

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee meeting on Policy and Strategic Priorities
May 6, 2026*

9. Evaluating Vancouver's Waste Collection System's Potential to Adapt as Our City Grows

Submitted by: Councillor Maloney

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver is undergoing significant densification of its neighbourhoods, with city-wide zoning changes integrating higher-density residential development alongside commercial, retail, and community uses;
2. The ongoing densification of Vancouver's neighbourhoods is placing new demands on waste collection services;
3. Most of the solid waste collection in Vancouver happens through private waste collection services, with the City of Vancouver being responsible only for a small proportion of garbage collection for single family houses and strata duplexes;
4. In the current open market situation, overlapping routes are prevalent, and a single laneway will be serviced by several private haulers;
5. Overlapping routes and increased frequency of garbage collection pick-ups result in more traffic congestion, noise disruption, air pollution, and impacts road safety;
6. These growing challenges directly affect the livability of the City and impacts equity between businesses;
7. Vancouver waste collection system hasn't been recently updated but the City of Vancouver has authority to establish conditions on solid waste management collection that vary by waste class, person, property, area, or service type;
8. Many North American cities have encountered these challenges as urban density increased and have developed a range of regulatory approaches from which Vancouver can draw;
9. New regulatory instruments have the potential to both tackle waste collection and diversion related challenges; and
10. The harmonization of Vancouver solid waste collection system should be treated as a priority to safeguard the livability and equity of our growing city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to report back with information and recommendation to Council by July 15, 2026, with an overview of the current state of garbage collection in the City, identifying the challenges and opportunities.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to identify data gaps in the City's garbage collection system that could inform further decision making that reflects the changing circumstances of our growing City by Q4 2026, including:
 - (i) Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our City's waste collection system; and
 - (ii) Minimizing the effects on communities of the garbage collection system.

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