



External Briefing Note

GEORGINA

Subject: Waste Collection Bag-Tag Program Analysis

To: Mayor and Council

From: Rob Flindall, Director of Operations & Infrastructure

Date: September 22, 2021

Briefing:

The Town of Georgina has implemented a pay-for-use residential waste collection program. The program allows each household one container/item to be set out without a tag and up to four additional items with tags to a maximum of five items. The cost of each tag is \$1.00. Tags are sold at numerous retail locations throughout the Town, along with Public Libraries and the Civic Centre.

Bag-Tag Program Costs

The cost of administering the bag-tag program involves staff time along with some costs for materials and advertising.

At present staff deliver the bag-tags to the retail locations on an as-needed basis. This requires approximately 180-190 “trips” per year. The cost for these delivery “trips” is approximately \$8,500 per year including staff time and mileage expenses. Additional staff time is expended to prepare the tags, reconcile cash-receipts, prepare invoices etc. which may account for approximately 1000 hours of staff time, including staff in the facilities and Public Libraries.

Program Revenue

The bag-tag program yields a significant revenue stream to the Town that assists to offset the cost of the waste collection program. The Following Table demonstrates the annual revenue that can be expected from this program compared to the cost of curbside garbage collection. Note that the Bag-Tag program was suspended in April of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting lock-downs and other measures. As a result, the bag-tag revenue is 2020 and 2021 is significantly under the annual budgeted amount of \$140,000.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 YTD
Waste Collection – Revenue	\$144,105	\$146,785	\$141,860	\$134,180	\$104,689	\$8,650
Waste Collection – Cost (Contracted Service - GFL)	\$272,426	\$336,257	\$456,308	\$505,006	\$569,602	\$177,999

N6 – Bag Tag Program Comparison

Municipality	Untagged Items Allowed	Maximum Items	Cost of Tags for each Additional Item (each)	Annual Bag Tag Revenue (2019)
Georgina	1	5	\$1.00	\$134,180
Newmarket*	3	6	\$3.00 Bag \$16.00 Large Item*	\$31,470 \$76,122*
Whitchurch-Stouffville	3	5	\$2.00	\$18,220
King Township	2	5	\$2.00	\$25,000 (approx.)
East Gwillimbury	2	5	\$2.00	N/A
Aurora***	3	6	\$5.00***	N/A

Notes:

*Newmarket also requires a “Large Item Tag” for each large or bulky item that is set out such as furniture. The cost of each Large Item Tag is \$16.00 and revenue from the Large Item Tags is \$76,122.22 and is included in the total revenue reported above.

**East Gwillimbury started the program late in 2019, and then suspended the program in 2020. The full year revenue is not available.

**Aurora will implement the bag-tag program January 1, 2022.