

Additional Background

In 2013, the Saskatchewan Government approved The Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations.

In 2013, the City launched the curbside recycling program, funded through a recycling utility fee. Collections and processing were contracted to Loraas through a competitive procurement.

In 2014, the City launched the multi-unit residential recycling program, which was fully operational by 2015. The program was funded through a combination of a new utility fee, operational cost savings, and anticipated funding from the implementation of the provincial regulations. Collection and processing were contracted to Cosmopolitan Industries (Cosmo) through a non-competitive procurement. In the agreement, Cosmo retained the right to renew the contract for an additional term.

In 2016, the SK Recycles (at the time called Multi-Material Stewardship Western or MMSW) program launched, and the City joined the program. Since that time, businesses selling or distributing packaging and paper products have shared the responsibility with municipalities to finance the collection and recycling of household packaging and paper products (PPP). This was the first year that the City received funding for waste diversion and recycling programs based on the number of households participating in recycling.

In 2020, collection and processing for the curbside recycling program were contracted again to Loraas through a competitive procurement.

In 2021 and 2022, the Province of Saskatchewan conducted a review and engagement process of The Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations.

- On April 6, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee Environment on Utilities and Corporate Services received the [Saskatchewan Household Packaging and Paper Review and Engagement](#) report as information and the City prepared a submission for the consultation as outlined in that report.
- In November 2021, the [What We Heard – 2021 Engagement Results](#) was released by the Ministry of Environment. The City's feedback was reflected in the results.
- On June 6, 2022, the Standing Policy Committee Environment on Utilities and Corporate Services received the [Multi-Material Recycling Program – Draft Regulations](#) report as information. The City prepared a submission for the consultation as outlined in that report.

The revised [Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations, 2023](#) (the Regulation) came into effect on March 31, 2023. These regulations replaced the regulations from 2016 of the same name. Key changes include transitioning the program from a shared-responsibility model (where producers cover up to 75% of program costs) to a model fully operated and funded by producers.

SK Recycles carried out engagement between June 13 and August 13, 2023, on a draft Program Plan to comply with the new regulations. The Administration prepared a submission.

On July 26, 2023, City Council approved the [Multi-Unit Residential Recycling Contract Renewal](#) report to renew the contract with amended terms after Cosmo exercised their right to renew for an additional six-year term from the original contract. The new contract took effect January 1, 2024.

SK Recycles submitted a draft Program Plan to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment by September 27, 2023.

On May 8, 2024, SK Recycles' [plan](#) was approved by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment.

The City received a formal offer from SK Recycles on August 19, 2024, to transition to the new program with options for participation and a series of decision-making windows. The Administration prepared the information report [Recycling Program Update – New Household Paper and Packaging Program](#) for the Standing Policy Committee on Environmental, Utilities and Corporate Services that was received on September 3, 2024. Appendix 2 of this report outlines the historical allocation of funding received from SK Recycles since 2016.