

# Not all Cremona residents on board for new recycling service

*Discussed during council meeting open forum*

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Not all Cremona residents are on board for curbside recycling and compost pickup services.

Council gave village administration the go-ahead to purchase 65-gallon rollout recycling and compost bins for residents in July. Cremona residents could have all three bins – recycling, compost and garbage – by October.

Village residents currently don't have curbside recycling and composting services and instead use the village's recycling centre. But village officials plan to close the recycling centre by the end of the year.

However, one resident told council during the open forum portion of the Aug. 25 meeting that some people don't want to have all three bins.

Mayor Tim Hagen said residents don't have to use the bins but they still have to pay for the service – which is a 59-cent increase from what they're already paying for garbage alone.

Coun. Joseph Shi said some business owners in the village have told him they would like to continue to have access to the recycling centre.

But Coun. Robert Reid said those business owners should purchase a larger bin to suit their needs.

Officials want to close the centre because it would save the village money, according to chief administrative officer Luana Smith.

She said the centre is costing the village staff time for cleanup, as well as additional costs for taking items to the landfill because people are illegally dumping items.

Village officials purchased 500 bins at \$65 each with MSI funding and awarded waste pickup services to Can-Pak Environmental Inc. in July, after the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission announced earlier this year it will outsource solid waste collection.

Cremona, Carstairs, Didsbury and Sundre provided one year's notice to withdraw from the waste commission in December of 2014 after it increased its 2015 requisitions to make up for financial losses.

Didsbury and Carstairs do not use the commission's collection service and instead have contracts with Can-Pak as well.

Can-Pak will charge the village \$3.59 biweekly to pick up garbage, recycling and compost, while the waste commission charges \$3 biweekly for garbage pickup only.

Hagen said during last week's meeting there is a possibility that the cost to residents could decrease if the waste commission's requisition does.