



INFORMATION REQUEST

INFORMATION REQUEST #: IR-10-25

REQUESTED BY: Councillor Tokar

TOPIC: Organic carts

DATE OF REQUEST: Prior to GPC Meeting 2025

DATE OF RESPONSE: November 17, 2025

QUESTION:

Solid waste: It was mentioned during our onboarding sessions that we heard from residents that they would like the option for a smaller organics cart (as we offer for garbage). It's obviously not something we could bring in on this short notice, but I would like to understand the feasibility and costs associated with providing such an option to residents.

Response

Offering smaller organics is not viable for the City and that is why we have not offered a choice of size in green carts. Spruce Grove charges waste rates against the size of the black cart and organics and recycling are included free of charge. This is consistent with most but not all of our neighbours in the capital region, some charge a fee for recycling and organics but there is no choice of size and no ability to opt out. The reasoning behind this is organics and recycling are considered to be significantly more environmentally friendly than the landfill stream of garbage and municipalities are trying to encourage the use of those 2 streams and discourage the landfill stream. Since we charge based on the landfill stream, residents would not be advantaged to take a smaller green cart and it would introduce additional logistical burdens to stock the extra size.

Background

Available in the response.

Financial Implications/Taxation Impact

None

Contact: Dean Carnduff, Director, Public Works