

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING ON DECEMBER 18, 2019
FROM:	JAY STANFORD, M.A., M.P.A. DIRECTOR - ENVIRONMENT, FLEET & SOLID WASTE
SUBJECT:	PROGRESS REPORT #9: 60% WASTE DIVERSION ACTION PLAN

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

- Public Participation Meeting 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (September 25, 2018 meeting of the Civic Works Committee (CWC), Item #3.2)
- 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (July 17, 2018 meeting of the CWC, Item #3.1)
- 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 CWC, Item #10)

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

- Progress Report #7: 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (April 18, 2019 meeting of the Waste Management Working Group (WMWG), Item #3.4)
- Decision Report #8: 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (July 13, 2018 meeting of the WMWG, Item #2.1)
- Background Report #3 - Development of 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (March 8, 2018 meeting of the WMWG, Item #3.3)
- Update Report #8 - Programs, Projects and Provincial Activities that will Inform and/or Influence Strategies (January 18, 2018 meeting of the WMWG, Item #8)
- Update Report #5 - Programs, Projects and Provincial Activities that will Inform and/or Influence Strategies (September 28, 2017 meeting of the WMWG, Item #7)
- Update Report #2 - Programs, Projects and Provincial Activities that will Inform and/or Influence Strategies (June 14, 2017 meeting of the WMWG, Item #8)
- Update Report #1 - Resource Recovery Update (January 19, 2017 meeting of the WMWG, Item #7)

COUNCIL'S 2019-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

Municipal Council has recognized the importance of solid waste management in its 2019-2023 - Strategic Plan for the City of London as follows:

Building a Sustainable City

London has a strong and healthy environment

- Build infrastructure to support future development and protect the environment

Growing our Economy

London is a leader in Ontario for attracting new jobs and investments

- Build infrastructure to support future development and retain existing jobs

Leading in Public Service

Londoners experience exceptional and valued customer service

- Increase community and resident satisfaction of their service experience with the City

BACKGROUND

PURPOSE

This report provides the Waste Management Working Group (WMWG) with an update on the 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (Action Plan).

CONTEXT

In London, more than one tonne of waste is produced annually per person. This includes waste generated at home as well as waste generated by the industrial, commercial and institutional (IC&I) sectors. About a third of this waste is diverted through numerous waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting programs. The overall waste diversion rate for London is between 30% and 35%. The residential (household) diversion rate has averaged about 45% over the last five years.

Regarding future waste diversion, Council has set a diversion goal of 60% by the end of 2022. On October 30, 2017 City Council passed the following resolution:

“The W12A Landfill expansion be sized assuming the residential waste diversion rate is 60% by 2022 noting this does not prevent increasing London’s residential waste diversion rate above 60% between 2022 and 2050.”

This 60% waste diversion goal was included in the Environmental Assessment (EA) submission as part of the List of Commitments made by the City for the EA.

In October 2018, Council passed the following resolution:

“...the 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan (Action Plan) containing programs and initiatives to be phased in between 2019 and 2022 to achieve 60% waste diversion BE APPROVED...”

Addressing the Need for Action on Climate Change

On April 23, 2019, the following was approved by Municipal Council with respect to climate change:

Therefore, a climate emergency be declared by the City of London for the purposes of naming, framing, and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, our eco systems, and our community from climate change.

Both the Resource Recovery Strategy and Waste Disposal Strategy (including the EA) address various aspects of climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation. These elements are also a requirement that must be addressed as part of EA documentation.

DISCUSSION

60% Waste Diversion Action Plan – Proposed Actions

The 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan proposes a set of 21 actions to achieve 60% diversion of residential waste by the end of 2022. These actions, a brief status and proposed timing are summarized in Table 1. A more comprehensive report will be submitted to Civic Works Committee in February/March 2020 providing further updates on implementation, cost estimates and financing. Due to other activities (noted on the next page) on the waste diversion file, it was not possible to complete this work in 2019.

Some of the timeframes on Table 1 have been adjusted to reflect when budgets are likely to be available to undertake the work, all subject to final approval of the 2020-2023 Multi-year budget process (March 2020). Additional and unplanned work in 2019 was required on the following waste diversion related initiatives:

- London Waste to Resources Innovation Centre including the launch of the NSERC Industrial Research Chair Thermochemical Conversion of Biomass and Waste to Bioindustrial Resources.
- London was asked to be part of the two month mediation process led by Special Advisor David Lindsay to develop recommendations for transitioning the management of Ontario's Blue Box Program to producers of packaging and paper products including an agreed to timeframe. The process resulted in ways to improve recycling and increase the number of products that can be recycled, while making sure the program continues to be accessible and convenient. The report is entitled *Renewing the Blue Box: Final report on the blue box mediation process*.
- Contributions towards the organics management and implementation framework in Ontario being undertaken by the Provincial Government. Further details are expected in the first half of 2020.
- London's Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project (for hard-to-recycle plastic items that are currently placed in the garbage) was launched in October.
- Additional details, timing adjustments, etc. associated with 2020-2023 multi-year budget.

Table 1 – Status of 60% Residential Waste Diversion Actions

Action	Brief Status – Tentative Timing and Adjusted Timing
Blue Box (Blue Cart) Programs	
1. Increase capture of recyclables from 63% to 75% (less placed in garbage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Province has approved transferring responsibility for Blue Box and Blue Cart programs to industry. Targets will be set through a regulation being developed in 2020. The transition of the recycling program will occur between 2023 and end of 2025.
New (or Expanded) Recycling Programs and Initiatives	
2. Bulky Plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to divert bulky plastics incorrectly placed in Blue Box.
a) Continue with existing pilot project	
b) Consider implementation of an expanded program once long-term, stable markets have developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently there is no stable long term market. Working with the Canadian Plastics Industry Association on potential solutions.
3. Carpets	
a) Wait to see if the Province develops a provincial program for carpets under the Waste-Free Ontario Act as there are limited markets for recycling carpets in the province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Province still considering developing a provincial program; likely not to be introduced for a couple of years.
b) If no provincial program exists by 2021, implement a pilot project	
4. Ceramics	
a) Provide drop-off location for ceramics at no cost at the City's EnviroDepots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date for ceramics drop-off at EnviroDepots is Fall 2020 (revised from Fall 2019).
b) Ban collection of toilets at the curb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for toilet/ceramics ban is Fall 2021 (revised from Fall 2020).

continued

Table 1 – Status of 60% Residential Waste Diversion Actions

Action	Brief Status – Tentative Timing and Adjusted Timing
5. Clothing and Textiles a) Develop a textile awareness strategy to promote existing reuse opportunities for all Londoners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is Spring 2020 (revised from Fall 2019).
b) Pilot depot collection at select multi-residential buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is Fall 2020.
6. Small Metal (Small Appliances/Electrical Tools/Scrap Metal) a) Implement semi-annual curbside collection of small metal items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for collection is Fall 2021 to coincide with other collection changes (e.g., Green Bin).
b) Pilot depot collection at select multi-residential buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin pilot in Fall 2020.
7. Furniture a) Provide a drop-off location at W12A EnviroDepot for wooden furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is Fall 2020 (revised from Fall 2019).
b) Begin semi-annual collection of wooden furniture c) Ban wooden furniture from curbside garbage collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for implementation is Fall 2021 to coincide with other collection changes (e.g., Green Bin).
8. Mattresses a) Wait to see if the Province develops a provincial program for mattresses under the Waste-Free Ontario Act as there are limited markets for recycling mattresses in the province b) If no provincial program exists by 2021, implement a pilot project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Province still considering developing a provincial program; likely not to be introduced for a couple of years.
Curbside Organics Management Program	
9. Implement a curbside (residential) Green Bin program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Table 2 for tentative schedule and status.
10. Implement bi-weekly (same day) garbage collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to final approval on collection system parameters, tentative date for implementation is Fall 2021 to coincide with other collection changes (e.g., Green Bin).
Multi-Residential Organics Management Program	
11. Implement a mixed waste processing pilot (to recover organics and other materials) on a portion of the waste from multi-residential homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for implementation is Fall/Winter 2021 but will depend on facility availability (revised from Fall/Winter 2020).
Other Organics Management Programs	
12. Develop and implement a food waste avoidance strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development underway with major roll-out of program in early 2020.
13. Reduce the cost of composters at the EnviroDepots and undertake additional sale events at select community locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for implementation is June 2020 or January 2021 to coincide with new Fee and Charges by-law (revised from January 2020).

continued

Table 1 – Status of 60% Residential Waste Diversion Actions

Action	Brief Status – Tentative Timing and Adjusted Timing
14. Provide financial support to community groups or environmental organizations that want to set up a community composting program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is Winter/Spring 2020.
Waste Reduction and Reuse Initiatives and Policies	
15. Create a Waste Reduction and Reuse Coordinator position within the Solid Waste Management Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is Summer 2020.
16. Provide financial support for community waste reduction and reuse initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is Fall 2020.
17. Reduce the garbage container limit to two or three containers per collection (based on every other week garbage collection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for implementation is Fall 2021 to coincide with other collection changes (e.g., Green Bin).
18. Further explore the use of clear bags for garbage collection if London does not move to a roll-out cart based garbage collection system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative date for further examination is Fall 2020 (after operational details for Green Bin are finalized) (revised from Fall 2019). • Tentative date for implementation of selected action(s) is Fall 2021 to coincide with other collection changes (e.g., Green Bin).
19. Further explore a full user pay garbage system if London moves to a roll-out cart based garbage collection system	
20. Further examine other incentive and disincentive initiatives (best practices) from other municipalities (e.g., mandatory recycling by-law, reward systems, user fees, etc.)	
21. Provide additional feedback approaches to residents (including how waste reduction and waste diversion are calculated when providing waste management progress reports)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be completed in Summer 2020 (revised from Summer 2019).

Table 2 – Tentative Schedule and Status of Green Bin Program

Task	Brief Status – Tentative Timing
a) Finalize operational details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need to make decisions on materials collected, Green Bin container size, type of collection vehicle, bi-weekly garbage collection etc. ○ Report to CWC on proposed operational details tentatively scheduled for February/March 2020 ○ Will require community engagement before final decisions made ○ Final decisions mid 2020
b) Select Green Bin material processor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release request for proposals (RFP) in winter 2020 and award by mid-year 2020.
c) Select Collection Vehicle Manufacturer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release RFP in early 2020 and award by the summer of 2020.
d) Select Green Bin Manufacturer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release RFP in Summer 2020 and award by the end of the year.

Table 2 – Tentative Schedule and Status of Green Bin Program

Task	Brief Status – Tentative Timing
e) Promotion and Awareness Program and Distribution of Green Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date is June 2021.
f) Begin Roll-out of Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative start date for beginning roll-out is Fall 2021.

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