

REPORT NO. 364 of the  
ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
of its meeting held March 23, 2016

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Present: Councillor Chris Holt  
Councillor Fred Francis  
Councillor Bill Marra (Chair)  
Councillor Hilary Payne  
Councillor Paul Borrelli

That the following recommendations of the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee **BE APPROVED**:

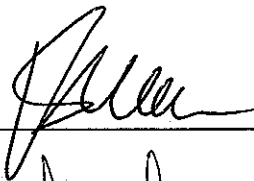
Moved by Councillor Francis, seconded by Councillor Holt,  
THAT the report of the City Engineer dated February 3, 2016 regarding the impact of the hard-sided bylaw requirement on the wildlife population in Windsor **BE RECEIVED** for information.


Carried.

Councillor Marra was absent when the vote was taken on this matter.

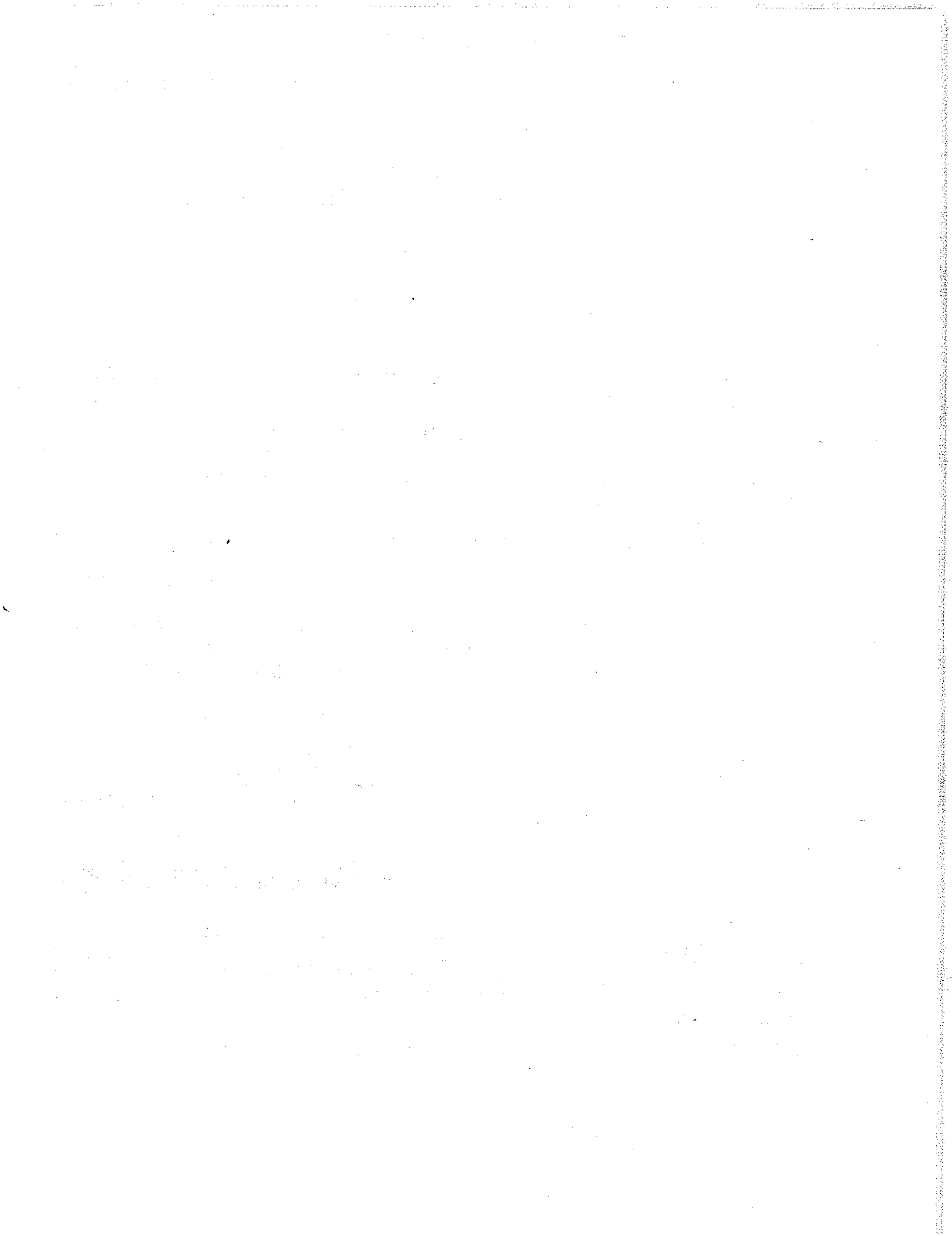
**CM 5/2016 SW2016**

Clerk's Note: The report of the City Engineer dated February 3, 2016 entitled "*Impact of hard sided container bylaw requirement on the wildlife population in Windsor (re: CQ23-2015, CR99/2015)*" is **attached** as background information.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISOR OF COUNCIL SERVICES

NOTIFICATION:	
NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION
Melanie Coulter, Windsor-Essex Humane Society	<a href="mailto:melanie@windsorhumane.org">melanie@windsorhumane.org</a>





## Public Works - Operations

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*"Our City is built on relationships – between citizens and their government, businesses and public institutions, city and region – all interconnected, mutually supportive, and focused on the brightest future we can create together."*

<b>REPORT #: CM 5/2016</b>	<b>Report Date: 2/3/2016</b>
<b>Author's Contact: Anne-Marie Albidone 519-974-2277 ext. 3123</b>	<b>Date to Council: 3/23/2016</b>
	<b>Clerk's File #: SW2016</b>

**To: Mayor and Members of City Council**

**Subject: Impact of hard sided container bylaw requirement on the wildlife population in Windsor (re: CQ23-2015, CR99-2015).**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the report of the City Engineer dated February 3, 2016 regarding the impact of the hard-sided bylaw requirement on the wildlife population in Windsor BE RECEIVED for information.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

N/A

**BACKGROUND:**

This report serves as a response to both CQ 23-2015 and CR 99-2015 described below.

CQ 23-2015: "Asks that for the upcoming July first anniversary of the hard sided garbage container bylaw (7-2014), Environmental Services report back to Council on the success of the program, including rates of compliance and on the control of our urban wildlife complaints."

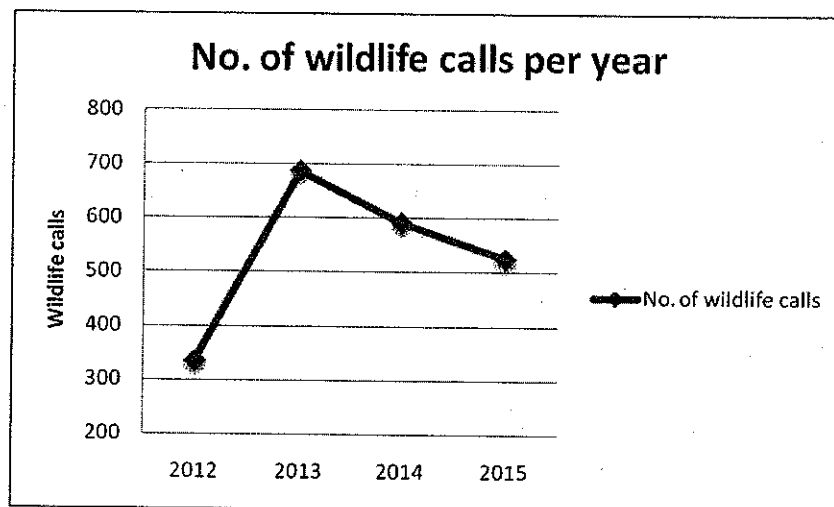
CR 99-2015: "That the report of the City Engineer dated May 1, 2015 regarding "Rodent Extermination – Tender #50-15" BE RECEIVED; and further, That Tender 50-15, being a tender covering a 3-year period for the purposes of rodent extermination on residential properties and various city-owned properties BE CANCELLED; and further,

That administration **BE DIRECTED** to issue a new tender for the purposes of rodent extermination on residential properties and various city-owned properties for only an 18-month period and to allow *administration to review and report back to Council on the impact of hard-sided containers. (emphasis added)*"

## **DISCUSSION:**

Effective July 1, 2014, residents are required under Bylaw 2-2006 "A Bylaw to Establish and Maintain a System for the Collection and Disposal of Waste in the City of Windsor" to place their garbage in a hard sided container. At the onset of the new bylaw requirements, residents were given a three month grace period in which Administration did not apply any fines but rather attended properties in non-compliance to provide education. Following the three month grace period, there were few calls regarding compliance and to date no orders have been issued in this regard.

In terms of the effect of hard sided containers on urban wildlife population, the only measures available to review are the number of sick/injured/dead animal calls received by both the Humane Society and the City of Windsor. Therefore, in order to do an accurate comparison, Administration reviewed the number of calls for both areas. The results are outlined below. Council is reminded that the skunk trapping program was in effect from June 2013 to June 2014, and the new bylaw requirements came into effect July 1, 2014.



Anecdotally, the Humane Society reports receiving far fewer complaints about skunks and many positive comments regarding the effectiveness of the hard sided container requirement. Furthermore, while there is still a program available for education, only 21 residents requested this service in 2015, whereas 28 residents requested the service in the last six months of 2014 alone. This would suggest that the skunk population continues to decline. While this cannot be fully attributed to the bylaw requirements, it is reasonable to assume that the hard sided container requirement has contributed to the reduction in population by virtue of limiting food availability.

**RISK ANALYSIS:**

There is a moderate risk of another population explosion with either skunks or other wildlife. Simply having garbage in hard side containers is not sufficient to keep populations at bay. A mitigating strategy would be for the Manager of Environmental Services to continue to monitor the populations through 311 calls and advise Council accordingly.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

There are no financial considerations with the current operations.

**CONSULTATIONS:**

Melanie Coulter, Windsor-Essex Humane Society

**CONCLUSION:**

The hard sided container requirement appears to be contributing, in some way, to the reduced skunk population and is well established among the residents of the City of Windsor. It is anticipated that the new by-law requirement will continue to support population control in urban wildlife.

**APPROVALS:**

Name	Title
Dwayne Dawson	Executive Director of Operations

Name	Title
Onorio Colucci	City Treasurer
Mark Winterton	City Engineer
Helga Reidel	Chief Administrative Officer

**NOTIFICATIONS:**

Name	Address	Email
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**APPENDICES:**