

## **Cornwall City Council**

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Infrastructure and Municipal Works  
**REPORT NUMBER:** 2018-10-IMW-ENV  
**PREPARED BY:** Danielle Watson, Waste Management Supervisor  
**REPORT DATE:**  
**MEETING DATE:** May 28, 2018 07:00 PM  
**SUBJECT:** Solid Waste Management Master Plan-Update

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### **PURPOSE**

To inform Council about the items remaining on the 2011 City Council endorsed Solid Waste Management Master Plan and to also provide updates on the current status of two Provincial plans that could affect Cornwall's current Waste Management system.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive this report and endorse the next evaluation steps (with public consultation) of the SWMMP update.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The annual cost of garbage and landfill operations in Cornwall is about \$120 per household (excluding recycling); however, the average annual cost to a residential property (property tax) is only about \$50. The majority of expenses for waste management operations are offset by recycling grants and tipping fee revenue.

The services included in the \$50 are:

- weekly garbage (with no bag/container set-out limit);
- weekly recycling collection and processing;
- seasonal household hazardous waste drop off;
- landfill operations (including leachate and gas management);

- seasonal leaf and yard waste diversion.

Based on the 2017 Datacall results (funding application for bluebox recycling), the annual cost of recycling in Cornwall (after recycling revenue is deducted) is \$60 per household. The City subsequently receives an annual grant for 50% of this cost from the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority.

The recently released "Waste-Free Ontario/ Circular Economy" framework from the Provincial government may have financial impacts on the City, however staff does not have those details at this time. Administration will provide updates to Council as information becomes available.

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY IMPLICATIONS**

Review of the Solid Waste Management Master plan was identified as an item under Pillar 3, Environment, in the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan.

### **BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

In 2011, the City of Cornwall developed a Solid Waste Management Master Plan (SWMMP). In March 2011, the SWMMP was endorsed for implementation by Council.

The SWMMP was created to guide Cornwall's waste management programs for the next 20 years. As a part of the 20-year plan, reviews would be conducted to update the plan as required. The timing of the update has been planned to be concurrent with the proposed Provincial strategy for a Waste Free Ontario, otherwise known as the Circular Economy Framework.

The Amended Blue Box Plan and the Food and Organic Waste Framework are two (draft) policy implications that will have direct impacts on how the City manages curbside waste and the landfill.

The Amended Blue Box plan is proposed to take full affect in 2023. The Food and Organic Waste Framework was finalized and released on May 9th 2018 and is proposed to take full affect by 2025.

Both of these initiatives will require pre-planning and consultation in order to meet the Provincial requirements while also sustaining public service levels.

The current SWMMP was developed through public consultation, administration plans to include public consultation as a part of each review to the current plan.

The 2018 review will be the first review of the original 2011 plan. The review looks to address items from the 2011 plan and also add new items in relation to the release of new Provincial framework. There were 24 initiatives described in the 2011 SWMMP - to date the following have been completed, including:

- Pilot study of larger-sized recycling bins
- Multi-residential recycling pilot study
- Material Recovery Facility Capacity Utilization
- Used mattress recycling
- Charge fees for residential waste disposal at the landfill
- Weekly recycling collection (now single-stream)
- Annual review and adjustment of landfill tipping fees
- Implementation of larger-sized recycling bins
- City-wide multi-residential recycling program
- Review and increase waste management staffing
- Market place assessment for recycled goods
- Development of a communications strategy
- Full-scale waste audit and composition study

The 2018 (and beyond) review will include an evaluation of the following items (that were part of the 2011 plan):

- Elimination of bulky item collection with garbage
- Waste reduction and reuse centre programming
- Elimination of the Multi-Residential Waste Credit (separate report to Council)
- Implementation of a bag limit, bag tag, and clear bag system
- Organic waste collection and processing pilot study
- Assessment of long term waste disposal/management options (including the Engineering/operations Assessment)
- Public, Open Space, and Special Event recycling
- Assess depot programs for additional diversion

Public and stakeholder consultation will be a key component of the evaluation of the various waste management update initiatives.

Many of these items may be influenced by Provincial regulations as well. For example, the 2018 Provincial Food and Organic Waste Framework has implications regarding a municipality's role in organic waste collection and processing.

The assessment of long term disposal options, and the engineering and operations assessment of the landfill, will be undertaken as part of a separate study for the landfill expansion. An organic waste feasibility study will also be undertaken. Public and stakeholder consultation will be a key component for these evaluations as well.

Currently, Administration is proposing that Council consider the following initiatives (to move forward with public consultation):

1. The implementation of a proposed 6-bag garbage bag limit (tag system), in conjunction with mandatory curbside Bluebox recycling, which was endorsed by the Municipal Environmental Advisory Committee on May 16th 2018.
2. Public, Open Space, and Special Event Recycling.
3. The implementation of depot programs for additional diversion.
4. Elimination (or modification for those with accessibility issues) of the existing curbside bulky item collection.

Many of these initiatives have proven positive for increased landfill life span and reduced costs when initiated in other municipalities. A list of comparator municipalities with regards to their current programs and their diversion programs are attached for reference.

These planned initiatives will also begin to assist Administration in addressing the financial sustainability of the waste management operation; the long-term options beyond the estimated 15 years of landfill capacity remaining; and the post-closure cost implications so that sustainable financial reserves can be planned.

## ATTACHMENTS



Waste Diversion Initiates in Municipalities between 43.pdf



Waste Diversion Initiatives in Local Municipalities.pdf

Motion to receive this report and endorse the next evaluation steps (with public consultation) of the SWMMP update.

Moved By: Carilyne Hébert, Councillor

Seconded By: Bernadette Clément, Councillor

Motion Carried