

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING ON JANUARY 18, 2018
FROM:	JAY STANFORD, M.A., M.P.A. DIRECTOR - ENVIRONMENT, FLEET & SOLID WASTE
SUBJECT:	PROGRESS REPORT #4: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 TO JANUARY 10, 2018

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:

- Update Report #4: Community Engagement Program (September 28, 2017 meeting of the Waste Management Working Group (WMWG), Item #6)
- Progress Report #1: Community Engagement Program (June 27, 2017 meeting of the 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 September 13, 2017 and January 8, 2018.

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 and its second update on September 28, 2017 for the period June 6, 2017 to September 12, 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 recent Community Engagement Program activities. 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 September 13, 2017 to January 10, 2018.

**Table 1 – Community Engagement Activities September 13, 2017
to January 10, 2018**

Activity	Description
Project Website (<i>Getinvolved.London.ca</i>)	<p><i>Residual Waste Disposal Strategy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 700 visits (total exceeds 1,900 visits since start of engagement program) with over 500 unique visitors (total exceeds 1,300 unique visitors since start of engagement program). <p><i>Resource Recovery Strategy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 2,000 visits (total exceeds 2,600 visits since start of engagement program) with over 1,400 unique visitors (total exceeds 1,900 unique visitors since start of engagement program).

Table 1 – Community Engagement Activities September 13, 2017 to January 10, 2018

Activity	Description
Second Series of Open Houses (November 29 & 30)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertised in Londoner, London Free Press, social media, community boards at City facilities. • Notices sent to stakeholders (Nearby residents, government review team, Indigenous Communities, various stakeholder groups, etc.). • 72 visitors. • Many people stayed for over 30 minutes and some over an hour. • 34 completed feedback forms, numerous verbal comments.
Virtual Open House (Project Website)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The materials presented at the November 29 and 30 open houses are currently being presented along with the opportunity to provide feedback. The portion of the Virtual Open House related to the Residual Waste Disposal Strategy closes on January 15, 2018. The portion of the Virtual Open House related to the Resource Recovery Strategy will stay open until March 31, 2018. • 12 responses have been received to-date.
Indigenous Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information provided to nine Indigenous Communities about the status of the project, the November Open Houses and the next steps.
Community Liaison Committee (CLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second meeting on September 13; tour of W12A Landfill and the MRF. General discussion about the Guiding Principles and 4 Key Project Parameters. • Third meeting on November 20; meeting covered provincial updates regarding organics and Waste Free Ontario Act and previewing the information to be presented at the Open Houses.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations to Advisory Committee of the Environment on November 1, 2017, December 10, 2017 and January 10, 2018. • Presentation to the Agricultural Advisory Committee on September 20, 2017. Next presentation is scheduled for January 17, 2018. • Presentation to Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC) Scheduled for January 18, 2018. • Updates provided to the W12A Landfill Public Advisory Committee on October 18 and December 7, 2017. • Social media (Facebook, Twitter). • Personal meetings as requested. • CTV coverage on December 1, 2017 (Open House) and January 4, 2018 (changes to organics).

Summary of Comments Received at the Open Houses

Residual Waste Disposal Strategy

With respect to the proposed landfill expansion, concerns were expressed about:

- Need to update Community Enhancement and Mitigative Measures Program as soon as possible; and,
- Need to limit/restrict the number of neighbouring municipalities using the W12A Landfill; Need to limit how long they can use the W12A Landfill .

Concerns/comments heard at the first series of Open Houses and repeated at the second series of Open Houses included:

- The potential for more odours and which alternative design concept was likely to cause the least odours;
- Fairness, why isn't it someone else's turn for the landfill site?
- The height of the landfill and what that would look like; and
- How property values in the area would be impacted.

Resource Recovery Strategy

With respect to the resource recovery strategy, concerns/comments included:

- Added details about the recycling and composting options were appreciated and noted in some discussions;
- Impact concerns of large recycling and composting plants if located at W12A Landfill; and
- Does mixed waste processing/composting work and where is it done?

Concerns/comments heard at the first series of Open Houses and repeated at the second series of Open Houses included:

- Support for a Green Bin program;
- Need to include additional products like foam plastic and grocery bags in the recycling program; support for banning more items curbside;
- Some were very interested in newer and emerging technologies and what role they might play in London. These included biogas facilities, gasification facilities and pyrolysis facilities; and
- The City is moving too slow. It needs to catch up to other municipalities.

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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