

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

2. Bulky Plastics

Summary:

- Continue with existing pilot project
- Consider implementation of an expanded program once long term stable markets have developed

The City has been piloting the recycling of bulky plastics at the Manning Drive Regional Material Recovery Facility.

Recently, the scrap plastics market has increased quality requirements. Bulky plastic loads must now have no or minimal metal, fabric, paper and other contaminants or they will be rejected. This standard is difficult to achieve since many bulky plastics like toys are multi-material items and may also contain some metal or fabric components.

The pilot project could be become a city-wide program by banning collection of bulky plastics at the curb coupled with accepting bulky plastics at the EnviroDepots. There are insufficient bulky plastics to warrant occasional (e.g., semi-annual) collection at the curb. The cost of collecting bulky plastics using a depot system would be approximately \$8,000 to \$16,000 per year.

It is recommended that the City not make changes to its pilot project for recycling bulky plastic recycling until long term stable markets have developed.

Bulky Plastics

- Bulky Plastics refers to all larger plastic household items that are not suitable for the Blue Box. Typical bulky plastic items includes plastic lawn furniture, large toys and 20 litre pails.
- It is estimated that 50 to 100 tonnes of bulky plastics placed in the garbage annually.



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Consideration			Bulky Plastics
			Collection at EnviroDepots
Environmental	Change in Diversion	Annual Tonnes Diverted	50 to 100
		Contribution to 60% Target	0.03% to 0.06%
	GHG Benefits	Reduction per Tonne Diverted	1.0 tonnes
		Annual Reduction (tonnes)	50 to 100 (15 to 25 cars removed from the road ^a)
Social	Public Support		Strong Support
	Resident Benefits/ Issues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inconvenience of transporting to EnviroDepot
Financial	Cost ^b	Collection	\$8,000 to \$16,000
		Processing	\$50,000 to \$100,000 ^c
		Other	\$0
		Total	\$8,000 to \$16,000
	Cost per Household		\$0.05 to \$0.09
	Market/Revenue		\$50,000 to \$100,000 ^c
Technical	Collection Issues		Not applicable
	Processing Issues		Private processor
	Other		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) Cost of processing material will be covered by the revenue from market</p>			