



Subject: *Solid Waste Bylaw (IO-400) Recommended Changes*
To: Executive Committee of Council
Date Prepared: March 4, 2026
Related Motions:
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Approved by: Jesse Hulsman, Director of I&O

Summary

Regulations related to the Nova Scotia recycling program warranted a review and update of Bylaw IO-400 *Solid Waste Resource Collection & Disposal Bylaw*. Staff have conducted a thorough review of the bylaw and have recommendations for updates for consideration.

In preparation of this bylaw revision staff are proposing a split where some information stays and is enhanced within the bylaw, while order information is captured in an Administrative Policy (Solid Waste Management Policy). The intent with the bylaw review is to ensure compliance with requirements to register under the *Summary Offence Tickets Regulation*. As for the Policy, the purpose is to allow more efficiency in adjusting to changes in regulations or approvals to operate without opening the bylaw, but still ensuring proper authority approvals and documentation.

Financial Impact Statement

N/A

Recommendation

Staff recommend Executive Committee approve recommended changes to proceed with finalizing the draft language and bring the proposed bylaw draft back to Committee.

Recommended Motion

Move that the Infrastructure & Operations Committee direct staff to proceed with revisions of the Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Bylaw IO-400, and prepare to bring back the final revised draft for detailed review.

Background

Bylaw IO-400 was last reviewed and updated in 2019. Since that time there have been changes in regulations, community development, and realized gaps in municipal options for enforcement related to waste such as litter.

The proposed changes for consideration are based on the following guiding principles:

- Clear language and removal of sections that no longer apply, or those that are policy-based
- Defined responsibility for all parties
- Clear enforceable provisions (allowing for registration of bylaw; issuing of summary offense tickets)
- Reduce gaps in waste-related enforcement options
- Respond to feedback from members of Council and the public where more enforcement is sought

Additionally, staff are preparing the *Solid Waste Management Policy (Administrative Policy)* to act as our documented guide in how waste management is conducted in East Hants.

Discussion

Attached is both a marked-up version of the bylaw, and a conceptual updated version.

The marked-up version highlights area to remain in the bylaw (perhaps re-organized or re-worded) in yellow, in blue would be sections to move to the policy, and pink is to highlight sections that need to be included in some for in both documents. Any areas crossed out in red are no longer applicable.

The draft bylaw will require a legal review to ensure compliance with requirements to register under the *Summary Offence Tickets Regulation*.

As for the Policy, the purpose is to allow more efficiency in adjusting to changes in regulations or approvals to operate without opening the bylaw, but still ensuring proper authority approvals and documentation. Additionally, the policy focuses on day-to-day compliance promotion, whereas the bylaw focus is more direct enforcement.

The Policy document is the daily operational guide for the waste management within East Hants and:

- will be an Administrative Policy that requires approval by the CAO
- provide the framework by which solid waste is managed in East Hants
- provide greater flexibility to respond to changes that are of an operational nature
- provide clarity and documentation to the system
- examples of policy information include:
 - Collection services outline - route decisions, collection timing, holiday adjustment authority, weight/number of units, special collection details (where applicable), collection container types,
 - Waste Management Centre - handling procedures, link to Tipping Fee Policy (Council), hours of operation, holiday adjustment authority

Strategic Alignment

This work aligns with the Municipality's strategic goal of responsive, transparent and accountable government.

Alternatives

Executive Committee can reject, add or edit changes within the bylaw.
