



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 19, 2025

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** June 19, 2025
From: Councillor Jeremy Caradonna
Subject: Exploring the Potential to Expand the Scope of the City's Municipal Solid Waste Collection Service

BACKGROUND

In June of 2023, Council directed staff to develop and report-back on options for a municipal solid waste collection service for multi-family buildings (MURBs) that would increase the diversion of recyclables and organics from landfill disposal, and reduce the impacts of collection operations on emissions, noise, traffic, and parking in residential neighbourhoods. That work is underway, and staff are expected to report back to Council in the fall of 2025 on next steps for this expanded collection service.

In June of 2025, the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association (GVTA) formally petitioned the City to get more actively involved in the collection of garbage, recycling, and composting from SD61 schools, many of which are not actively involved in recycling or composting at all, leading to concerns from teachers, students, and parents about the District's commitments to sustainability. The letter of request from the GVTA Board is attached as an appendix to this motion.

It is imperative that young people be exposed to environmentally beneficial practices, including recycling and composting. It is concerning that kids in public schools have not been afforded the opportunity to participate in services enjoyed by other organizations and building types.

Initial discussions with City staff suggest that, if staff would be investigating the expansion of waste collection service into SD61 schools, it would also be worthwhile to include libraries and community centres in this analysis. Initial discussions with Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) leadership and a handful of community centres suggests that these organizations would be interested in the conversation about an expanded collection service.

In general, public-sector entities rely on private waste haulers, with inconsistent service levels, sustainability commitments, and costs. Many public-sector organizations are missing out on opportunities to recycle and compost.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council direct staff to:

- Incorporate into the analysis and report-back on a municipal solid waste collection service

an investigation into the feasibility, cost, and implications of including the following public-sector entities (located inside the city limits) in the proposed service:

- a) SD61 facilities;
 - b) GVPL locations;
 - c) Community centres.
- Consult, as part of this analysis, with the SD61 School Trustee and the GVTA; the GVPL leadership and staff; and community centre operators.



Coun. Jeremy Caradonna

List of Attachments

- Attachment A – GVTA Waste Disposal Letter