





Automated Garbage Collection (Black Carts) Service Recommendations

Project Overview:

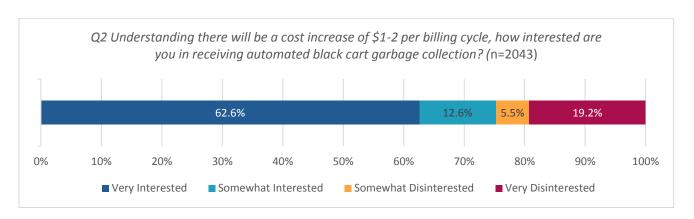
Following the November 2023 Regular Council Meeting, Administration sought additional input on a proposed automated black cart garbage service. The City used its digital communication channels and advertisements in the CityView newspaper, on the radio and through roadside signs. 2047 participants responded to the survey. This report provides a synopsis of the feedback received.

Date: July 18, 2024
Prepared by City of Airdrie

Executive Summary

Following the black cart presentation at a Regular Council Meeting in November 2023, City staff conducted additional research into implementation costs for automated garbage collection (black carts), which was used to develop the recommended automated service. In 2024, Administration sought input on the recommended program which reflected the updated cost information.

Results from the 2024 online feedback show a similar level of interest to the 2023 survey results, with 75 per cent of respondents interested in automated garbage collection.



Cart Size: Preference on cart size was mixed. Some respondents felt that a smaller cart would be easier to store and manage and would encourage diversion. Others felt their household would need a larger cart. Still others hoped to see the ability to select a size, with smaller carts costing less and larger carts costing more.

Collection Frequency: Overall respondents prefer to see a weekly schedule for pick up, noting ease of transition to automated collection, reduced need to store garbage on their property and meeting household garbage generation needs. Some respondents would prefer to see a biweekly schedule that could have added benefits of reduced costs, increased diversion rates and reduced fuel and environmental impacts.

Excess Waste Program: Generally, respondents liked the flexibility of handling occasional excess waste through a tag system. Some respondents expressed concern that a hybrid collection system reduced the benefits of automation. Some respondents felt that the excess waste program should be discontinued, or phased out, once an automated program is in place.

Exemption Programs: Largely, respondents expressed a desire to see continuation of these programs. Some concerns were raised regarding enforcement, the need for the program if a larger cart were offered and educating residents on alternative options to diapers to help reduce waste.



Project Information

Waste and Recycling Services (WRS) has been exploring potential waste service improvements (blue cart, green cart and garbage). WRS completed a residential research survey in 2022 to assess barriers, habits and motivations for existing waste programs and understand disposal practices and information needs and preferences. When asked about top priorities or suggestions, many respondents expressed a desire to switch from our current manual garbage service to an automated black cart system for garbage collection, similar to how the green and blue cart service works.

To explore the idea of automated garbage collection more directly, a survey in 2023 asked residents "If the City were to introduce an automated garbage collection service using black carts, is that something you would be interested in." More than 6000 households completed the survey. 71% of respondents said they would be interested in an automated black cart program. Results of this survey were shared with Council at the November 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

Amid rising inflation putting pressure on household expenses, Administration conducted additional research into potential costs for an automated garbage collection program. This information was used to develop recommendations for design of the automated service. In 2024, Administration sought input on the recommended program which reflected the updated cost information.

Public Participation Approach

From June 10 – July 1, 2024, the City implemented an online survey to collect feedback on the proposed recommendations for automated garbage service. The City used its digital communications channels including MyAirdrie, Facebook, Instagram and X to create awareness of the survey opportunity. In addition to digital communications, the survey was advertised in newspaper, on radio and through roadside signs. 2047 participants responded to the survey.

Summary of Public Participation Input

75% of respondents indicated interest in an automated collection service. Many respondents felt the recommendations would meet their household needs and would ease transition from the current manual service to an automated one. Some respondents are eager to see an automated service begin. Delays and frequent public engagement are frustrating for these respondents who are ready to adopt new waste management practices.

There were mixed feelings about the cart size. Many respondents liked that all households would receive the same size cart, though others wanted to see the option to select the cart size they felt would best meet their household's unique needs. Some respondents felt that a smaller cart would be easier to store and would encourage diversion. Others felt their household would need a larger cart despite recycling and composting efforts.



Many respondents liked the recommendation for weekly collection frequency noting that it was easier to remember the schedule, reduced the need to store garbage between pick-up days and, for some, better supported the use of a smaller cart, which was seen to encourage waste reduction.

For the most part, respondents like the continuation of the excess waste tag program with the option to purchase bag tags as needed, this is seen as a convenient way to manage occasional excess waste. Some concerns were raised that manual collection alongside automated collection defeated some of the benefits of automated collection such as protecting garbage from wildlife, curb appeal and increased worker safety.

Several respondents expressed support for maintaining the diaper and medical waste exemption program. These exemptions are seen as a practical solution to manage unavoidable waste effectively. Some respondents indicated they are more supportive of medical exemptions than diaper exemptions.

What we heard

The following sections provide summaries of responses to each survey question organized by category of question.

What we heard	4
NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO CURRENTLY RECEIVE CURBSIDE COLLECTION	
INTEREST IN AN AUTOMATED COLLECTION SERVICE	
CART SIZE RECOMMENDATION	
COLLECTION FREQUENCY RECOMMENDATION	
EXCESS WASTE RECOMMENDATION	
EXEMPTION PROGRAMS RECOMMENDATION	1b

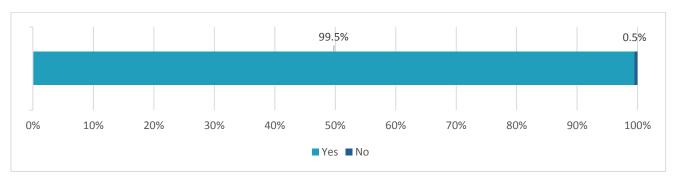
Notes:

- Numbers of respondents to individual questions in the survey are reported as n=x for example, "I LIKE this because... (n=971)"
- A single comment from a respondent may identify more than one topic which means numbers of mentions for key themes, may not equal the number of comments received.
- The number of times a key theme is mentioned is identified in brackets, for example (mentions 224)



NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO CURRENTLY RECEIVE CURBSIDE COLLECTION

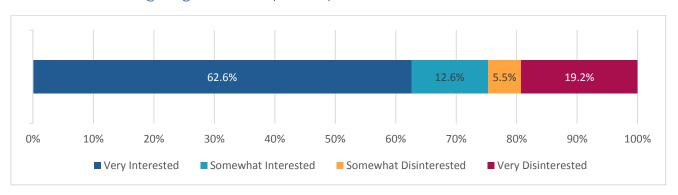
Q1 Do you currently receive collection service (green cart, blue cart and garbage pick-up) in Airdrie provided by the City? (n=2037)



INTEREST IN AN AUTOMATED COLLECTION SERVICE

Recommendation to move to an automated collection service, with an anticipated increase to your utility bill by \$1-2 per billing cycle (28 days). 75 per cent of respondents are interested in an automated black cart garbage program.

Q2 Understanding there will be a cost increase of \$1-2 per billing cycle, how interested are you in receiving automated black cart garbage collection? (n=2043)



Q2 Response table			
Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Somewhat Disinterested	Very Disinterested
1279	258	113	393

"I like that reusable bins will decrease plastic bags in landfill."

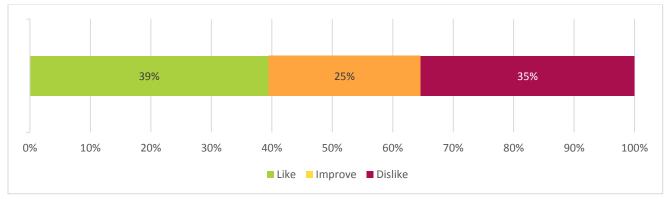
"A wheelie bin looks less unsightly than a garbage bag. It also stops crows and magpies ripping at the garbage bags and scattering garbage everywhere."



CART SIZE RECOMMENDATION

The City is recommending that all households receive a standard cart size, similar in size to the current garbage allowance.

Are there things you like or dislike about this recommendation? Is there an improvement to the recommendation you would make? Let us know in the comment fields below.



39 per cent of respondents like the recommendation of having a standard cart size similar in size to the current garbage allowance.

"Garbage bag sizes vary. A standard garbage cart will ensure same volume for everyone."

"Prefer the option for 2 sizes and costs. Hope this becomes an option as the program matures." "A black cart holds more waste than a single bag, thus will not encourage good waste sorting or management."

Q3a I LIKE this because... (n=1058)

1. Advantages of using carts over bags (503 mentions)

- Respondents indicated they believe carts will:
 - o Prevent animals from ripping open bags.
 - o Reduce litter and keep neighbourhoods clean.
 - o Contain smells especially when garbage must be stored for an extended period.
- Several respondents identified positive experiences with similar cart systems in other cities suggesting that such systems are smooth, efficient and beneficial to the City.

2. **Preference for smaller cart size** (328 mentions)

- Many respondents expressed a preference for smaller carts for reasons including:
 - Belief that larger carts may lead to reduced diversion efforts, as people might be tempted to throw more items into garbage than sort it.
 - Households with little garbage output find large carts unnecessary due to effective recycling and composting practices.



- Carts provide the option to dispose of more garbage when needed, accommodating occasional increases in waste without compromising regular recycling and composting efforts.
- o Smaller carts are easier to handle, store and manage compared to larger carts.

3. Benefits of a uniform cart size (324 mentions)

- Some respondents believe a standard cart size ensures that all households are treated equally and subject to the same disposal limits.
- Some respondents feel garbage carts the same size as the blue and green carts are beneficial for aesthetic appeal.
- Several respondents feel a uniform cart size simplifies procurement, reduces administrative costs and ensures consistency in collection services.
- Some respondents feel using a standardized cart size promotes curb appeal, making communities appear cleaner and more organized.

Q3b I DON'T LIKE this because... (n=949)

1. Cart size preferences (380 mentions)

- There was a desire for different size options to accommodate varying household needs.
- Opinions on the preferred size of the black cart vary. Some respondents suggest the cart should match the size of the blue and green carts for consistency and that smaller carts risk being overfilled, while others felt a smaller cart would be sufficient and more manageable.
- Several respondents are unclear of current set-out limits and are unsure of the recommended cart size.

2. **Preference for current system** (363 mentions)

- Some respondents believe:
 - The current system is effective, managing their waste within the existing one-bag limit and/or using their own privately purchased garbage bin.
 - o There isn't a need for a black cart and worry that it may result in job loss.
 - o Carts will encourage garbage production and discourage diversion.

3. Storage and space concerns (211 mentions)

- Many respondents are concerned about the lack of space to store an additional cart. This issue
 is particularly pronounced for those already struggling to manage the existing blue and green
 carts. They fear that adding a third cart will exacerbate storage problems and create clutter in
 alleyways or yards.
- Some respondents also expressed concern that there is insufficient space on their street or alley to set-out two carts on the same day.

4. **Cost concerns** (207 mentions)



- Several respondents expressed concerns about the increased cost for an automated program.
 They mention high utility and environmental fees and the potential for increased costs over time.
 Also mentioned was an increased cost of service without an increase in service level (i.e. amount of garbage being collected).
- Concerns about fairness are also highlighted, as some households generate less waste and feel burdened by the additional costs.

5. **Environmental, aesthetic and ease of use challenges** (147 mentions)

- Some respondents worry about the aesthetic impact of an additional cart and the potential for more garbage and debris in the streets due to carts being knocked over by the wind.
- Respondents expressed concern that larger carts may lead to less disciplined sorting of organic and recyclable material and increased garbage sent to landfill.
- Some respondents highlighted concerns such as the stability of carts, difficulty managing carts in winter and the potential for cart lids to freeze shut.

Q3c I would IMPROVE this by... (n=674)

1. **Choice of cart sizes** (248 mentions)

 Respondents articulated a desire for the option to select a cart size, ranging from smaller carts suitable for seniors or minimal waste households to larger carts for families with higher waste output. Choice is seen as important, with corresponding adjustments in cost based on size.

2. Preference for cart size comparable to current blue/green carts (223 mentions)

 Many respondents prefer the black cart to match the size of the current blue and green carts. For these respondents, uniformity simplifies storage and collection logistics, ensuring consistency in waste management practices.

3. **Cost concerns and incentives** (37 mentions)

- Respondents expressed concern about cost implications. Suggestions include varied pricing models based on cart size, helping to reduce or offset the cost increase.
- Some respondents advocated for lower rates for smaller carts and incentives for reducing waste.

4. **Implementation timing** (32 mentions)

• Some respondents are eager to see an automated service begin soon. Delays and frequent public engagement are frustrating for these respondents who are ready to adopt new waste management practices as soon as possible.

5. **Cart design and functionality** (15 mentions)

 Some suggestions were received to ensure carts are designed to be practical, with features like sturdy construction to withstand wind and protect against animal intrusion. Functional enhancements such as locked lids were mentioned.



6. Communication and information (11 mentions)

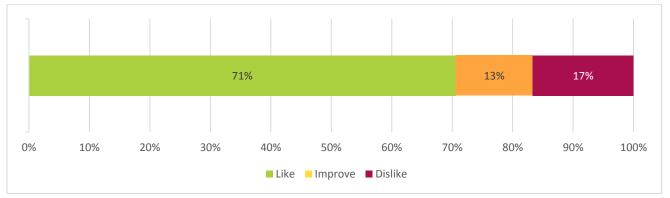
- Residents feel there should be clear communication about the benefits of the new system beyond just cost considerations.
- Respondents want to see more messaging from the City to encourage proper recycling and composting to maintain or increase diversion efforts.



COLLECTION FREQUENCY RECOMMENDATION

The City is recommending that automated garbage collection remain once a week.

Are there things you like or dislike about this recommendation? Is there an improvement to the recommendation you would make? Let us know in the comment fields below



71 per cent of respondents like the recommendation to have automated garbage collection once a week.

"Debris and smell should be minimized with weekly collection." "Is there a way to analyze the volume of waste retrieved over a test period and adjust schedule as needed?"

"Once every two weeks is adequate and would hopefully keep costs down."

Q4a I LIKE this because... (n=1345)

1. **Preference for Weekly Collection** (929 mentions)

- Many respondents expressed a preference for weekly garbage collection. These respondents highlighted that longer intervals between collection could lead to unpleasant odors and attract pests, particularly during hot weather.
- Some feel weekly collection will help to discourage dumping in garbage in parks or on roadsides.
- Some respondents felt weekly pickups prevent garbage from piling up, this is particularly important for larger households and those producing more waste.
- Maintaining a weekly schedule was also seen by some respondents as cost-effective and efficient, avoiding additional expenses or administrative logistical challenges.

2. **Ease of use** (267 mentions)

- Several respondents indicated that households are already accustomed to the weekly cycle, making it easier to transition to an automated system.
- Some respondents appreciated the consistency of weekly collection, noting that it is easier to remember compared to less frequent schedules.
- Several respondents prefer weekly garbage collection to align with the frequency of blue and green cart pickups.



• Several respondents preferred to keep the schedule as it is, indicating that it is effective and that there is no need for change. These respondents noted that it works well for their needs, aligns with common vacation schedules and ensures carts don't get overfilled.

3. Preference for smaller cart size (256 mentions)

Several respondents felt that weekly collection supports the use of a smaller cart size. These
respondents felt this size cart helps to manage space, protects garbage from birds and other
pests and encourages diversion of recycling and organics

Q4b I DON'T LIKE this because... (n=318)

1. Biweekly collection (91 mentions)

- Some respondents suggested reducing the collection frequency to every two weeks or longer, especially if larger carts are used.
- Other respondents thought frequency could mimic the green cart schedule, reduced to biweekly in winter and increased to weekly in summer.

2. Current system satisfaction (90 mentions)

Some respondents were satisfied with the current manual collection system and do not see a
need for changes. Additional carts were also seen as creating operational challenges, such as
missed pickups and carts toppling over in high winds.

3. Cost concerns (68 mentions)

• Several respondents expressed concern about the potential rise in costs if garbage collection is weekly and feel reduced collection frequency could help reduce costs.

4. Waste generation and household needs (62 mentions)

 Respondents expressed that many households generate minimal waste, and a more flexible collection schedule might suit their needs and encourage better recycling and composting practices.

5. Environmental impact (37 mentions)

- Some participants are concerned that increased collection frequency will lead to more waste going to landfill and reduced incentives to recycle or compost.
- Some concerns revolved around more fuel being used for trucks picking up garbage.

6. Collection frequency related to cart size (27 mentions)

 Many respondents felt that frequency is related to cart size. Larger carts could be picked up biweekly, while smaller carts would require weekly pick-up.



Q4c I would IMPROVE this by... (n=243)

1. Alternative collection schedules (203 mentions)

- A number of respondents advocate for implementing biweekly garbage collection. They believe
 this would reduce costs, encourage proper use of recycling and composting carts and manage
 waste effectively.
- Many respondents suggest using larger carts, like the blue and green carts, to allow less frequent pickups while managing household waste effectively.
- Some respondents suggest offering optional collection schedules, such as weekly or biweekly pickups and allowing households to choose based on their needs.
- Some respondents suggested adjusting the garbage collection frequency based on the season, with more frequent pickups in the summer and less frequent in the winter.

2. **Alignment with existing programs** (17 mentions)

- Some participants recommended aligning garbage collection schedules with existing recycling and composting programs, such as alternating with green cart schedules, to streamline processes and reduce confusion.
- A number of respondents thought having a third collection day per week would help with set-out space requirements by reducing the number of carts set-out at one time.

3. **Trial Period** (13 mentions)

- Some suggested implementing a trial period to test the feasibility and effectiveness of biweekly pickups before making a permanent change.
- Some suggested starting with weekly pick-up schedule and switching to biweekly collection if needed.

4. **Environmental Impact** (7 mentions)

 Several respondents wanted reduced frequency of garbage collection which was seen as beneficial for the environment, leading to lower fuel consumption and fewer emissions from garbage trucks.

5. **Communication and information** (7mentions)

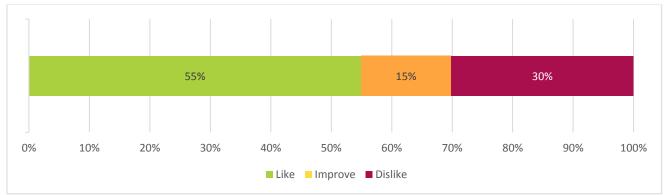
 Some respondents noted the importance of effective communication about changes and ensuring compliance with proper usage of carts for successful implementation of any new collection schedule



EXCESS WASTE RECOMMENDATION

The City is recommending that a household would have the option to set-out extra garbage next to their black cart with the purchase of an excess waste tag.

Are there things you like or dislike about this recommendation? Is there an improvement to the recommendation you would make? Let us know in the comment fields below



55% of respondents like having the recommendation to set-out extra garbage next to their cart.

"I like this, it is just right to pay extra if you have so much garbage." "Provide each household with a pre-determined amount of tags each year for free." "Collection is expensive some extra garbage [occasionally] shouldn't be penalized...often garbage [amount] is below the limit."

Q5a I LIKE this because... (n=1007)

1. Flexibility and convenience (667 mentions)

- Respondents valued the flexibility to dispose of occasional extra garbage without disrupting
 regular waste management services or necessitating extra landfill trips. This convenience is
 viewed as particularly beneficial during seasonal events or periodic home cleanouts.
- Some respondents identified that this program is helpful for larger households or properties with accessory suites.
- Some respondents appreciated not having to store garbage until the next week's pick-up.

2. **Ease of transition** (169 mentions)

• Respondents expressed that continuity with existing practices reduces confusion, ensures minimal disruption and easier adaptation to any changes in waste disposal practices.

3. Fairness and financial considerations (132 mentions)

 Respondents indicated that they felt this proposal was fair, those who generate more waste bear the cost for excess waste.



 Some respondents indicated that paying for occasional excess waste helps to manage household costs.

4. **Environmental considerations** (77 mentions)

- Some respondents felt that paying for excess waste is an incentive to recycle and compost more.
- Some respondents felt that having the option to pay for occasional excess waste would discourage illegal dumping.

Q5b I DON'T LIKE this because... (n=553)

1. **Defeats the benefits of automated collection** (224 mentions)

- Several respondents questioned whether an excess waste manual collection service defeats the benefits offered by automated service.
- Respondents expressed concerns that manual collection exposes garbage to birds/other wildlife ripping open bags and creating litter and it doesn't address worker safety.

2. **Cost considerations** (97 mentions)

- Respondents:
 - Are concerned about the cost for excess waste, notably in addition to a fee increase to move to automated collection.
 - Feel the fee for excess waste should be increased to discourage excess waste.
 - Feel there shouldn't be a cost for excess waste as an overage one week is likely to be
 offset by an amount less than the allowance a subsequent week.
 - o Indicated they would rather pay for a larger or an additional cart rather than bags.
 - Feel that the administrative costs of managing the program outweigh the benefits.
 - Feel the cost for excess waste may encourage illegal dumping of this waste to avoid the fee.

3. Maintain Current System (90 mentions)

• Several respondents felt that the current manual collection, with excess bag tags, is working well and therefore there is no need to switch to automated collection.

4. **Operational Concerns** (85 mentions)

- Several respondents feel that with a larger black cart an excess waste program wouldn't be needed.
- Some respondents feel that excess waste should be taken by the resident to the Transfer Site.
- Some respondents expressed concern there wouldn't be enough room to put a bag out next to the cart and maintain the required clearance.
- Some respondents articulated that buying extra tags is inconvenient.
- Some respondents identified that they feel the system isn't well-enforced now and may be subject to misuse going forward.



5. **Environmental concerns** (62 mentions)

 Several respondents indicated that an excess waste program discourages residents from reducing garbage.

Q5c I would IMPROVE this by... (n=273)

1. **Alternative options** (161 mentions)

- Respondents provided several suggestions for potential alternatives or adjustments to the excess waste program including:
 - o Implementing a set pick up day each month for excess waste
 - o Provide an annual large item pick-up program or community cleanup day.
 - Remove the excess waste tag option offer different sizes of garbage carts with corresponding costs.
 - Allowing requests for a second cart (at a cost) rather than extra bags.
 - Increase the cost of extra bag tags to discourage excess waste.
 - Cancel the excess waste program. Respondents felt excess waste could wait for the next week's collection, be taken to a community collection centre or dropped off at the Transfer Site.
 - Phasing out the excess bag tag program once the black cart program is up and running.
 - Only using a tag system. That is, implement a pay as you throw program where you are only charged when you set-out garbage.

2. Provide free tags to each household (54 mentions)

- Respondents suggested the City provide a set number of free excess waste tags to households annually. Additional tags would be available for purchase as needed.
- Some respondents expressed a concern over the financial burden of the current tag system.
 Suggestions included reducing or eliminating fees, particularly for households facing financial constraints.

3. Education and enforcement measures (31 mentions)

• Some respondents advocated for stricter enforcement of rules related to proper use of green and blue carts as well as the excess waste tag program to reduce waste.

4. More convenient purchasing options (18 mentions)

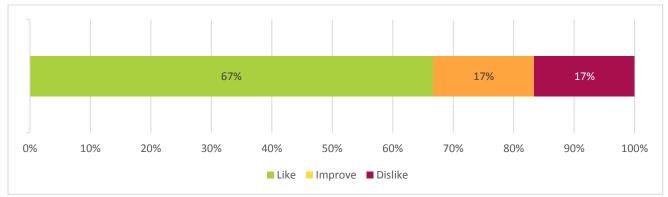
- Request for easier methods to purchase tags, such as online options or printing tags at home, or more locations to purchase tags to enhance convenience for residents.
- Suggestions to replace the tag system with billing for extra bags on the next billing cycle or otherwise integrate extra bag charges directly into regular billing cycles without physical tags.



EXEMPTION PROGRAMS RECOMMENDATION

The City is recommending that current exemption programs for diapers and medical waste be maintained.

Are there things you like or dislike about this recommendation? Is there an improvement to the recommendation you would make? Let us know in the comment fields below



67 per cent of respondents like that there would be no change to the diaper and medical waste exemption program.

"It recognizes unique needs."

"Consider a different size collection unit for these homes; perhaps it could be swapped when needed/no longer needed."

"This does not encourage alternatives to disposable diapers."

Q6a I LIKE this because... (n=652)

- 1. Support for diapers and medical waste exemptions (553 mentions)
 - Many respondents expressed support for continuing exemptions for diapers and medical waste.
 These exemptions are seen as a practical solution to manage waste effectively.
 - Some respondents indicated they are more supportive of medical exemptions than diaper exemptions.
- 2. **Fairness and equity** (127 mentions)
 - Several respondents expressed that exemptions for diapers and medical waste are perceived as fair, ensuring that households facing unavoidable waste aren't financially penalized.
- 3. **Education/communication** (16 mentions)



• Some respondents said the survey was the first time they had heard about the program and would like to see more education/awareness communication from the City to ensure those who qualify are aware and can benefit.

Q6b I DON'T LIKE this because... (n=164)

1. **Discourages reducing diaper waste** (48 mentions)

• Several respondents felt disposable diapers should not be exempt, as this discourages waste reduction or pursuing more environmentally friendly options such as cloth diapers.

2. **Skepticism about need** (33 mentions)

- Some respondents questioned the need for exemptions as a larger black cart could eliminate the need by adequately accommodating diapers and medical waste.
- Some respondents opposed exemptions for diapers and medical waste, arguing that all households should manage waste within standard limits.

3. **Support for current service** (24 mentions)

 Several respondents wanted to see the current system of manual collection service with exemption tags unchanged, believing it works effectively as is.

4. Concerns about fairness and equity (21 mentions)

- Concerns exist for respondents about fairness, with some feeling exemptions create an unequal system where certain households receive special treatment.
- Some respondents feel that day homes should qualify for the diaper exemption.

5. **Questions about abuse and enforcement** (21 mentions)

Respondents expressed concerns about potential abuse of the exemption programs, questioning
the ease of obtaining exemptions and concerns about misuse or lack of monitoring regarding
eligibility.

6. Administrative and cost concerns (20 mentions)

 Concerns expressed by some respondents include additional administrative costs and challenges managing the program.

7. Compromises benefits of automation (4 mentions)

 Some respondents felt that having a bag system alongside automated pick-up reduced the benefits of an automated service.



O6c I would IMPROVE this by... (n=162)

1. **Other or no exemptions** (43 mentions)

- Some respondents would like to see exemptions for other reasons including large families, feminine hygiene products, etc.
- Some residents expressed that they feel diapers should not be exempt, but medical waste should be.
- Other respondents feel that there should not be an exemption program, that diaper and medical waste should be accommodated in the garbage allowance to encourage waste reduction and so that all households have the same service.
- Some respondents identified that with a larger cart or increasing the bag limit to two bags per week, there may not be a need for an exemption program.

2. **Program evaluation and awareness** (37 mentions)

- Some respondents identified that the survey was the first they'd learned of the exemptions programs and hoped for more education/awareness efforts from the City to let residents know about exemption programs.
- Some residents expressed a desire for public education on alternative (disposable) diaper options that could help to reduce this type of waste.
- A suggestion was received to share more information on the effectiveness and utilization of exemption programs, sharing of use statistics and better public awareness campaigns.

3. Eligibility, administrative and cost concerns (27 mentions)

- Some respondents are hoping to see eligibility criteria for the diaper exemption program expand to include families with one child, flexibility for ages to accommodate special needs residents older than four years and allowing for adult diapers.
- Some respondents are concerned program administration could increase program costs.
- Some respondents asked that the program be simple to apply for and use.
- Some suggestions were received to limit the number of exemption tags allowed per year.

4. **Proposals for enhanced services and options** (26 mentions)

- Respondents provided several suggestions for potential service improvements including:
 - Offering larger carts for households with specific needs, ensuring equitable access to waste disposal services, and exploring recycling options for specific waste types.
 - o Offering the option to pay for a larger or second cart as needed
 - o Creating drop-off locations for this type of waste
 - Introducing a different coloured cart or bags specifically for diapers and/or medical waste.
 - Offering additional cart options for homebased businesses (e.g. day homes) at an extra cost.
 - Allowing an exemption for elderly and disabled residents to have the option to keep using bags rather than carts for all their garbage, as bags may be easier for them to use than carts.



What's Next & Timelines

Results of the survey along with the recommended automated black cart program will be shared with Airdrie City Council at a regular meeting of Council, October 1, 2024.

Contact Information

To learn more about this project, please contact:

Waste & Recycling Services Phone: 1(403) 948.0246

Email: waste.recycling@airdrie.ca

