

Canada Post to seek input with survey

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Hamilton said last year Canada Post delivered 1.2 billion fewer letters than it did in 2006, adding the public understands that something needs to change at Canada Post, and it costs twice as much to deliver mail to people's doors.

This year the community boxes are being introduced into 11 communities including Oakville.

Hamilton said in the packages affected residents will receive

will be a survey on what concerns they have about the change, and ask their preferred box design and whether they would like smaller boxes close to home or a larger cluster of boxes further away.

He said in the case of Oakville the overwhelming majority preferred a "smaller group of boxes relatively close to home."

He said Canada Post will take that feedback and build a plan based on the residents' criteria and working with the

municipality to determine the locations of the community boxes.

Once a location has been determined Hamilton said they will be knocking on the doors of residents who live near where they propose to install a box.

The boxes go on municipal easements and they don't generally place them in front of someone's home, but at the side of the property far back from an intersection.

Hamilton said the affected

residents can voice their concerns and sometimes Canada Post can make a change of location, or "there may just be no better option."

"We can't change them all. We take a neighbourhood by neighbourhood approach," said Hamilton.

He said Canada Post plans to report back to area residents on the survey information by mail in the fall and he didn't know yet when it would be selecting the community box locations.



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