

Report to Civic Works Committee

To: Chair and Members
Civic Works Committee
From: Cathy Saunders, City Clerk
Subject: Public Participation Meeting - Amendments to Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law
Date: April 20, 2021

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the City Clerk, on the advice of the Director, Environment, Fleet and Solid Waste, the attached proposed by-law (Appendix “A”) being “A by-law to amended By-law A-56 being “A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges” by adding fees related to the London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project and the Bike Lockers Pilot Project”, BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on May 4, 2021.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to add fees to the City of London’s Fees and Charges By-law related to the London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project and the Bike Lockers Pilot Project.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports

- March 30, 2021 – Civic Works Committee Item #2.12
- July 23, 2019 – Civic Works Committee – Item #2.5

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 London’s Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project – Orange Bags

The London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project began in October 2019. Approximately 13,000 households were provided with a free 20-bag package of Hefty® EnergyBag® orange bags and instructed to fill them with hard-to-recycle plastics that are not currently collected in the Blue Box Program. These are materials that would have otherwise been landfilled.

The Pilot Project will transition to the next Project phase in which some participants will be asked to purchase the bags. London is the first Canadian city to implement Hefty® EnergyBag® usage. There are several communities in the United States that have implemented the program city-wide, with participants purchasing bags through retail locations. This next step is included in the London Pilot Project.

The retail price of the 20-bag package is approximately \$8.00 Canadian. The price of the Hefty® orange bag is higher than other plastic bags as the purchase price of the bag includes most (not all) of the costs associated with preparing the material for end markets, transportation to end markets and the further cost of processing this material into new products or energy sources. Other costs of the program that are not included in the purchase price include London’s collection and handling costs. A retail price that would include a full cost recovery is estimated to be in the range of \$8 to \$10 per 20-bag roll.

For the London Pilot Project, it is proposed that a price of \$5 per 20-bag package (including HST) be established. This price will be in place for the next Project phase from May 2021 to April 2022. The findings from the next phase are important to understand the willingness of Londoners to participate in this program when they are required to purchase the bags. Future pricing will be reviewed at the end of the Pilot Project. During the Pilot Project bags would be available for purchase from designated EnviroDepots. The Civic Administration is also exploring the option for the sale of bags from small neighbourhood retailers within the Project neighbourhoods.

2.2 Bike Lockers Pilot Project – Rental Fees

The City of London purchased nine bike lockers (capacity for 18 bikes) as part of a Pilot Project to provide secure bike parking in and around downtown.

A bike locker is a large box in which up to two bicycles can be locked separately. They provide a higher level of security and convenience for Londoners riding a bike. Bike lockers help prevent theft, provide weather protection, and deter casual vandalism.

Two types of rental lockers will be available: hourly rental rates and a monthly rental rate. The fees for the Pilot Project (May 2021 to April 2022) have been based on approximately half the price of vehicle parking rates. The following outlines the proposed fees and the rationale for the suggested fee.

Hourly Rental Rate

Free for the first 2 hours; then \$0.50/ per hour.

Maximum 24 hours. Then resets for new rental period.

Payment will available through using the Bluetooth-based Movatic application on a smartphone, available through the Apple App Store and Google Play.

The rationale for this proposed hourly rate is based on advice from Cyclesafe, the locker manufacturer. For a city the size of London, the average rental rates are \$1.25/hour and \$5/day. In addition, vehicle drivers parking in the core area currently receive two hours of free parking if they use the HonkMobile app. The proposed hourly rate will underline the value of higher-order bike parking, encourage rental turnover, while recognizing that London cyclists are not used to paying for bike parking.

Monthly Rental Rate

\$20 per month.

\$100 deposit to obtain key; refundable upon return.

Rental applications and payments are processed through the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

The rationale for this proposed monthly rental rate is based on information obtained from several other jurisdictions that offer the locker rentals at \$10/month for a minimum of four months. London's lockers are proposed to be offered on a monthly basis as a pilot to determine preliminary interest and use. In addition, London drivers parking monthly in downtown City parking lots are charged a minimum \$50/month.

During this Pilot Project, the Civic Administration will be offering a partial rebate on the monthly rate if the participant chooses to engage in a survey regarding their bike parking experience.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

There are no significant financial implications as the proposed fees are intended to assist with the cost of the Pilot Projects.

4.0 Conclusion

The Civic Administration recommends that the fees outlined in this report related to the London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project and a Bike Lockers Pilot Project be added to the City of London's Fees and Charges By-law.

Prepared and Recommended by: Cathy Saunders, City Clerk

APPENDIX "A"

Bill No.
2021

By-law No. A-

A by-law to amend By-law No. A-56 being "A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges" " by adding fees related to the London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project and the Bike Lockers Pilot Project.

WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS section 9 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

AND WHEREAS section 10(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

AND WHEREAS section 10(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass by-laws respecting: in paragraph 7, Services and things that the municipality is authorized to provide under subsection (1);

AND WHEREAS section 391(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may impose fees or charges on persons:

- (a) for services and activities provided or done by or on behalf of it;
- (b) for costs payable by it for services and activities provided or done by or on behalf of any other municipality or any local board; and
- (c) for the use of its property including property under its control;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to pass this by-law;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. Schedules 1 and 2 of By-law A-56 entitled "A By-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges" be amended in the Environmental Services Grouping by adding the following new fee under "Recycling & Composting":

"London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project - \$5.00 per box of 20 bags (including HST) effective May 4, 2021 to April 30, 2022"

2. Schedules 1 and 2 of By-law A-56 entitled "A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges" be amended in the Environmental Services Grouping by adding the following fees effective May 4, 2021 to April 30, 2022:

Bike Lockers Pilot Project Rental Fees

Hourly Rental Rate

Free for the first 2 hours; then \$0.50/ per hour.

Maximum 24 hours. Then resets for new rental period.

Monthly Rental Rate

\$20 per month.

\$100 deposit to obtain key; refundable upon return.

Rental applications and payments are processed through the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

3. This by-law comes into force on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on May 4, 2021.

Ed Holder
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First Reading – May 4, 2021
Second Reading – May 4, 2021
Third Reading – May 4, 2021