

# Cart Sizing Pilot – Follow Up Survey

## CART SIZE MATTERS

Strathcona County ran a pilot project from May to October 2017 in two urban neighborhoods and two rural hamlets, comprising a total of approximately 1225 homes. Residents were given the option to downsize their waste and/or organics cart(s) for a \$1 per cart per month cost savings.

### Survey results

In February of 2018, once the pilot project was finished, a survey was sent out to the participants. Of the 110 homes that opted to participate we received 64 responses with feedback about which carts the respondents downsized and their experiences with the pilot project.

A second survey was sent to those who declined to participate in the pilot study, from that group we received 156 responses. The survey invited feedback about why they chose not to participate and what incentives could be offered to encourage them to downsize their carts.

### Survey Highlights

#### Residents who participated in the pilot project:

- 28% of respondents downsized their waste cart
- 26% of respondents downsized their organics cart
- 46% of respondents downsized both
  
- 69% downsized because they did not have enough waste/organics to fill the carts
- 18% downsized out of a desire to generate less waste
- 5% downsized because of the cost savings
  
- 78% said the smaller cart worked for them
- 69% agreed that the County should create an incentive for residents to downsize their carts as a way to generate less waste

#### Those who chose not to participate in the pilot project:

- 37% said their cart is usually over half full on their collection day
- 34% said they wanted the extra seasonal/occasional capacity
- 5% said the price reduction wasn't enough for them to change
  
- 14% said they would downsize if there was a \$3 – \$5 per cart per month savings
- 10% said they would downsize if there was a \$5 – \$8 per cart per month savings
- 11% said they would downsize if there was a \$8 – \$10 per cart per month savings
- 21% said they would downsize if there was over a \$10 per cart per month savings

### What's next?

County staff continue to follow up with the pilot project participants to find out how many are still using the smaller carts. That data, along with the responses from these surveys will be used to develop a strategy for introducing a variable cart program in Strathcona County.