

<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 2, 2016</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>JAY STANFORD, M.A., M.P.A. DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT, FLEET &amp; SOLID WASTE</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>UPDATE: INTERIM WASTE DIVERSION PLAN (2014-2015) AND ADDITIONS FOR 2016</b>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That on the recommendation of the Director, Environment, Fleet & Solid Waste the following actions **BE TAKEN**;

- a) This report, Update: Interim Waste Diversion Plan (2014-1015) and Additions for 2016, **BE RECEIVED**;
- b) The 2016 Interim Waste Diversion Plan **BE APPROVED**;
- c) That staff **BE DIRECTED** to prepare and submit to Civic Works Committee three additional reports as part of the 2016 Interim Waste Diversion Plan:
  - i. a report examining the options for increasing Christmas tree composting by April 2016
  - ii. a report examining the advantages, disadvantages and requirements of selling Blue Boxes at the EnviroDepots by June 2016
  - iii. a report examining options for increased recycling in the downtown core by October 2016; and
- d) That staff **BE DIRECTED** to report back to Civic Works Committee on any further adjustments to the 2016 Interim Waste Diversion Plan as a result of 2016 Budget Deliberations or legislative or regulatory developments.

<b>PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER</b>
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Some relevant reports that can be found at [www.london.ca](http://www.london.ca) under City Hall (Meetings) include:

- Individual Environmental Assessment Long Term Solid Waste Resource Recovery & Disposal Plans (October 6, 2015 meeting of the Civic Works Committee (CWC), Item #15)
- Waste Diversion – Update on Examination of Residential Organic Waste (Food Scraps) and Next Steps (April 20, 2015 meeting of the CWC, Item #13)
- Preliminary Concept for a London Waste to Resources Innovation Centre (February 3, 2015 meeting of the CWC, Item #4)
- Garbage and Recycling Collection – Status and Potential Next Steps (December 16, 2014 meeting of the CWC, Item #12)
- Interim Waste Diversion Plan (July 21, 2014 meeting of the CWC, Item #18)
- Waste Diversion and Garbage Collection Updates (November 25, 2013 meeting of the CWC, Item #7)
- Comments on Environmental Bill of Rights Registry – Waste Reduction Act and Waste Reduction Strategy (August 19, 2013 meeting of the CWC, Item #4)
- Status Report: Update of Road Map to Maximize Waste Diversion 2.0 (July 22, 2013 meeting of the CWC, Item #14)

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2019

The following report supports the Strategic Plan in the areas of waste diversion, waste management planning, financing, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and job creation. Specifically, waste diversion and resource recovery address 3 of the 4 Areas of Focus from the Strategic Plan:

### **Building a Sustainable City**

- Robust infrastructure
- Strong and healthy environment

### **Growing our Economy**

- Diverse & resilient economy
- Local, regional, and global innovation
- Strategic, collaborative partnerships

### **Leading in Public Service**

- Innovative & supportive organizational practices
- Collaborative, engaged leadership
- Excellent service delivery

## BACKGROUND

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee and Council with:

- a status of approved actions from the 2014-2015 Interim Waste Diversion Plan
- a status of other actions already approved by Council that relate to waste diversion and increased resource recovery, and
- seek approval for the 2016 Interim Waste Diversion Plan

### **CONTEXT**

In December 2013 Council received the document Road Map 2.0 – The Road to Increased Resource Recovery and Zero Waste (Road Map 2.0) which looked at further program changes, initiatives and new measures that would increase waste diversion and passed the following resolution:

*“...c) the report entitled “Road Map 2.0 – The Road to Increased Resource Recovery and Zero Waste” BE RECEIVED and BE APPROVED for release for the purpose of public engagement, which will include outreach through traditional media, social media, the City’s website and at community events between January 2, 2014 and April 30, 2014;...”*

For most of 2013 and the early part of 2014, proposed new provincial legislation called Bill 91 (Waste Reduction Act, 2013) had the potential to significantly change how waste diversion worked and was financed in Ontario. This proposed legislation would have strongly influenced the timing of actions in the Road Map 2.0. However, this piece of legislation and initial dialogue on potential accompanying regulations was pulled from discussion when the provincial election was called in 2014.

It was City staff’s understanding that it would take a portion of 2014 and part of 2015 to resurrect a revised version of Bill 91 and/or a new Bill to pick up from where Bill 91 left off. For this primary reason, community input from Road Map 2.0 was used to develop an Interim Waste Diversion Plan (2014-2015 IWDP) that covered 18 months. It included initiatives and programs that potential provincial changes to waste management funding and legislation were unlikely to have an impact on. The 2014-2015 IWDP was approved by Council in July 2014.

On November 26, 2015, Bill 151 was introduced into the provincial Legislature. It is proposed omnibus legislation titled the Waste-Free Ontario (WFO) Act that, if passed by the Ontario Legislature, would enact the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2015 (RRCE) and the Waste Diversion Transition Act, 2015 (WDTA). The Province is also proposing a new Draft Strategy for a Waste Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy. Comments have been requested on the legislation and strategy

Comments on the WFO and Strategy through the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change (MOECC) Environmental Bill of Rights Registry are due by February 29, 2016 and contained in a separate report on this same CWC agenda (February 2, 2016).

## DISCUSSION

This section is divided into 3 parts:

PART A Status of 2014-2015 Interim Waste Diversion Plan

PART B Actions Already Approved by Council that Relate to Waste Diversion and Increased Resource Recovery

PART C 2016 Interim Waste Diversion Plan

### PART A - Status of 2014-2015 Interim Waste Diversion Plan

The 2014-2015 IWDP included 9 actions that potential changes to waste management funding and legislation were unlikely to have an impact on and could be started over the time period of approximately 18 months. Input from the community engagement process and the cost of the program or initiative were also taken into consideration at the time of developing the Interim Plan. A brief status of the 9 actions is provided on Table 1.

**Table 1: Update on Interim Waste Diversion Plan Initiatives**

#	Initiative/Program	Comment	Status
1	Two-phased Expansion of North-end EnviroDepot for 2.5 Year Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both phases of the depot expansion completed by October 2015</li> <li>To date this depot has served almost 12,000 visitors. In the last 3 months the depot is averaging about 1,200 visitors per month</li> </ul>	Complete
2	Provide two Blue Boxes (instead of one) to new homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2015 we began to provide two Blue Boxes for newly constructed homes As a pilot project, and to further promote correct sorting, Grey Boxes are provided for paper and a Blue Box for containers</li> </ul>	Complete
3	Sell recycling carts to multi-residential building owners at cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Began in April 2015</li> <li>Carts are sold for \$80 each (our cost)</li> <li>To date, 105 have been sold at the \$80 rate</li> </ul>	Complete
4	Add vegetable oil and used motor oil to EnviroDepots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) amendment by MOECC for implementation</li> <li>A pilot project is underway for fats, oils and greases (FOG) to obtain additional details on handling methods and citizen comments at the depots</li> </ul>	In progress
5	Add mixed polycoat (e.g., hot/cold beverage cups) and blister packaging to Blue Box program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added October 2014</li> <li>There have been no collection, processing or marketing issues associated with these additions</li> </ul>	Complete

**Table 1: Update on Interim Waste Diversion Plan Initiatives**

#	Initiative/Program	Comment	Status
6	Examine reduced container limits for garbage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey work undertaken in 2014 (85% to 90% of households set out 3 or fewer garbage containers)</li> <li>Additional research under way</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>50% complete</li> <li>CWC report in April 2016</li> </ul>
7	Begin a community composting pilot project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2015, community composting projects were started in six locations at multi-residential buildings and will continue in 2016</li> <li>Related work with the community via the London Environmental Network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>50% complete</li> <li>CWC report in Quarter 1 2017</li> </ul>
8	Begin food reduction awareness pilot project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>London participates on several local and provincial working groups that are exploring this new potential area of waste reduction, cost savings and community benefit</li> <li>Activities will occur throughout 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>20% complete</li> <li>CWC report in Quarter 1 2017</li> </ul>
9	Examine incentive options for Blue Box recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preliminary work has begun on potential incentives</li> <li>Will be influenced by the direction set by the Provincial Government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>20% complete</li> <li>Future report tied to Provincial direction</li> </ul>

Initiatives “in progress” will be included in the 2016 IWDP.

### **PART B – A Status of Other Actions Already Approved by Council that Relate to Waste Diversion and Increased Resource Recovery**

In addition, Council has already approved a number of initiatives, pilot projects and studies with respect to increasing waste diversion and resource recovery (Table 2).

**Table 2: Update on Other Actions**

#	Initiative/Program	Description	Status
1	London Waste to Resources Innovation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concept currently being examined and/or discussed with Western University, several businesses</li> <li>Over 10 student projects and papers completed in 2015</li> <li>Examining the feasibility of creating Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) from Green Bin materials and the role that using RNG in compressed natural gas vehicles might play in reducing Green Bin Program costs (with 50% funding from Federation of Canadian Municipalities)</li> <li>Several funding applications under development and/or submitted by Western University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>20% complete</li> <li>Update CWC report in March 2016</li> </ul>
2	Parks Recycling Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine opportunities and costs of recycling in City parks (in conjunction with the Parks &amp; Recreation Service Area)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>10% complete</li> <li>Future report to CWC tied to Provincial direction</li> </ul>

**Table 2: Update on Other Actions**

#	Initiative/Program	Description	Status
3	Gas Phase Reduction Facility Pilot Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare the details of a Draft agreement for construction and operation of a Gas Phase Reduction pilot plant based on the conditions outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding for further discussion and direction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> <li>• 25% complete</li> <li>• CWC report in Quarter 2 2016</li> </ul>
4	Long term Resource Recovery Strategy (Environmental Assessment – EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete an individual EA to develop long term solid waste resource recovery and disposal plans</li> <li>• In 2016 and 2017, advanced resource recovery systems (new, emerging and next generation) will be examined</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> <li>• Update report to CWC Q2 or Q3 2016</li> </ul>
5	Green Bin Program updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further examination of Green Bin programs as part of the review of advanced resource recovery technologies (included in the EA) and role within higher levels of waste diversion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress as part of EA</li> <li>• Future report to CWC tied to Provincial direction</li> </ul>
6	Increase waste diversion in the institutional, commercial and industrial (IC&I) sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine opportunities to facilitate increased diversion of organics and recyclables from the IC&amp;I sector including a review of other jurisdictions, legislative and regulatory requirements and associated policies, and what local actions can be taken</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> <li>• 10% complete</li> <li>• Future report to CWC tied to Provincial direction</li> </ul>

It is worth noting that there are several examinations underway or work starting in 2016 with respect to garbage collection that will have an impact on waste diversion including:

- A report examining alternative garbage and recycling services in student areas. A review to determine if there are additional opportunities to meet landlord needs, meet student needs and improve neighbourhood satisfaction.
- A report examining sustainable funding alternatives as it relates to waste collection. Some of these options include but are not limited to: pay-as-you-throw, flat rate included on residential tax bills, variable rate systems based on volume of garbage and a tiered rate system with preferences to those properties that meet waste diversion targets. In addition, the review would include large and bulky pick-up items which could include: reducing pick-up to once a month, user pay, scheduled pick-up and pick-up systems utilizing a certain number of pick-ups per year (PwC recommendation).
- A report examining the advantages and disadvantages of using a cart-based, semi or fully automated, garbage collection system (PwC recommendation).
- A report examining the advantages and disadvantages of compressed natural gas (CNG) to fuel garbage packers and other compatible City fleet, along with potential synergies with fleet from other agencies, boards and commissions (PwC recommendation).

### **PART C - 2016 Interim Waste Diversion Plan**

Until the current proposed provincial legislation and strategy is approved, and the future direction of waste management in Ontario is determined, a number of initiatives have been identified that could be completed and/or started at a minimal cost in 2016:

1. Examine options for increasing Christmas tree composting. If residents wish to compost their Christmas trees, they can take them to temporary depots, EnviroDepots or hang on to them until the spring when curbside yard material collection begins. If they put them out to the curb before this period they will be collected as garbage and go to the landfill. Other options that could be examined include:
  - i. curbside collection of trees for composting following the holiday period, including a ban on collection with garbage
  - ii. a ban on collecting Christmas trees with garbage, which would require that residents either take to a depot, or hold until the spring.
  
2. Examine the advantages, disadvantages and requirements of selling Blue Boxes at the EnviroDepots. The EnviroDepots have become a valued one-stop drop-off location for many residents in London. Residents appreciate services provided at these locations and that these services are continually being expanded to include more items. Providing Blue Boxes for sale at these locations would offer another convenience in helping families to recycle and reduce their waste.
  
3. Examine options for increased recycling in the downtown core. In 2007 as part of the larger residential Blue Box collection Request for Proposals (RFP), the City requested pricing on extending recycling to the downtown core. The proposed cost at that time was approximately \$80,000 per year. In addition to seeking pricing for this service again, other options that could be explored include:
  - i. Collection of cardboard and paper using City crews. This would relieve a large portion of the recyclables from businesses.
  - ii. Establish Depots where businesses could drop-off their recyclables.
  - iii. Assist interested businesses in establishing a co-operative purchase for recycling services.

These three initiatives along with the five initiatives “in progress” from the 2014-2015 IWDP will form the 2016 IWDP.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared with the assistance of Jana Corby, Solid Waste Planning Coordinator and Wesley Abbott, Division Manager, Solid Waste Management.

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