

Resource Assessment – Development of a Single-Use Materials Regulation

COTW – November 7, 2019



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PURPOSE

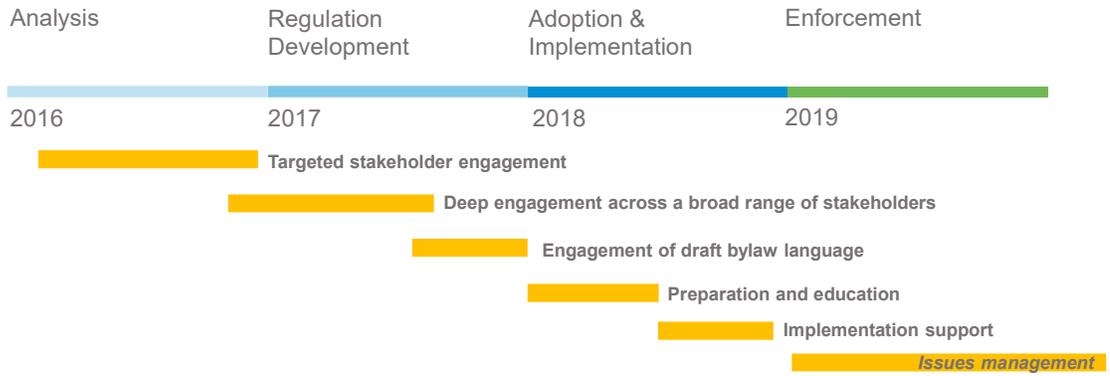
Provide Council with an assessment of the process and resource implications for developing a comprehensive bylaw to regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in relation to a set of problematic single-use materials that present special environmental risks.



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Checkout Bag Regulation - Lessons

Engagement



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Single Use Items

Common Single Use Items with Environmental Impacts*

- Foam products
- Plastic shopping bags
- Disposable hot and cold drink cups
- Take-out food containers
- Plastic straws
- Single use utensils and food-ware accessories (stir sticks)



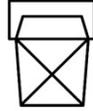
* A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy. European Commission, 2018.

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Policy Tools



Cups



Containers



Straws



Utensils

By Request

Item Fee

Material Restriction

Require Reusable



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Single Use Items

Considerations

- Risks/benefits
- Alternatives
- Unintended consequences
- Timing of policy signals
- Business and community readiness
- Municipal authority
- Timelines/capacity



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Single Use Items

Elements of Success

- Common purpose
- Shared understanding
- Strong, sustained engagement
- Clear timelines and phased implementation
- Education and awareness



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Higher Level Government Actions



PLASTICS ACTION PLAN POLICY CONSULTATION PAPER | MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY PAGE 7

FEDERAL

- Potential ban on single use plastics as early as 2021
- Exploration of harmful plastics added to list of toxic substances under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act

PROVINCIAL

- Policy Consultation Paper contemplating:
 - Bans on single-use packaging
 - Expansion of producer responsibility
 - Expansion and standardization of deposits
 - Recycled content standards



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Resource Assessment

| Phase | Task |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Analysis | Review precedents |
| Development | Technical research and policy review |
| | Engage stakeholders |
| | Develop draft regulation |
| | Council conducts initial bylaw readings |
| | Submit for Ministerial approval |
| Implementation | Business and community education/awareness |
| Enforcement | As required |

Staffing Impacts (existing)

- Project Director: **0.2 FTE**
- Section Manager: **0.6 FTE**
- Specialist: **1.0 FTE**
- Comms Support: **0.5 FTE**
- Legal Counsel: **0.2 FTE**

Above capacity not currently available

Cost estimate

\$50,000 (communications)

Timeline

~12 months to Provincial submission



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RECOMMENDATION

Defer decision on this issue and its resource implication to the 2020 financial planning process.



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