

Council Member Motion

For the Governance and Priorities Committee of January 22, 2015

Date: January 14, 2015 From: Councillor Marianne Alto

Subject: Managing Changing Canada Post Mail Delivery Systems

Summary

Canada Post is eliminating home delivery in urban centres, and moving ahead with implementation of its urban community mailbox system.

The City of Victoria is opposed to this change in postal service, as indicated in a resolution approved by City Council in January 2014 in which the Federation of Canadian Municipalities was asked to advocate with the federal government to maintain the current system of residential door-to-door postal delivery in Canada, and in which concern was noted about the downloading of responsibilities, costs, and liabilities to local governments, including requirements for municipal land and rights-of-way, infrastructure such as paving and lighting, and policy related to vandalism, graffiti and mail theft.

Nevertheless, Canada Post has identified parts of the City of Victoria for transition to this system in 2015.

Canada Post has made a commitment to pay one-time-only small fixed fees to the City of Victoria to help defray costs as they are shifted to the municipality.

Overall costs to the City of Victoria for changes in infrastructure, maintenance, repair and other sundry costs related to upkeep cannot accurately be calculated in advance.

Recommendation

Therefore Be It Resolved that Council ask City Staff to seek out and provide to Council information on best practices in implementing, managing, and minimizing costs arising from the new community mailbox system in other municipalities;

Be It Also Resolved that Council ask City Staff to provide advice on methods to minimize start-up and continuing costs to the City of Victoria in relation to the urban community mailbox mail delivery system.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor Marianne Alto

Councillor Ben Isitt