Q: Why did the City choose to collect waste from Multi-Residential Condominiums?
Vaughan recognizes the increase in condominium developments across the City and is committed to addressing issues — including waste collection services — that are important to residents living in these buildings. Providing municipal waste collection to eligible Condos allows the City to deliver a consistent level of service to residents that is funded through taxation.

Q: When did the City start picking up garbage and recycling?
The City’s expanded waste collection service was implemented in two phases, over a two-year time frame. Phase 1 of this program started in 2018 and provided services to all eligible high-rise multi-residential condominiums. Phase two was implemented in 2019 and expanded collection services to eligible townhouse condominiums.

To participate in these programs, an Application and Agreement must be completed by the condominium owner representatives, and returned to the Solid Waste Management Division either by email to jennifer.gill@vaughan.ca or in person at the Joint Operations Centre located at 2800 Rutherford Road. To determine eligibility, a site visit will be conducted by the City before collection can begin.

Q: Where can I find the application and agreement forms?
Application and Agreement forms will be provided to the condominium owner representatives. If you are a multi-residential condominium owner and the City has not approached you about receiving municipal waste collection services, you may contact the Solid Waste Management Division at 905-832-2281. An Application must be completed and returned to the City, after which a City representative will conduct a site visit to determine eligibility for municipal waste collection services, and provide the Agreement upon approval.
Q: Is there any other documentation that the City needs for municipal collection service?
Yes, if your property contains a supported structure (such as an underground parking garage), the City requires a letter certified by a qualified engineer that the property and the structure can safely support a fully loaded collection vehicle weighing 35,000 kilograms. A Certificate of Insurance is also required; these details can be found in the Agreement.

Q: I have had private garbage collection on my property without any issue, why does the City require confirmation from an engineer?
Site conditions of private property may not conform to the specifications of public infrastructure. The City needs confirmation, through a qualified engineer, that the property can support a full collection vehicle. We want to ensure that waste collection operations are safe for our collectors and all our residents. This request is common among local and regional municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area.

Q: What is the collection schedule?
Highrise condominiums currently receive the following level of service:
- Garbage is collected on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Blue Box recycling is collected once a week, on either Thursday for front-end wheeled bins or Friday for wheeled carts.
All schedules are subject to change and are determined by the City. Collection bins must be set out at the designated collection area by 7 a.m. on the day of collection.

For townhome condominiums that can accommodate curbside collection, waste pick-up occurs on the designated collection day as set out in the Waste Collection Schedule. Visit vaughan.ca/waste for a description of the collection areas and curbside collection requirements.

Q: Is “Green Bin”, or organic materials collection, a part of the program?
For townhome condominiums that can accommodate curbside collection, organic materials collection is provided. These properties must adhere to all requirements for curbside collection.

For condominiums receiving front-end waste collection (collection at a common point in shared bins), organic materials collection will remain privately collected. The City is considering future program expansion to include organic materials, and encourages properties that are already collecting organics separately to continue to do so.
Q: Can I choose not to participate?
Yes. We understand that some condominium corporations may not wish to break long-term service contracts or desire more frequent waste collection than the City will provide. However, every condominium corporation is mandated by the Province of Ontario to participate in recycling regardless of the service provider.

Q: How can I terminate my current waste collection contract?
Condominium corporations will have to decide if it is feasible to terminate their current waste collection contracts, as well as ensure the condominium is eligible for municipal waste collection before cancelling. Review your current contract carefully. It may contain stipulations regarding termination with written notice within 30, 60 or 90 days and/or the option of buying out of the contract. Once the Agreement for municipal waste collection has been executed with the City, the condominium corporation should let the contractor know that waste collection will now be part of a municipally run program and to remove any equipment owned by the contractor on the set termination date.

Q: Why is my property not eligible to receive waste collection services?
There are several reasons why your property may not be eligible:
- Your property is designated as institutional, commercial or industrial.
- You are exempt from paying property taxes (i.e. the property is a long-term care facility or registered charity).
- There is a lack of unobstructed, safe access for collection vehicles or adequate storage space.
- Your property chooses not to offer a recycling program.
- You have a suspended structure (i.e. an underground parking garage) that cannot support a full collection vehicle weighing 35,000 kg.
- There is less than the minimum 70 per cent required occupancy per building or new development.
- Certain building standard requirements have not been met (e.g. the boulevard has yet to be rough graded or the curb-to-base concrete is not completed).
- No Parking signage has not been installed for all internal access routes and collection areas.
- Other terms of the agreement have not been met.

Q: What are the costs associated with municipal waste collection services?
Waste collection is provided by the City at no cost to the condominium corporation. The only costs are associated with the purchase, lease or rent of necessary, and approved,
collection bins and the ongoing maintenance of these bins and necessary waste collection infrastructure.

**Q: Will residential property taxes increase because of this service?**
As a growing City, Vaughan must be prepared to address challenges such as population, growth, contract price increases and enhanced regulatory requirements. A nominal portion of property tax increases will be attributed to waste collection for multi-residential condominiums.

**Q: Will I get a rebate for paying property taxes and not receiving this service?**
No, it is up to the eligible multi-residential condominiums to participate. The City will work with applicants to meet eligibility requirements.

**Q: Are there any waste diversion targets my property must meet?**
By entering into an Agreement for municipal waste collection services, you are agreeing to meet benchmarked targets for waste diversion and participate in waste audits which evaluate these targets. Currently, these targets are based on York Region’s SM4RT Living Plan, which sets out that local municipalities should be achieving a multi-residential waste diversion rate between 23%-27% by the year 2020. By comparison, multi-residential properties in Vaughan have achieved approximately 14% waste diversion over the last three years (2014-2016) according to audit results and reported tonnage.

The City of Vaughan is committed to helping condominiums reach these benchmarked targets by providing education, improving waste collection procedures and creating opportunities for additional reduction and reuse initiatives.