

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2017
FROM:	JAY STANFORD, M.A., M.P.A. DIRECTOR - ENVIRONMENT, FLEET & SOLID WASTE
SUBJECT:	UPDATE REPORT #4: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE JUNE 6 TO SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director - Environment, Fleet and Solid Waste, this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Relevant reports that can be found at www.london.ca under City Hall (Meetings) include:

- Update and Next Steps – Resource Recovery Strategy and Residual Waste Disposal Strategy as part of the Environmental Assessment Process (February 7, 2017 meeting of the Civic Works Committee (CWC), Item #10)
- Individual Environmental Assessment Long Term Solid Waste Resource Recovery & Disposal Plans (October 6, 2015 meeting of the CWC, Item #14)

Relevant reports that can be found at www.london.ca under City Hall (Meetings – Advisory and other Committees) include:

- Progress Report #1: Community Engagement Program (June 27, 2017 meeting of the Waste Management Working Group (WMWG), Item #6)
- General Framework for the Community Engagement Program for the Resource Recovery and Residual Waste Disposal Strategies as part of the Environmental Assessment Process (January 19, 2017 meeting of the WMWG, Item #7)

COUNCIL'S 2015-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

Municipal Council has recognized the importance of solid waste management in its 2015-2019 - Strategic Plan for the City of London ([2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan](#)) as follows:

Building a Sustainable City

- Strong and healthy environment
- Robust infrastructure

Growing our Economy

- Local, regional, and global innovation
- Strategic, collaborative partnerships

Leading in Public Service

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

BACKGROUND

PURPOSE:

This report provides the Waste Management Working Group (WMWG) with an update on Community Engagement Program activities for the Resource Recovery and Residual Waste Disposal Strategies that have taken place between June 6 and September 12, 2017.

CONTEXT:

In February 2017 Municipal Council directed City staff to undertake a number of actions with respect to the development of a long term Resource Recovery Strategy and a Residual Waste Disposal Strategy for the city of London. These actions included approving the general framework of the Community Engagement Program including:

- Using the following community engagement tools and forums: public notices, project website including use of the *getinvolved.london.ca website*, interested stakeholders contact and distribution list, open houses, meetings/presentations, City of London Advisory Committees, and using a range of information and communications tools; and,
- Contacting individuals and groups within the following broad stakeholder categories: the general public, the Government Review Team and Indigenous Communities.

The Community Engagement Program began on March 30, 2017 with the release of the Notice of Commencement.

The WMWG received its first update summary of community engagement activities on June 27, 2017 for the period March 30, 2017 to June 5, 2017.

DISCUSSION

Overview

A formal Public Consultation Report (i.e., the title assigned by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change - MOECC) for the Residual Waste Disposal Strategy will be required as part of the EA process. This report will document all aspects of the Community Engagement Program including information on advertising, outreach, events and activities as well as comments received. A similar report will be prepared for the Resource Recovery Strategy by City staff. Below is a brief summary of the Community Engagement Program for the period June 6 to September 12, 2017. Complete details will ultimately be provided in the previously noted reports.

Summary of Community Engagement Activities

Table 1 provides an update summary of the community engagement activities that took place from June 6, 2017 to September 12, 2017.

Table 1 – Community Engagement Activities June 6 to September 12, 2017

Activity	Description
Project Website (<i>Getinvolved.London.ca</i>)	<p><i>Residual Waste Disposal Strategy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 400 visits (total exceeds 1,000 visits since start of engagement program) with over 300 unique visitors (total exceeds 700 unique visitors since start of engagement program); over 150 feedback responses received (total exceeds 200 responses since start of engagement program) <p>Feedback is currently being requested on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Guiding Principles • Key Project Parameters - The Residual Waste Disposal Strategy, including a proposed landfill expansion that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find solutions that will manage Residual Waste (garbage) until 2050 (25 years beyond the current approved capacity of the W12A Landfill) • Look at the possibility of allowing neighbouring municipalities to use any new waste disposal facilities developed by the City of London

Table 1 – Community Engagement Activities June 6 to September 12, 2017

Activity	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place limits on the amount of Residual Waste that will be accepted at any new waste disposal facilities • Commit to increasing the current household waste diversion rate to 60% by 2022 from the current rate of 45% <p><i>Resource Recovery Strategy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 500 visits (total exceeds 600 visits since start of engagement program) with over 400 unique visitors (total exceeds 500 unique visitors since start of engagement program); over 100 feedback responses received (total exceeds 160 responses since start of engagement program)
Virtual Open House (Project Website)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The materials presented at the May 24 and 25 open houses were presented along with the opportunity to provide feedback. The Virtual Open House was active from May 29 to June 25 • Limited responses were received
Indigenous Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up contact made with 9 Indigenous Communities • Preliminary meeting with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation on September 7
Community Liaison Committee (CLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting on June 5 • Proposed meeting dated in July and August did not work for many members • Second meeting on September 13
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an update to the W12A Landfill PLC on June 15 and August 17 • Presentation to Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC) on June 22 • Presentation to the Lambeth Rotary Club on August 8 • Community Engagement booth at various community events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada 150 London Sesquifest (Budweiser Gardens) on June 29 – July 1 • TD Sunfest (Victoria Park) on July 6 – July 9 • Home County Folk Festival (Victoria Park) on July 15 and July 16 • Inspiration Fest (Wortley Village) on July 23 • Gathering on the Green 2 (Wortley Village) on August 20 • Neighbourhood Service Days (Northwest London Resource Centre, Glen Cairn Community Centre, Family Centre Argyle, Westmount Family Centre and Crouch Neighbourhood Resource Centre) on August 28 – August 31 and September 5 • Advertisements in the CityGreen insert for July/August 2017 and September/October 2017; Our City September 7, 2017; and Waste Reduction & Conservation Calendar • Social media (Facebook, Twitter) • Radio (CJBK 1290, CBC London, AM 980)

Summary of Community Engagement Feedback Received as of Sept. 12, 2017

On-line Feedback on Key Project Parameters

Table 2 - Results from Questionnaire on Project Website

Find solutions that will manage Residual Waste (garbage) until 2050 (25 years beyond the current approved capacity of the W12A Landfill)	Number of Participants	Agree	Disagree, should be longer	Disagree, should be shorter
	207	57%	32%	11%
Look at the possibility of allowing neighbouring municipalities to use any new waste disposal facilities developed by the City of London	Number of Participants	Agree	Undecided	Disagree
	208	33%	32%	35%
Place limits on the amount of Residual Waste that will be accepted at any new waste disposal facilities	Number of Participants	Agree	Undecided	Disagree
	208	69%	18%	13%
Commit to increasing the current household waste diversion rate to 60% by 2022 from the current rate of 45%	Number of Participants	Agree	Undecided	Disagree
	209	79%	8%	13%

On-line Feedback on Guiding Principles

There was limited input received on the Draft Guiding Principles (less than 20 participants). All Draft Guiding Principles received general support with the following principles receiving the most support:

- Make waste reduction the first priority;
- Be socially responsible; and,
- Ensure financial sustainability.

There were no Draft Guiding Principles that were added or ones that others felt should be deleted.

General Feedback

Comments received online or at outreach events included:

- Support for a Green Bin program (majority of feedback (over 50%) received online and at outreach events)
- Many suggestions to increase diversion including reducing the container limit to one or two containers; increasing promotion; adding materials like plastic bags and expanded foam polystyrene to the Blue Box; providing free composters; increasing public space recycling; providing downtown recycling; supporting waste reduction with lending libraries, subsidize metal roofs, etc.;
- Landfill gas should be used as a source of electrical power generation as opposed to flaring;
- City should consider an Energy-from-Waste facility;
- Packaging producers should be more accountable for their waste; and,
- The City is moving too slow. It needs to catch up to other municipalities.

Next Steps for the Community Engagement Program

The Community Engagement program will continue throughout the fall with a second series of open houses on November 29 and 30, 2017 focusing on the development of the Terms of Reference for the Environmental Assessment. Fall events currently include:

- Presentations to the Agricultural Advisory Committee on September 20;
- Individual stakeholder meetings (1 meeting to be scheduled);
- Waste Management Community Liaison Committee and W12A Landfill Public Liaison Committee meetings; and,
- Feedback opportunities on the project website.

The Fall Open Houses will present information and solicit feedback on:

- The proposed expansion alternatives for W12A Landfill. It is anticipated there will be three or four expansion alternatives;
- Evaluation criteria to determine the overall preferred alternative;
- Proposed work plans for the technical studies that will be completed to gather information necessary to assess the evaluation criteria; and,
- Update on the Resource Recovery Strategy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared with assistance from Mike Losee, Division Manager, Solid Waste Management and Jane Kittmer, Solid Waste Planning Coordinator.

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