

BE A PART OF HAMILTON'S WASTE REVIEW



240-litre recycling bin

120-litre rubbish bin

- DO YOU WANT WHEELED BINS?
- MORE RECYCLING OPTIONS?
- WHAT ABOUT FOOD WASTE?
- WHAT WILL IT COST?
- WE WANT YOUR VIEWS

Consultation period - Monday 17 October to Wednesday 30 November 2016. To make an online submission go to fightthelandfill.co.nz



Existing recycling crate – for glass only

23-litre food waste bin

Have your say: Pull out the submission form on the back page of this Statement of Proposal, fill it in and either post it to us or drop it into the Council offices in Garden Place or any city library.

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Hamilton City Council

Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa

WE NEED TO REDUCE OUR WASTE!

Hamilton throws around 24,000 tonnes of rubbish into landfill every year. That's not good for the environment and it comes at an increasing cost to the city. We've looked at lots of options to find a better way for Hamilton.



WE'VE LISTENED TO WHAT YOU'VE SAID

In 2012, we worked with residents to develop a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. The vision that came back from the community was for the city to become a leader in waste minimisation and ensure our waste management supported community wellbeing.

WE'VE LOOKED AT LOTS OF OPTIONS

Over the last eight months, a group including Councillors and staff have looked at the best ways for the city to deal with rubbish and recycling. Twenty-four options have been reviewed, and this proposal looks at the preferred option. We would like your views on the options of keeping the bags and current recycling service, or moving to wheeled bins and more recycling options.

NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME TO TALK ABOUT A CHANGE

When we awarded our waste contracts in 2001 our city was one of the national leaders in waste management. Since 2001 many other cities and towns have developed better services, and if we don't improve Hamilton's rubbish and recycling options it is likely to cost the city more in the future. There have been legislative changes that require Councils to promote waste management and to have a stronger focus on health and safety issues. There are increasing costs to put our waste into landfill via various Government levies. There are also community expectations around waste management and how we protect the environment. Our current rubbish and recycling contract ends in 2019, so now is the right time to consider changes and improvements to the service before a new contract is awarded. While this is still two years away, the successful contractor will need to provide the right trucks and equipment, so we need to start now. This is your chance to have your say on what service you would like.

REDUCING WASTE WILL SAVE US ALL MONEY

Hamilton's rubbish collection is paid for through rates. We pay contractors to collect our rubbish and recycling. We also pay levies to the Government for the amount of rubbish we send to landfill. These levies are expected to increase over the next few years. If we don't reduce the amount of waste we put in landfill, we expect our city's annual costs for these levies to go from the current \$260,000 to \$1.8 million a year by 2028/29. These increased costs will have to be paid through our rates, so it's important to reduce our waste.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Our current contract ends in 2019.

We've projected what the costs might be for the city in 2019 for the service we have now, and for the proposed service.

There are different types of costs for rubbish collection – these include the cost for the collection itself (the operational cost), the cost of the bins (the initial cost) and different costs depending on how often the bins are collected. There is also the cost to households for black bags. Each year Hamilton households use more than four million black rubbish bags, which costs the average household \$20 or more.

If we moved to a wheeled bin service, households wouldn't have to buy black bags.

Operational annual costs, though rates, per household in 2019:

- Current service: \$112
- Proposed new service with weekly rubbish and food waste collection and fortnightly recycling collection: \$115
- Proposed new service with weekly rubbish and food waste collection and weekly recycling collection: \$144

Initial cost to buy the bins:

The total cost of the wheeled bins would be \$7.4 million, in addition to the annual operational costs of the new service. It is likely that Council would borrow the money and pay it back with rates over time and there are a variety of ways it could choose to do this. As an example - if Council borrowed the money and paid it back over 10 years this would cost about \$17 per household per year. Council would need to consider the best way to pay for the bins sometime next year.

There is a detailed breakdown of costs in the business case for the changed service, which is available from Council or at www.fightthelandfill.co.nz

WHAT'S NEXT?

This consultation gives you the opportunity to provide your view on the two options of:

- **Keeping the bags and current recycling service**
- **Moving to wheeled bins and more recycling options**

After we have received feedback on the proposal, Hearings will be held in February 2017. After that, a report will go to Council which includes all the information on proposals for our rubbish and recycling collection, including feedback from the community. Council will then decide on a service for the city.



WHAT IS THE PROPOSED NEW SERVICE?

The proposed rubbish and recycling service would mean moving from black bags (with few recycling options), to wheeled bins and lots more recycling options.

The proposed service is expected to almost double the amount of rubbish we recycle, which means a lot less waste to landfill.

The proposed service includes:

- A medium wheeled bin (120-litre) for household rubbish. This is the same volume as two black rubbish bags.
- A small (23-litre) bin for food waste.
- A large wheeled bin (240-litre) for aluminium, cans, all plastics (excluding film and polystyrene) and paper.
- A recycling crate for glass only.

As part of this service there would also be:

- Assisted collections to help physically impaired or elderly residents.
- Special collections or arrangements for intensive housing areas like apartments or flats.
- Options for larger households to apply for a larger rubbish bin.

WE COULD RECYCLE A LOT MORE

Under our current service we can only recycle two kinds of plastics. The proposed service would mean we could recycle lots more types – including ice cream and yoghurt containers, heavier-grade plastics and the sorting means we could take pizza boxes, which we can't take now because some have food in them.

WHY FOOD WASTE?

The proposal includes a weekly food waste collection using a small bin. Food waste is more than a third of the black bag waste that goes to landfill (by weight). The proposed service would mean food waste would be collected and taken to a composting facility. Food waste includes all food items including meat, peelings, bones etc. Our projections show that in five years it will be cheaper for the city to collect food waste than to dispose of it through landfill.

WHY SORT THE GLASS?

The proposal will use the existing crate for glass only. This is recommended because sorting the glass separately from other recyclables reduces the risk of broken glass contaminating the recyclable plastics and paper that will be in the bin. Separation at kerbside also means the glass can be colour-sorted at the kerb by the contractor – which means the glass can be re-made into new bottles.

THE BENEFITS

The biggest benefit of the proposed service is the chance to reduce the amount of waste that we throw into landfill. That's better for the environment and it's better for the city. The proposed service would make it easier to recycle, and we can recycle more, which will save money.

CLEANER STREETS

Wheeled bins would mean we wouldn't have litter blown from recycling crates and there would be no bags for animals to get in to. Finally, by not using the bags our city saves over four million black rubbish bags every year, which alone would take 200 tonnes out of landfill, and households would save the cost of buying the bags as well.

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

At the moment, Hamilton's kerbside collection service consists of up to two black bags per week and a recycling crate for glass, aluminium, cans and plastics (1 and 2) with paper and card bundled separately. People can buy an extra recycling bin for around \$15. The bags can be ripped by animals, causing litter issues. In windy conditions lighter plastics and unsecured paper is often blown around neighbourhoods. Families have to pay for the black bags, which every year costs on average \$20 or more per household.

FEW RECYCLING OPTIONS

Hamilton recycles around 29 per cent of our household rubbish - the remaining 71 per cent goes to landfill. Our current recycling service collects clean paper and card, tin cans and aluminium but only accepts plastics 1 and 2. Other plastic items, such as ice cream and yoghurt containers cannot be recycled under our current service and are sent to landfill. Surveys of what's in our black bags indicate that many items being thrown away are recyclable. An improved recycling service could make a big change to how much we throw away – the survey showed over 30% of our black bag weight is food waste.



COMMONLY-ASKED QUESTIONS

We've had a lot of feedback on these proposals already, and there are a few common questions and comments. Here's some answers:

HOW WILL OLDER PEOPLE OR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES HANDLE THE BINS?

We will have an assisted collection service to help people who might have difficulty with the bins. We've also received feedback that in other cities some people find it easier to wheel the bins than carry rubbish bags. We'll be working closely with advocacy groups to get their thoughts and ensure we have the best options possible.

WILL IT COST ME MORE?

See the section on costs on page 2 for more detail, but if we moved to a wheeled bin service, families would save on the cost of black bags (around \$20 or more a year). There would be a slightly increased cost to the city for the proposed service, which would be paid, in some way, through rates. The proposed service with a fortnightly collection for recyclables is projected to cost around \$3 a year more for the average household than the current service in 2019. A weekly service for recyclables would

cost around \$32 more a year. There is also the additional initial cost of the bins themselves. We can't say how this would affect final rates in 2019 because rates cover many different activities, and are set by Council each year.

HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN TO PUT MY BINS OUT?

We would be providing lots of information to remind people when their collections are scheduled, which could include things like facebook and website reminders, stickers on the

bins themselves, newspaper advertising, fridge magnets and, as technology becomes more accessible, email and/or text reminders for people who sign up to a reminder service.

I LIVE IN A BLOCK OF FLATS - WHERE WILL I PUT THE BINS?

Hamilton is a growing city, and there are areas with intensive housing which wouldn't suit a wheeled bin collection. Before we introduce the service we would review our housing patterns and work with intensive housing areas to develop specific rubbish collection services for those areas. We know that 'one size fits all' is difficult to achieve, but our goal is to find the best long-term solution overall to help our city manage and reduce its waste.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The proposals, Council reports and background information, plus lots of information about our current rubbish and recycling service is on our dedicated website at fightthelandfill.co.nz.

You can complete an online submission through this website. There are posters and display stands at the city libraries and in the Municipal building foyer.

You can also phone us on **07 838 6699** or email us at bagsorbins@hcc.govt.nz

We will be holding a number of roadshow events and drop-in sessions around the city where you are welcome to come and talk with us about the proposals and see the bins themselves. Information about these events will be on the Council's facebook page and fightthelandfill.co.nz.



To give us your views you can make an online submission at fightthelandfill.co.nz or fill in this form

SUBMISSION FORM:

We are seeking your views on the two options of:

- Keeping the bags and current recycling service
- Move to wheeled bins and more recycling options

1: Which is your preferred option (Please tick one)

- Current service of black bags and existing recycling option
- Change to wheeled bins and more recycling options

2: The household rubbish bin and the food waste bin are planned to be collected weekly. How often would you like your recycling bins collected? (Please tick one) - A weekly service would cost more, see the section on What Are The Costs? on page 2.

- Weekly
- Fortnightly

3: A separate crate for glass? (Please tick one) - See the section on Why Sort The Glass? on page 3.

- I would like the service to have a separate recycling crate for glass
- I would like the service to collect glass in my recycling bin

4: Food waste includes all food items including meat, peelings, bones etc. Do you think a weekly food collection should be part of the service? (Please tick one) - See the section on Why Food Waste? on page 3.

- Yes
- No

5: Please let us know the suburb you live in.

Suburb:

You are welcome to attach further comments or supporting information with your submission.

FILL IN THIS SECTION IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK AT THE HEARING:

There will be an opportunity for submitters to speak in support of their submission at a Council Hearing once the consultation has closed. The Hearing is scheduled for 2017.

6: Do you wish to speak in support of your submission at a Council hearing?

- Yes (you must fill in the Contact Details section)
- No

7: Contact Details: If you don't want to speak at the hearing, but would like staff to know who this submission is from, you are welcome to fill in the Contact Details section.

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Email:

Phone:

To help us better understand your community's needs, it would help to have some further information. (Optional)

8: Which of these best describes your household situation:

- Living alone
- Family or couple with dependants (children or other family)
- Family or couple with no dependants
- Living with others that are not family

REMINDER! Pop this submission form into an envelope and post to **FreePost 172189, Waste Submission, Private Bag 3010, Hamilton 3240**, or drop it into the collection boxes in any Hamilton City Library or the Municipal Building in Garden Place. Submissions can be made from Monday 17 October to Wednesday 30 November 2016. Alternatively, you can fill in the online submission form at fightthelandfill.co.nz.