

To: Councillor Hibbs, Councillor Ross
Cc: Council
From: Matthew Goudy, CAO
Date: May 8, 2019

Reference: 11/154/2019-160

RE: Dumpster Lids

Thank you for your written concern regarding dumpster lids. The condition of the bins in Lacombe has been a topic in the community for some time - and for good reason. The new Community Standards Bylaw, when passed, includes provisions to curb unsightliness in residential areas. Unfortunately, based on driver reports and public feedback there is a backlog of bins that require repair that we've been unable to fully clear for many years. This backlog means that throughout the City, dumpster bins are almost always an eyesore giving residents and visitors the impression that the City isn't willing to put in the effort to meet the higher standard it may now enforce on others.

In 2018, the Utilities Department tried a new approach to addressing the bin repair backlog: the bin maintenance blitz. The 2018 "blitz" resulted in repairs to 150 dumpster bins and 50 roll out bins. This included 163 lid repairs, 15 bin replacements, and 22 lifting hook repairs. While this blitz addressed many functional issues with bins, it did not fully clear the backlog nor address any painting, or aesthetic deficiencies that are also a concern. This year our goal is to fully clear the backlog. To do this we are expanding the repair team to include a cross-departmental complement of staff from both the Utilities and Roads departments. The 2019 "blitz" is scheduled for mid-August.

Moving forward we are also integrating the bins into the City's Asset Management system where formal processes will be in place to rank the condition of the bins regularly, prioritize bin repair on a more frequent schedule, and ensure the resources are available to avoid the accumulation of a repair backlog year over year.

We thank the public for their patience on this issue so far as the City joins residents, and businesses in raising the standard on the appearance of our community.

Sincerely,



Matthew Goudy, P.Eng
Chief Administrative Officer