

Report to Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

To: Chair and Members
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

From: Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC
Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure

Subject: Re-establishment of Waste Management Working Group

Date: January 18, 2022

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure, the Waste Management Working Group **BE RE-ESTABLISHED**, in accordance with the Terms of Reference as appended to the related staff report dated January 18, 2022.

Executive Summary

The Waste Management Working Group and its Terms of Reference were established in 2016 in accordance with Council approval. In 2019 the existing Councillor appointments to the WMWG were extended to June 30, 2021, and the Terms of Reference was amended to reflect this extension. With no further amendments to the Terms of Reference, the WMWG was dissolved after this date.

The WMWG was established to consider matters related to the City's Resource Recovery Strategy (Plan) and Residual Waste Disposal Strategy (Plan). This work has and will continue beyond June 30, 2021. As such this report seeks approval from Committee and Council to re-establish the WMWG in accordance with the Terms of Reference included as Appendix A.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

Municipal Council continues to recognize the importance of waste management and the need for a more sustainable and resilient city in the development of its 2019-2023 - Strategic Plan for the City of London. Specifically, London's efforts in waste management address three Areas of Focus, at one level or another; Building a Sustainable City, Growing our Economy and Leading in Public Service.

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.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

Some relevant reports that can be found at www.london.ca under Council and Committees meetings include:

- Establishment of a Waste Management Working Group (December 5, 2016, meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee (SPPC), Item #2)
- Waste Management Working Group – Extension of Term (November 25, 2019, meeting of the SPPC, Item #2.3)

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 Background

In October 2015 Municipal Council directed staff to proceed with the development of long-term solid waste resource recovery and disposal plans for the City of London.

The long-term solid waste resource recovery plan (hereafter referred to as the “Resource Recovery Plan”) involves the development of a plan to maximize waste reduction, reuse, recycling, resource recovery, energy recovery and/or waste conversion in an economically viable and environmentally responsible manner.

The long-term solid waste disposal plan (hereafter referred to as the “Residual Waste Disposal Plan”) involves the development of a plan to manage residual waste (waste after resource recovery) until 2050 or longer and involves completion of an Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) and related policies for operating the W12A Landfill.

Since October 2015, significant work and milestones have been achieved. As part of the Resource Recovery Plan, Council has approved and funded the 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan including the Green Bin.

As part of the Residual Waste Disposal Plan, the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed expansion of the W12A landfill has progressed through stages where the Terms of Reference has been approved by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (July 2019), and the final Environmental Assessment Study Report for the preferred expansion alternative has been submitted to Civic Works Committee (January 11, 2022) for consideration at Council on January 25, 2021, requesting approval to formally submit it to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the Minister’s approval.

Throughout these stages the WMWG has served as a dedicated working group and provided for an efficient and effective focused review and discussion forum to facilitate the development and undertakings primarily associated with the EA process.

As work on these two plans will be continuing, re-establishing the WMWG would continue on with this efficient and effective focused review and discussion forum.

Conclusion

Work on the Resource Recovery and Residual Waste Disposal Plans has and will continue past the date the WMWG was dissolved. As such, it is recommended that the Civic Works Committee and Council approve re-establishment of the WMWG in accordance with the Terms of Reference attached as Appendix A.

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Division Manager, Waste Management

Submitted by: Jay Stanford, MA, MPA
Director, Climate Change, Environment & Waste Management

Recommended by: Kelly Scherr, P. Eng., MBA, FEC
Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure

APPENDIX A

WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

(January 2022)

COMPOSITION:

The Waste Management Working Group (WMWG) shall be comprised of a minimum of three (3) Members of Council who have indicated to the City Clerk their willingness to serve on the Working Group.

TERM OF OFFICE:

The WMWG shall dissolve when the City's Resource Recovery Plan and Residual Waste Disposal Plan are approved by Council.

CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:

The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected by the Working Group from among its Members.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP:

The Working Group shall report through the Civic Works Committee.

MANDATE:

The Working Group shall consider matters related to the City's Resource Recovery Plan and Residual Waste Disposal Plan. The Resource Recovery Plan involves the development and design of a plan to maximize waste reduction, reuse, recycling, resource recovery, energy recovery and/or waste conversion in an economically viable manner. The Residual Waste Disposal Plan involves the development and design of a long-term plan to manage residual waste (waste after resource recovery) until 2050 or longer and will require the completion of an Individual Environmental Assessment.

DUTIES:

The Working Group shall:

- a) Review and provide input to Civic Administration on reports brought forward regarding the Resource Recovery Plan and Residual Waste Disposal Plan;
- b) Review and provide input to the Municipal Council, through the Civic Works Committee, with respect to the development and design of the Resource Recovery Plan and Residual Waste Disposal Plan;
- c) Participate, as appropriate, in broader community engagement at key points throughout the planning/development process of the Resource Recovery Plan;
- d) Participate, as appropriate, in broader community engagement at key points throughout the Environmental Assessment for the Residual Waste Disposal Plan;
and
- e) Provide input in evaluating issues received from the public and other stakeholders.

MEETINGS:

The meetings shall be held quarterly or on an as needed basis.

RESOURCES:

Research and general support staff resources shall be provided through the Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure. Administrative support of the WMWG shall be provided by the City Clerk's Office.