

Proposed Actions to Achieve 60% Residential Waste Diversion New (or Expanded) Recycling Programs and Initiatives – Clothing and Textiles

5. Clothing and Textiles

Summary:

- Develop a textile awareness strategy to promote existing reuse opportunities for all Londoners
- Pilot depot collection at select multi- residential buildings

An active community-based clothing and textile program already exists in London handling about 50% of the available material. It is estimated that there is 2,500 to 3,000 tonnes of textiles in the garbage annually of which approximately 50% has potential to be reused/recycled. Approximately 70% of this material comes from single family homes and 30% from multi-residential buildings. This means there is approximately 900 to 1,050 tonnes of reusable textiles in the garbage from single family homes and 350 to 450 tonnes in the garbage from multi-residential homes.

There are many options for donating textiles in good condition. They include un-staffed drop-off bins at stores and mall parking lots, staffed drop-off depots (Goodwill, Mission Store, St. Vincent de Paul, etc.), door to door collections (Diabetes Canada's 'In The Bag' program) and picked up at your home (Diabetes Canada's reusable goods donation program).

There are no major municipalities in Ontario that offer regular curbside collection of textiles. Some large municipalities have textile drop-off bins in select multi-residential buildings or at key locations through the municipality (e.g., City of Markham).

The province may develop a new provincial program for clothing and textiles under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act* in the future but many municipalities are taking measures to increase diversion of clothing and textiles in the interim as there are markets for textile reuse and recycling.

It is recommended that the City:

- Develop a textile awareness strategy to promote existing reuse opportunities; and,

Textile Recycling

- London has an active community-based program that reuses/ recycles approximately 3,300 tonnes of clothing and textiles annually
- There are approximately 1,200 to 1,500 tonnes of useable clothing and textiles in the garbage.
- The overall diversion rate of useable clothing and textiles is approximately 70% (3,300 tonnes reused/ recycled of a total of 4,500 to 4,800 tonnes of useable clothing and textiles).



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- Pilot depot collection at select multi-residential buildings beginning in 2019.

It is estimated that a textile awareness program would cost \$10,000 to \$30,000 annually and be required for 3 to 5 years followed by less investment when the practice has become the norm. A pilot depot collection project would cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000. It may be possible to generate enough textiles from multi-residential buildings to pay for the on-going cost of a permanent program. These programs are estimated to divert 150 to 400 tonnes of clothing and textiles annually.

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Consideration			Textiles	
			Enhanced Awareness and Drop-off Program	Enhanced Awareness, Drop-off and Curbside Collection Program
Environmental	Change in Diversion	Annual Tonnes Diverted	245 to 380	640 to 760
		Contribution to 60% Target	0.15% to 0.23%	0.38% to 0.45%
	GHG Benefits	Reduction per Tonne Diverted	14 tonnes	
		Annual Reduction (tonnes)	3,400 to 5,300 (850 to 1325 cars removed from the road ^a)	9,000 to 10,600 (2,250 to 2,650 cars removed from the road ^a)
Social	Public Support		Moderate Support	Moderate Support
	Resident Benefits/ Issues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconvenience of transporting to drop-offs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convenience of curbside pick up
Financial	Cost ^b	Collection ^c	\$0	\$72,000 to \$86,000
		Processing	\$0	\$0
		Other	\$15,000 to \$40,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000
		Total	\$15,000 to \$40,000	\$92,000 to \$126,000
	Cost per Household		\$0.08 to \$0.23	\$0.41 to \$0.49
	Market/Revenue		No revenue	No revenue
Technical	Collection Issues		Not applicable	Incorporated with current pickup schedule
	Processing Issues		Private processor	Private processor
	Other		Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>Notes</p> <p>(a) The diversion of these materials has avoided the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions equivalent to removing the identified number of vehicles per year.</p> <p>(b) Based on industry estimates, literature review and data from other municipalities.</p> <p>(c) Costs covered by vendor</p>				