
MEMORANDUM

WMPSC-C 1-2021

Subject: Councillor Information Request

Date: Monday, February 22, 2021

To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

From: Catherine Habermebl, Director, Waste Management Services

This memorandum is intended to provide Committee members with an update on the outstanding Councillor Requests from previous meetings.

Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

Meeting Date: October 28, 2019

Minute Item #3.1:

Provide information respecting the tonnage of plastic garbage bags being collected by Niagara Region each year, and ways to mitigate usage. Councillor Gibson.

Follow-up Action: Information was submitted to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for the January 27, 2020 meeting, which was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Subsequently, WMPSC-C 4-2020 was provided for the September 28, 2020 meeting, which again had a lack of quorum. WMPSC-C 4-2020 was updated slightly and is included on the February 22, 2021 WMPSC meeting agenda as WMPSC-C 8-2021.

Status: Complete

Provide information respecting the definitions of diapers and incontinence products and what differentiates the two waste categories. Councillor Diodati.

Follow-up Action: Niagara Region offers exemptions to the current garbage container limits. Diaper waste and waste generated as a result of a medical condition each require a different type of exemption. The diaper exemption is applicable to households with two or more children under the age of four in diapers. For individuals with a medical condition, which results in the generation of waste including incontinence products, a medical exemption is required to exceed the current garbage container limit.

Below is a summary of the current garbage container exemptions:

Diaper Exemption

1. Low-density residential properties (up to 6 units) with two (2) or more children under the age of 4 in diapers may place out one (1) clear bag of diapers per unit for weekly collection, in addition to the one bag weekly limit of household garbage.
2. Low-density residential properties (up to 6 units) with three (3) or more children under the age of 4 in diapers may place out two (2) clear bags of diapers per unit for weekly collection, in addition to the one bag weekly limit of household garbage.
3. Daycares operating out of low-density residential properties may place two (2) clear bags of diapers out for collection weekly, in addition to the one bag weekly limit of household garbage.

Medical Exemption

1. An individual with a medical condition, which results in the generation of additional garbage (i.e. incontinence products, dialysis bags, non-hazardous medical waste), may apply with a doctor's signature, to receive one or two extra bags each week, based on the doctor's discretion, in addition to the one bag weekly limit of household garbage. This results in the provision of either 52 or 104 free garbage tags annually.

Group Home Exemption

1. Group homes, homes for adults with disabilities and homes for assisted living will receive 52 free garbage tags annually. If the home has one or more individuals with a medical condition, a medical exemption is also provided with the group home as the signing authority in place of the physician.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #5.1:

Provide information respecting amending the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Terms of Reference to include citizen members. Councillor Witteveen.

Follow-up Action: Proposed amendments to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Terms of Reference were submitted to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for the January 27, 2020 meeting, which was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Subsequently report WMPSC-C 11-2020 was provided for the September 28, 2020 meeting which again had a lack of quorum. WMPSC-C 11-2020 was updated slightly and is included on the February 22, 2021 WMPSC meeting agenda as WMPSC-C 14-2021.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #7.1:

Councillor Ugulini requested information respecting enforcement of illegal dumping mitigation measures in consideration of the move to every-other-week waste collection.

Follow-up Action: Memorandum WMPSC-C 9-2020 was submitted to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee at the January 27, 2020 meeting, which was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Subsequently, PWC-C 30-2020 was provided for the September 8, 2020 Public Works Committee meeting.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #7.2:

Councillor Ugulini requested information respecting the implementation of mandatory closed top waste collection containers across the Region.

Follow-up Action: Information was submitted to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for the January 27, 2020 meeting, which was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Subsequently, WMPSC-C 5-2020 is provided for the September 28, 2020 meeting which again had a lack of quorum. WMPSC-C 5-2020 was updated slightly and is included on the February 22, 2021 WMPSC meeting agenda as WMPSC-C 7-2021.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: August 26, 2019

Minute Item #3.1:

That staff BE DIRECTED to meet with Nespresso Canada to consider implementing the Nespresso “Green Bag” pod recycling program in Niagara Region and report back with options in January 2020

Follow-up Action: Information was submitted to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for the January 27, 2020 meeting, which was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Due to the pandemic, the redeployment of staff and implementation of the new collection contracts, this work was paused. This work is being reinitiated and staff will report back with an update when available.

Status: In progress

Meeting Date: Feb 25, 2019

Minute Item #8.1: MOTION

That staff **PROVIDE** options that could be included in the negotiated request for proposal (RFP) and terms of reference for the Material Recycling Facility Phase 4 Opportunity Review to allow for the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee to provide comments prior to the RFP being released to market.

Follow-up Action: In order to proceed with this project, the options to be included in the RFP were submitted to Public Works Committee in a presentation by the project consultant and in Confidential Report PW 17-2020 A Matter of Commercial Information, which if disclosed could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization, under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Procurement Process for MRF Opportunity Review – Phase 4. This report was approved by Public Works Committee on June 16, 2020 and by Council on June 25, 2020.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: May 30, 2016

Minute Item #6.6: Provide information outlining options for the Material Recovery Facility pending legislative changes. (WMPSC-C 25-2016) (Councillor Petrowski).

Follow-up Action: An evaluation of opportunities with regard to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) is in progress as part of Phase 4 of the MRF Opportunity Review. Direction for the next major steps in the evaluation were contained in Confidential Report PW 17-2020. The project consultant is in the process of developing the terms of reference for the Negotiated Request for Proposal, with a targeted release in March 2021.

Status: In progress

Public Works Committee

Meeting Date: October 13, 2020

Minute Item #3.1

Provide information respecting the Niagara Region Waste App's ability to track real-time collection vehicle movement in the future. Councillor Diodati

Follow-Up Action: Information was provided in CWCD 2021-13 which was submitted as part of the January 15, 2021 Council correspondence.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: September 8, 2020

Minute Item #3.1

Provide information respecting the staff costs(s) associated with the Waste info-Line.
Councillor Gale.

Follow-Up Action: Information was provided in CWCD 250-2020 which was submitted as part of the September 18, 2020 Council correspondence.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #5.3

Provide information respecting the cost of Niagara Recycling's scale operations.
Councillor Gale

Follow-Up Action: Information was provided in CWCD 250-2020 which was submitted as part of the September 18, 2020 Council correspondence.

Status: Complete

Provide information respecting the annual value of the Niagara Recycling contract.
Councillor Gale

Follow-Up Action: Information was provided in CWCD 250-2020 which was submitted as part of the September 18, 2020 Council correspondence.

Status: Complete

Provide a copy of the most recent financial audit/report on Niagara Recycling. Councillor Gale.

Follow-Up Action: Information was provided in CWCD 250-2020 which was submitted as part of the September 18, 2020 Council correspondence.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: May 12, 2020

Minute Item #5.1

Provide information respecting whether or not the contract with Walker Environmental Group is an exclusive contract. Councillor Nicholson.

Follow-up Action: The contract does preclude the Region from dealing with another contractor in addition to Walker Environmental Group.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #6.2:

Ensure information is provided to residents registered for weekly diaper collection respecting alternative diaper solutions (i.e. cloth diapers) with a roster of providers.
Councillor Sendzik.

Follow-up Action: Information on cloth diaper pickup and washing service providers in Niagara has been included on the Regional website. The Customer Service Frequently Asked Questions for the new waste collection changes beginning on October 19, 2020 also addresses cloth diapers and includes additional retail locations as to where cloth diapers can be purchased.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: March 10, 2020

Minute Item #3.2: MOTION

That the engagement of an outside independent waste management consultant **BE APPROVED** To:

- Review the current practices related to garbage collection and recycling/recycling materials recovery facility; and
- To make recommendations on how the system can be made more cost effective and efficient for the taxpayer.

Follow-up Action: Work was initiated in 2020, however due to the pandemic, the redeployment of staff and implementation of the new collection contracts, this project was paused. This work is anticipated to be completed in the spring of 2021.

Status: In progress

That staff **BE DIRECTED** to take the results of the review and work with the newly awarded companies and the operators of the material recovery facility to implement the suggestions over the term of the contract subject to Regional Council approval.

Follow-up Action: The review is in progress and the resulting recommendations will be submitted to Public Works Committee for approval.

Status: In progress

That a plan to deal with illegal dumping that could arise as a result of bi-weekly pick-up **BE DEVELOPED** and **IMPLEMENTED**.

Follow-up Action: Report PWC-C 30-2020 was submitted to Public Works Committee at the September 8, 2020 meeting.

Status: Complete

That a plan to deal with public health problems that could arise as a result of moving to bi-weekly pick-up **BE DEVELOPED** and **IMPLEMENTED**.

Follow-up Action: Report PWC-C 25-2020 was submitted to Public Works Committee at the September 8, 2020 meeting.

Status: Complete

Provide information respecting the cost of an independent waste management consultant. Councillor Chiocchio.

Follow-up Action: Due to the pandemic, the redeployment of staff and implementation of the new collection contracts, this project was paused. This work is being reinitiated and staff will report back with this information when available.

Status: In progress

Meeting Date: Feb 11, 2020

Minute Item #7.1

Councillor Disero requested staff provide a report respecting weekly diaper collection for families regardless of the number of children. R. Tripp, Commissioner, Public Works/Acting Chief Administrative Officer, advised staff would provide a report at the Public Works Committee meeting being held on April 7, 2020.

Follow-up Action: Report PW 20-2020 was submitted to Public Works Committee at the May 12, 2020 meeting as the April meeting was cancelled.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: November 5, 2019

Minute Item #3.1

Provide information respecting the number of waste containers distributed to residents from May 2018 to November 2019. Councillor Insinna

Follow-up Action: The container unit numbers that were sold at various events and that Niagara Region delivered to the container distribution locations between May 2018 and November 2019 are as follows:

Container Type	Unit Number
1. Blue Box	15,080
2. Grey Box	15,578
3. Green Bin	10,961
4. Kitchen Catchers	6,258

Status: Complete

Budget Review Committee of the Whole

No outstanding waste management related items at this time.

Committee of the Whole

No outstanding waste management related items at this time.

Council

No outstanding waste management related items at this time.

COMPLETED ITEMS

Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

Meeting Date: August 26, 2019

Minute Item #3.2:

Provide information respecting implementing deposits for recycled plastic bottles.
(Councillor Witteveen)

Meeting Date: June 24, 2019

Minute Item #5.1:

Provide information respecting scheduled battery collection from the Niagara Region's comparator municipalities in future reports. (Councillor Diodati)

Minute Item #6.2:

Provide information respecting the breakdown of any forecasted shortfalls and how Niagara compares with municipalities with alternative models such as single stream.
(Councillor Witteveen)

Minute Item #7.1: MOTION

That staff REQUEST Nespresso to provide a presentation to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee on their coffee pod recycling program.

Meeting Date: April 29, 2019

Minute Item #6.6:

Provide the costs and revenues for the Material Recycling Facility.
(Councillor Fertich)

Meeting Date: Feb 25, 2019

Minute Item #4.1:

That Waste Management staff consult with Economic Development as to how to maximize the potential of the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) and the partnership with Niagara Recycling before proceeding with the Phase 4 Opportunity Review RFP.
(Councillor Butters).

Public Works Committee

Meeting Date: September 10, 2019

Minute Item #7.2

Councillor Insinna requested information respecting the number of days curbside waste collection was not completed given the current collections delays.

Meeting Date: August 6, 2019

Minute Item #7.2

Councillor Insinna requested information respecting the use of incineration as an option for future waste management.

Meeting Date: April 16, 2019

Minute Item #7.1:

Councillor Nicholson requested staff arrange to have Emterra Environmental attend a future Council Meeting to provide an update respecting Waste Collection.

Meeting Date: March 19, 2019

Meeting Item #5.3:

Include in the request for proposal pricing information related to reducing container limits for Industrial, Commercial and Industrial, and Mixed-use properties, as well as to maintain current container limits (Councillor Nicholson).

Meeting Item #7.1:

That staff BE DIRECTED to provide a report respecting the cost to supply Niagara Region residents with recycling and compost bins.

Meeting Date: February 19, 2019

Meeting Item #9.2:

That staff request Emterra present at a future Public Works Committee meeting to provide additional information. (Councillor Foster)

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Catherine Habermehl
Director, Waste Management Services