

Clear bags program is a "make work" project

Some time ago, I sent an email to the previous Council on this matter. However, as a 'soft launch' seems more imminent, I would like to reiterate some previous concerns.

I am not sure what the use of opaque bags within a clear plastic outer bag achieves. At the moment, the only answer I can find is more plastic at the landfill sites.

Is the garbage man going to take the time to inspect these opaque bags to ensure that toxic items are not contained therein? If yes, it will surely be very time consuming and costly. If no, then what are we really achieving? My opaque bags are black!

As was stated in the recent article in The Auroran, residents are concerned over privacy issues. However, most people today have shredders and those personal papers can easily be disposed of in that manner then recycled.

This whole idea sounds like a 'make work project' without any thorough analysis, scientific or otherwise, of the pros and cons. Simply put, it works in Markham, so let's give it a whirl!

Who do we complain to if we do not agree with the garbage man for items left behind? Ilmar Simanovskis claims that he 'thinks the idea of unlimited grocery bags is really good' because all he is trying to do is 'create more awareness around where the materials need to go and the clear bag creates a little more consciousness around how you manage your waste.'

Those two statements in quotations are directly opposing comments.

First one says, use as many opaque bags as needed and then place in the clear bags. As said above, is the garbage man going to take the time to inspect each opaque bag? I am not sure that I understand his logic as stated in The Auroran.

That will only lead to certain individuals still placing unwanted items such as paint cans, batteries etc., in the garbage.

He goes on to say that he is anticipating some costs savings in the long run etc.

I would like to suggest that this is going to be a lot more costly, as measures need to be put in place to resolve disputes 'and just who will the residents contact?

By and large, I feel Aurora residents are far more environmentally conscious than we are being given credit for and, perhaps, instead of clear bags, more education on the matter should be offered to the residents.

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