

Meeting Date: September 3, 2019
Department: Building and Planning
Prepared By: Matthew Stephenson, Director of Building, Planning & Waste Services
Reviewed By: Greg McClinchey, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: **Operational Changes at Strathroy Transfer Station**

RECOMMENDATION: That Council adopt and file this report for information.

BACKGROUND

Since its opening, the Strathroy transfer station has operated on a tipping fee per usage, based on the size of the load being brought in for disposal. Staff, over the last number of months, have been taking suggestions that a debit machine would be appreciated at the site. The comments were based on the fact that cash is no longer the norm to carry and it is inconvenient to attend a bank machine just to be able to go to the site. Staff investigated options, and a debit machine has been implemented at the site. Staff have also taken this operational change one-step further and have eliminated the acceptance of cash at the Strathroy site as of August 24, 2019. This information was provided to users beginning on July 31 by giving each resident a notification sheet of this proposed change, in addition to notification on our social media outlets.

Many of the comments received have been positive and very appreciative, as both credit card and debit would be accepted, with some negative comments from some traditionalists.

SUMMARY

With the increase of debit and credit usage generally, it is only natural that we provide this option to our residents. It must be noted that, in addition to convenience for patrons and for those tracking revenues, the elimination of cash transactions in favour of electronic payment has diminished certain security concerns relating to cash being held on site. Staff have chosen to implement this option at the Strathroy site only, with Mt. Brydges to follow over the next couple of months.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is a \$40.00 per month fee for the operation of the unit at the site; these costs are being managed via the operations budget.

ATTACHMENTS

- None.