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Item No. 13.1

Request for Environment & Sustainability Committee's Consideration

Included on Agenda **Added Item** **Request from the Floor**

Date of Committee Meeting: Thursday, June 8, 2017

Subject: Pilot Program to Recycle/Dispose Discarded Cigarette Butts

Motion for Environment & Sustainability Committee to Consider:

That the Environment & Sustainability Committee request a staff report to consider the implementation of a Pilot Program to recycle/dispose discarded cigarette butts and communicate with the Cities of Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver who have implemented this program.

Reason:

Cigarettes pose a serious litter and toxic waste disposal problem. Discarded cigarette butts are a form of non-biodegradable litter. They are a blight on streets, sidewalks, and other open areas.

Each component of the discarded cigarette butt presents its own concerns. About 99% of the manufactured cigarette market is filtered cigarettes; filters degrade very slowly and thus become an accumulating mass of potentially toxic waste. Toxic substances are leached from the filter and tobacco residue that pollute waterways, and probably pollute ground water near landfills that are not properly constructed to contain such leachates. Aquatic life may be harmed by the toxic leachates, and the butts may cause physical harm when ingested by animals. Butts collect in municipal storm drains and then may empty into waterways, and can clog storm drains and sanitary sewer systems.

Outcome Sought:

Staff report and possible implementation of Pilot Program to recycle/dispose discarded cigarette butts.

Councillor Tony Mancini

District 6