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## MEMORANDUM

**WMPSC-C 3-2019**

**Subject: Councillor Information Request**

**Date: Monday, January 21, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services**

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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: March 19, 2018**

**Minute Item #3.1: MOTION**

That staff **REVIEW AND CONSIDER** potential opportunities to work with Niagara Furniture Bank with respect to large item pick-ups.

**Follow-up Action:** Establishment of a four (4) large item limit per eligible residential unit, per collection, has been recommended for the next collection contract (as per PW 3-2019). A limit per residential unit is a municipal best practice/trend, and would encourage households to direct large items to organizations such as Niagara Furniture Bank.

Currently, there are Niagara Region waste management-related webpages and links that encourage donations of used items, including the following:

- <http://www.niagararegion.ca/waste> contains the “Where does it go?” search tool which returns the flag ‘if this item is in good condition, [consider donating it](#)’ (for example, <https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/donate-list.aspx?d=1&q=Furniture>) for applicable items.
- <http://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate> contains links to:
  - A [list of items that can be donated](#) and an ‘item to donate’ search tool (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/donate-categories.aspx>)
  - [Etiquette for donating](#) (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/Etiquette-for-dropping-off.aspx>)
  - [Donation drop-off locations](#) (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/donate-list.aspx>)

- [Form](https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/org-form.aspx) for organizations requesting to be added to the directory of donation drop-off locations  
(<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/org-form.aspx>)

**Status:** In progress

**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. An RFP has been drafted for the engagement of the project consultant for Phase 4 of the MRF Opportunity Review. Clauses in the contract agreement with Niagara Recycling allow for early termination.

**Status:** In progress

**Public Works Committee**

**Meeting Date: January 8, 2019**

**Meeting Item #6.1:**

That staff consider closed-top containers as an option for recycling collection. Councillor Ugulini.

**Follow-up Action:** Staff have completed research and are monitoring availability and municipal use of closed-top containers. The results are included in WMPSC-C 11-2019 Closed-top Recycling Containers which is part of the WMPSC February 25, 2019 meeting package.

**Status:** Complete

Provide information respecting what constitutes the 36% of non-recyclable and non-compostable materials in the garbage bags collected between 2015 and 2016, as described in Report PW 3-2019. Councillor Disero.

**Follow-up Action:** The detailed breakdown of material streams in residential garbage containers is included in WMPSC-C 7-2019 2015/2016 Waste Composition Study Results which is part of the WMPSC February 25, 2019 meeting package.

**Status:** Complete

**Meeting Date: February 16, 2016**

**Meeting Item #3.1:** Include in future reports regarding this project the corporate structure, background on the technology and how this fits into our current waste management systems and long term planning for waste management (Councillor Grenier).

**Follow-up Action:** The Allanburg Energy from Waste (EFW) project has been renamed as the Grove Energy & Education Centre (GEEC) project. The proponent's information regarding the background on the technology has been included in a memorandum CL-C

16-2016, from the Commissioner of Public Works to Council, dated February 19, 2016. The proponent's corporate structure was included a subsequent memorandum to Council, dated February 23, 2016.

In September 2016, the City of Thorold rescinded its support of the GEEC project, as proposed by 1931146 Ontario Inc. and further adopted a resolution that Thorold Council does not support EFW, a form of incineration, as a viable method for municipal waste management. Thorold Council also asked that Niagara Region rescind its project support (as it related to the Independent Electrical System Operators (IESO) application). Further, on September 27, 2016, the Province announced that it will immediately suspend the second round of its Large Renewable Procurement (LRP II) process and the Energy-from-Waste Standard Offer Program (EFWSOP).  
Memorandum WMPSC-C 38-2017 September 11, 2017 Page 3.

At its meeting of January 19, 2017, Regional Council passed the following motion:  
*"That the motion adopted by Regional Council at its meeting of February 25, 2016 as noted above, **BE RECONSIDERED**.*

*That the motion respecting Energy from Waste **BE REFERRED** to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Public Works Committee."*

Subsequently, the motion was addressed in WMPSC-C 9-2017 at the January 23, 2017 WMPSC meeting and PWC-C 9-2017 at the January 31, 2017 PWC meeting. The following resolution was approved at PWC:

*"That Niagara Region **RESCIND** their February 2016 support for the construction and operation of the Grove Energy & Education Centre Project for the sole purpose to enable the Applicant (1931146 Ontario Inc.) to meet the eligibility requirements of the EFWSOP"*

Staff have contacted the proponents for an update on the GEEC project (i.e. current and next steps) and have yet to receive a reply.

**Status:** In progress

### **Budget Review Committee of the Whole**

**Meeting Date:** October 29, 2015

**Meeting Item #5.1:** Provide advance notice of (waste management / recycling) future legislated requirements / changes to Public Works Committee meeting prior to any budget considerations (Councillor Grenier).

**Follow-up Action:** Bill 151, Waste Free Ontario Act became law November 30, 2016. The Act is high-level enabling legislation and future regulations and policy statements will provide further details on roles and responsibilities and how services will be funded. Staff will continue to provide updates related to the legislation and the potential impact

on Niagara, with the most recent update provided as part of the Regional Council 2018-2022 Orientation presentation on November 21, 2018 and in the staff presentation to WMPSC on February 25, 2019.

**Status:** In progress

### **Committee of the Whole**

No outstanding waste management related items at this time.

### **Council**

**Meeting Date:** January 18, 2018

**Meeting Item # 11.3:** That staff provide regular updates at Public Works Committee respecting Emterra Environmental and waste collection. (Councillor Grenier).

**Follow-up Action:** An update was last provided at the January 8, 2019 Public Works Committee meeting as part of the memorandum PWC-C 4-2019.

**Status:** In progress

### **COMPLETED ITEMS**

#### **Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**Meeting Date:** April 30, 2018

**Minute Item #6:** Investigate whether Niagara Region is the only municipality that accepts black plastics in its Blue Box program. (Councillor Burroughs)

Confirm the location that receives the tires collected by the Niagara Region drop-off depots. (Councillor Augustyn).

**Meeting Date:** January 22, 2018

**Meeting Item # 7.3:** Provide information on the legality and use of drones for monitoring illegal dumping. (Councillor Baty)

#### **Public Works Committee**

**Meeting Date:** January 9, 2018

**Meeting Item #7.1:** Provide a chronology of how and why the decision for the Emterra Environmental contract extension was made and highlight the risks we were trying to avoid by extending the contract. Councillor Grenier.

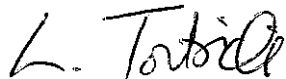
**Meeting Date: May 15, 2018**

**Meeting Item #7.2:** Councillor Bentley requested information regarding waste collection vehicles reversing on laneways in the Grimsby beach area. Catherine Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services, advised that the Region has a policy that restricts waste collection vehicles from reversing on laneways, but that some private laneways were grandfathered in.

**Meeting Date: May 15, 2018**

**Meeting Item #7.4:** Councillor Rigby requested information respecting the City of St. Catharines hiring of a waste manager to help reduce waste. Catherine Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services, advised that this position was for City of St. Catharines facilities; however, she has reached out to St. Catharines staff to offer assistance.

Respectfully submitted and signed by



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Lydia Torbicki  
Acting Director, Waste Management Services