

NEWS & ANALYSIS

CSL replacing broken brown bins

By Joel Goldenberg
The Suburban

Côte St. Luc is replacing brown bins, used by residents for organic waste, because previous bins were damaged, Councillor Steven

Erdelyi said at a recent council meeting. "We received a stock of new brown bins," said Erdelyi, in charge of the public works portfolio on council. "We had some issues with some broken bins due to a defect with the ultraviolet coating. Because of that, the com-

pany has sent out about 500 free bins, so we're encouraging residents to contact the city's public works department (514-485-6868) and we'll replace them at no cost."

Erdelyi also reported that in January 2012, recycling was up 16 percent compared to January 2011; and organic waste was up 35 percent in the same time period. "Overall, diversion [of waste away from landfill] was up 19.5 percent, so I'm happy the positive trend continues," the councillor said.

Erdelyi also encouraged residents to report any burnt out street lights to public works, and to specify their four-digit code so that the department will know exactly where the light is. The councillor said a "big push" had been made to repair local lights. He added that two lights that were burnt out were caused by wiring issues involving Hydro-Québec and the utility was being lobbied to fix them.

Erdelyi reported that no water main breaks took place in February. "Hopefully, this will be a good trend, and we hope it will continue," he said. The councillor explained that many breaks took place early last year, as the weather was worse in 2011.

"We spent just over \$126,000 by the end

of February 2011 and this year we spent \$55,000. Hopefully, that trend will continue."

The councillor also said that the city is pursuing a different way of changing the oil in its trucks that saves money and is more environmentally friendly.

"Instead of changing the oil without knowing for sure if it's good or bad, we sent off samples of the oil to Hewitt and for \$20, they do a full chemical analysis and tell us whether it's in good condition and because of this, we're saving hundreds of dollars on each oil change. This is one of the new initiatives by the public works department."

Councillor Mike Cohen, in charge of the communications portfolio on council, said Côte St. Luc's website (www.cotesaintluc.org) contains a greeting request page.

"We all know you can get a message from the prime minister, from the premier, from the Queen, but you can also get a message from our mayor for a special occasion," Cohen explained. There is no charge for the greeting.

"Our website is really a go-to page for anything," Cohen added. "You can look forward in the next six to 12 months for some very significant changes."

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