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**MEMORANDUM**

**WMPSC-C 15-2022**

**Subject:** Councillor Information Request

**Date:** Monday, June 20, 2022

**To:** Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

**From:** Catherine Habermebl, 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:** April, 11 2022

**Minute Item #7.2:** Councillor Edgar requested information respecting a report outlining the cost to provide set-out service for yard waste seasonally in the spring and fall for the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting being held on June 20, 2022.

**Follow-up Action:** Report WMPSC-C 18-2022 has been submitted to the June 20, 2022 Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting.

**Status:** Complete

**Meeting Date:** February 14, 2022

Minute Item #6.1: WMPSC-C 1-2022 Provide information respecting opportunities for proactive distribution of recycling and green bin containers in areas with a high concentration of university and/or college students. Councillor Ugolini

Follow-up Action: On-Road Waste Management staff carry an inventory of recycling and green bin containers (containers) in their vehicles. In the course of addressing waste collection issues at off-campus student properties, staff may provide containers if it is determined that students are new tenants.

Staff work very closely with both Niagara College and Brock University throughout the year to ensure off-campus students have the proper containers and information to fully participate in Niagara Region's waste collection programs. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff participated in Orientation Week events. At these events, containers and promotional information were provided to off-campus students. Staff will explore potential other avenues to provide containers in areas with a high concentration of university and/or college students.

Update: Report WMPSC-C 20-2022 has been submitted to the June 20, 2022 Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting.

**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.

The Negotiated Request for Proposal 2021-RFP-209 For Disposition or Lease of Niagara Region owned Material Recycling Facility (MRF) and Provision of Recycling Processing Services closed on March 1, 2022. A report with recommendations will be submitted to the Corporate Services Committee on July 13, 2022.

**Status:** In Progress

**Public Works Committee**

**Meeting Date:** December 13, 2021

**Minute Item #5.2:**

Councillor Heit requested information respecting the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario Committee strategic plan regarding waste management information sharing between municipalities.

**Follow-up Action:** The Regional Public Works Commissioner of Ontario Committee strategic plan will be presented to Niagara Region's Public Works Committee, once finalized.

**Status:** In Progress

**Meeting Date:** July 13, 2021

**Minute Item #5.3:**

Councillor Foster requested staff follow up with the Town of Lincoln respecting the pilot project that was undertaken for recycling box covers.

**Follow-up Action:** Regional staff have reached out to the Town of Lincoln to discuss a possible pilot. Staff are waiting for a response from the Town regarding next steps.

**Status:** In progress

**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 implementation of the new collection contracts, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic and related redeployment of staff, this project was paused.

Under the Blue Box Regulation, Niagara Region will transition out of the collection and processing of residential Blue Box materials on January 1, 2024. Staff could engage in negotiations with Producer Responsibility Organizations to potentially deliver residential Blue Box collection services on their behalf. Therefore, staff recommend that a review of the collection system occur in 2022/23 following these negotiations, and as part of the consulting engagement for the Long Term Strategic Plan RFP.

**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:** Staff engaged with Miller to discuss possible changes to yard waste collection; however, it was determined that there were no cost savings at this time. As noted above, a review will take place will occur in 2022/23. Recommendations will be submitted to Public Works Committee for approval.

**Status:** In progress

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:** April, 11 2022

**Minute Item #7.3:** Holly Washuta, Committee Member, requested information respecting waste collection for the Canada Summer Games.

**Follow-up Action:** Catherine Habermebl, Director, Waste Management Services, advised that GFL Environmental is the exclusive waste management partner providing waste collection for the Canada Summer Games, and Waste Management Services may be providing an information booth at the Canada Games Park.

**Status:** Complete

Status: Complete

**Meeting Date: February 14, 2022**

**Minute Item #6.1:** J. Bacher requested information respecting illegal dumping trends at sites monitored by the Region.

**Follow-up Action:** Staff have observed a general decrease in the number of illegal dumps found at hot spot locations, following the installation of anti-illegal dumping signs. While previous hot spot locations may experience reduced illegal dumping, new locations are being reported by residents. As illegal dumping can be found across the region, staff promptly respond to the reports in order to efficiently investigate and remove illegal dumping. The presence of dumped material can encourage additional dumping.

Status: Complete

**Minute Item #6.3** Councillor Ugulini requested information respecting the tracking and collection of illegally dumped materials at local area municipality facilities by local Public Works departments.

**Follow-up Action:** Currently, very limited illegal dumping activity is reported by the local area municipalities (LAMs). Less than 2 percent of illegal dumps reported in 2021 were reported LAMs. Many municipalities have indicated they only report illegal dumping to Niagara Region Waste Management, when they have reason to believe a charge may be laid i.e. generator evidence. Staff are working with the Illegal Dumping Working Group members to find solutions to improve LAM reporting. Staff are investigating the opportunity to expand the geographic information systems (GIS) tracking tool currently used by Waste Management to allow municipal staff the opportunity to document illegal dumping as it is encountered.

Status: Complete

**Meeting Date: August 30, 2021**

**Minute Item #3.3:**

Provide information respecting the percentage of landfill site users that paid the minimum tipping fee.

**Minute Item #3.3:**

Provide information respecting alternatives to raising the minimum tipping fee.  
Councillor Butters.

**Minute Item #6:**

Provide information respecting City of Markham approach to tipping fees. J. Bacher.

**Meeting Date: February 22, 2021**

**Minute Item #8:**

Councillor Ugulini requested staff undertake further communication plans to reinforce contact information to report incidents of illegal dumping.

**Public Works Committee**

**Meeting Date: March 08, 2022**

**Minute Item #6**

Councillor Insinna requested information respecting the cost of the 2022 “Gold Star” recycling awards program.

- **Follow-up Action:** Similar to the 2021 campaign, the costs of the same award program in 2022 will be under \$5000.

**Status:** Complete

**Meeting Date: July 13, 2021**

**Minute Item #7.2:**

Councillor Steele advised of issues related to seasonal cottage owners placing waste out for collection on the wrong collection week due to unfamiliarity with the changes to every-other-week waste collection. Catherine Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services, noted that the cottage associations have previously assisted with communicating these types of changes and advised that staff would consider ways to ensure cottage owners were aware of the collection changes.

**Meeting Date: January 12, 2021**

**Minute Item #8.5:**

Councillor Insinna requested information respecting the investigation of illegal dumping incidents, including staff time and outcomes. Bruce Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works, advised that staff would provide a report at a future Public Works Committee meeting.

**Meeting Date: January 12, 2021**

**Minute Item #4.1:**

Consider conducting a survey for resident satisfaction on the new campaign. Councillor Nicholson.

Consider focused campaigns for illegal dumping hot spots. Councillor Foster.

Provide information respecting sites frequently used for illegal dumping throughout the region. Councillor Foster.

Connect with staff at the City of Niagara Falls and the City of St. Catharines respecting Regional support for illegal dumping incidents in their respective municipality. Councillors Diodati and Sendzik.

**Minute Item #7:**

Provide information to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee respecting the Waste Management Strategy RFP (PWC-C 2021). Councillor Zalepa.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Catherine Habermebl,  
Director, Waste Management Services