

March 8, 2002

TO: Mr. Barry Gutteridge, Commissioner, Works and Emergency Services

FROM: Councillor Michael Walker

RE: Garbage and Recycling Collection --- Problems Since Schedule Switch

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to express my deep disappointment with the garbage and recycling collection completion levels since the schedule changed five weeks ago. The City's service levels seem to be weakening, not strengthening with this new change. I am noticing a negative routine develop in the area bounded by Eglinton Avenue, Bayview Avenue, St. Clair Avenue, and Spadina Road particularly.

Whether it is only garbage that is missed, or blue box, or gray box materials, I see a systemic problem within the ranks that should be resolved. For a City of this size and age, we should be able to make an overhaul of the waste collection schedule without more than two weeks of intermittent service levels. This kind of perceived incompetence speaks volumes to the citizens of this City, and is detrimental to our brokerage of the public trust as elected members and appointed members of City staff.

To compound the collection issue, some residents are not properly notified of problems with their preparation of garbage and recycling materials. If materials are improperly prepared or located my constituents need to know. Would you please ensure that notification of this kind is given to every resident who needs to be aware of innocent errors made in their waste preparation for collection.

I would like your attention to these concerns to prevent their future perpetuation.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Michael Walker
Councillor - Ward 22
CJS