

Memorandum

WMPSC-C 1-2024

Subject: Councillor Information Request

Date: February 26, 2024

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: December 11, 2023

Minute Item #3.1: Councillor Morocco requested information about including a sticker with the promotional materials that indicates organic items that can be discarded in green bins.

Follow-up Action: Staff has previously looked into using stickers for green bins. The stickers need to be placed on the lid of the green bins as opposed to side surfaces to maximize line of sight. Staff identified the issue of “fading/weathering” due to exposure of the containers to the elements causing the stickers to deteriorate over time. Stickers were provided on the indoor kitchen catchers, however, it is typical of residents to leave the lid on their kitchen catcher open to prevent decomposition and odours. Therefore, the sticker on the kitchen catcher was not an effective tool. Additionally, the lid of the current kitchen catchers is not a flat and smooth surface for placement of the appropriate size of stickers. Staff will investigate the availability and cost effectiveness of using weatherproof stickers on green bin lids for the upcoming 2024 Green Bin campaign.

To promote the acceptable items that can be placed in a green bin, Niagara Region uses promotional brochures (collection guides) that are mailed out annually and/or provided with the containers and this practice will continue. Promotional information is also periodically conveyed through social media, Niagara Region’s mobile phone waste app and news ads.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #3.2: Councillor Morocco requested information about costs associated with illegal dumping.

Follow-up Action: Information pertaining to this Councillor request will be included in memo WMPSC-C 3-2024 - Illegal Dumping 2023 Year End Summary, which will be presented to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee on February 26, 2024.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: October 23, 2023

Minute Item #7.2: Committee requested information about the cost of implementing a mandatory organics collection program for high-rise apartment complexes.

Follow-up Action: Information about this topic will be included in April's Waste Management Planning Steering Committee documents.

Status: In Progress

Public Works Committee

Meeting Date: April 4, 2023

Minute Item #3.1: Councillor Easton asked Regional staff to consider bringing presentations to local area Councils on the Blue Box program transition.

Follow-up Action: Prior to the transition of the Blue Box program, information was shared with local area municipal councils and staff. The Blue Box program has been successfully transferred to Producers, and no immediate action is required at this time.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: January 11, 2022

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

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: October 23, 2023

Minute Item #7.1: Councillor Rigby requested an update on utilizing alternative technology from waste.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: June 26, 2023

Minute Item #3.2: Councillor Rigby requested information regarding costs for a coffee pod recycling program or other options for coffee pod recycling at Niagara Regional Headquarters.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: April 24, 2023

Minute Item #7.1: Councillor Foster requested information about an update on current landfill capacity, timelines, and the possible need for additional landfills.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #7.2: Councillor Rigby requested information regarding whether staff considered utilizing energy from waste.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: February 27, 2023

Minute Item #4.2: Councillor Diodati requested information about the possibility of selling booklets of garbage tags.

Status: Complete

Public Works Committee

Meeting Date: September 12, 2023

Minute Item #9.1:

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: July 11, 2023

Minute Item #5.4: Councillor Zalepa requested information about provincial changes to landfill sites, collected materials, timelines and the potential impacts be provided to Committee.

Status: Complete

Minute Item #5.2: Councillor Zalepa requested information about Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) and their Board of Directors.

Status: Complete

Meeting Date: March 07, 2023

Minute Item #7.1: Councillor Huson requested information about the number of multi-residential units in Niagara Region and the percentage that are currently collecting compost and recycling.

Status: Complete

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Catherine Habermebl
Director, Waste Management Services