

## **Provincial Discussion Paper on Reducing Litter and Waste in our Communities**

On May 16, 2019 Regional Council made the following decision:

1. Council endorse comments identified in Attachment 1 (York Region Response Letter) and Attachment 2 (York Region Detailed Comments), which were submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in response to Environmental Registry of Ontario posting 013-4689: Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities Discussion Paper. Due to the timeframe provided, it was not possible to bring the response to Regional Council for endorsement prior to submission. Any additional comments or clarifications by Council will be sent to the Province to supplement staff comments. Key recommendations for endorsement include:
  - a. Immediately transition the Blue Box to full producer responsibility to make producers both operationally and financially responsible for their waste and establish high targets that obligate the implementation of deposit return programs that augment the Blue Box program
  - b. Include the 4th R (Recovery) in diversion calculations to recognize the benefits of recovering the value of resources
  - c. Develop Green Bin compostable standards that align with existing processing systems to provide clear rules
  - d. Take immediate and strong action to eliminate litter and plastic waste going to landfills and waterways, including single use plastics and problematic materials, through a deadline driven action plan, including a used beverage container deposit return program
  - e. Ensure extended producer responsibility requirements include public spaces and Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sectors to help prevent and reduce litter in communities
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to local municipalities and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.