Recycling Rails on Bins

Tuesday, 9 August 2022 **Council**

Council Member Councillor Snape

Public

Contact Officer: Ilia Houridis, Director City Shaping

MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Snape will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That the City of Adelaide install recycling rails to all public city bins, to facilitate a more sensible and dignified way to approach waste management in our city.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

- 1. On 12 December 2005, Council approved a trial of a 'recycler friendly' latch to Council bin enclosures to allow easier access for collection of 10 cent containers, and subsequently adopted the latch for most public bins.
- 2. The City of Adelaide public space bins are typically unlocked to allow collection of 10 cent containers and to reduce damage to bin assets and maintenance costs. Public amenity and safety risks to people accessing the bins were considered in this process.
- 3. Target Area 4 of the *City of Adelaide's Resource Recovery (Organics, Recycling and Waste) Strategy and Action Plan 2020–2028* (the Strategy) focuses on establishing public spaces such as streets and Park Lands as places for resource recovery.
- 4. In line with the Strategy, the City of Adelaide is piloting green organics collection in Rundle Mall:
 - 4.1. The pilot is a collaboration with Green Industries SA and will include a new purpose-built three-bin system commencing at the end of August 2022.
 - 4.2. The new bin system provides a recycling rail integrated in the body of the bin surround for 10 cent containers.
 - 4.3. To manage amenity of Rundle Mall, it is proposed that the new Rundle Mall bins be locked (currently unlocked) during the 12-month pilot.
 - 4.4. The Rundle Mall pilot is being supported with public education, monitoring, regular cleansing and maintenance regimes.
 - 4.5. The outcome of this pilot will inform development and/or expansion of public place resource recovery in other locations.
- 5. A standalone recycling rail system could be retrofitted to most city bin surrounds for quick access to 10 cent containers:
 - 5.1. It is anticipated that despite the inclusion of rails and associated education programs that some 10 cent containers will still be placed in bins and that bins will still be accessed.
 - 5.2. As the rail is not integrated into the bin design, it may require additional maintenance due to issues such as damage, wind-blow waste, liquid spills, and public health risk management.

- 5.3. As 10 cent containers are already removed from public bins, recycling rates are not expected to increase substantially as a result.
- 6. If a rail collection system is supported, a first stage implementation would be undertaken:
 - 6.1. identify an appropriate location within the city and install rail collection systems on multiple bins;
 - 6.2. assess maintenance requirements, costs and risk factors;
 - 6.3. assess social benefits with regard to a more hygienic and dignified way for bottle collectors to remove recyclable items in parallel with zero waste objectives
 - 6.4. complete a Stage 1 review at the conclusion of the first 6 months of operation to inform broader roll out and budget requirements for implementation and maintenance.

7. If this motion is carried:

- 7.1 We will review current bin assets and determine the cost for implementation of recycling rails
- 7.2 A budget request may be required to implement installation of the recycling rails, a cost estimate has not yet been determined.
- 7.3 Investigations about outcomes from other SA Councils who have trialled similar infrastructure would be conducted.
- 7.4 Any budget impacts would be prioritised and managed through quarterly budget reviews or future budget processes.

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or prices have been obtained:	
Public consultation	Consultation may be required
External consultant advice	Not applicable
Legal advice / litigation (eg contract breach)	Not applicable
Impacts on existing projects	Existing and planned assets would be reviewed
Budget reallocation	A budget request may be required to deliver this project, a cost estimate has not yet been determined.
Capital investment	Capital investment would be required.
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	Not applicable
Other	Not applicable
Staff time in receiving and preparing this administration comment	To prepare this administration comment in response to the motion on notice took approximately 5.5 hours.

- END OF REPORT -