products and packaging, reduce litter within public spaces, increase the province’s overall diversion rate and mostly importantly transition of the current provincial BBPP to a full EPR program.

Staff recommends that the comments outlined in this report that have been submitted to the Environmental Registry (EBR #013-4689) be approved by Council. Section 8 of the Report outlines the City’s specific concerns regarding the initiatives outlined in the Discussion Paper and Appendix “A” provides responses to the Discussion Paper. It is noted that these responses are consistent with what is being submitted by other municipalities and also by AMO in order to create a stronger municipal voice for the changes the desired to occur especially with respect to the future financing of the BBPP.

It is also recommended that Council forward these to the local Member of the Provincial Parliament, local Member of Parliament, Minister of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks, the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Municipal Waste Association (MWA).

Lastly, staff will continue to monitor and participate in any future discussions with the MECP regarding the drafting of new future EPR legislation and advise Council of any potential impacts to the City’s waste diversion programs.

S. Kongara, P.Eng., Director
Director, Environmental Services

D. Hodgins, P. Eng.,
Manager, Solid Waste Operations

E. (Beth) Goodger
General Manager, Public Works

Attachments (if applicable)

Appendix “A” – Municipal responses to questions in Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities: Discussion Paper

Appendix “B” – Recommendations received from Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) regarding staff report recommendations and Discussion Paper comments.

Copy to:

Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC)

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required [ ] yes [X] no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk [ ] yes [X] no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? [ ] yes [X] no