



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL

WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

WMSAC - 1/2018

The Region of Peel Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee met on March 1, 2018 at 1:00 p.m., in the Regional Council Chamber, 5th Floor, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton, Ontario.

Members Present: F. Dale; J. Innis; J. Kovac; M. Mahoney; M. Palleschi; C. Parrish; K. Ras; R. Starr

Members Absent: A. Groves, due to illness

Other Regional Councillors Present: A. Thompson

Also Present: D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer; J. Smith, Commissioner of Public Works; S. VanOfwegen, Commissioner of Finance and Chief Financial Officer and Acting Commissioner Digital and Information Services; M. Killeavy, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services; N. Lee, Director, Waste Management; K. Lockyer, Regional Clerk and Director of Clerk's; S. Jurrius, Committee Clerk; M. Sodiya, Legislative Assistant

Chaired by Councillor Palleschi.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil**

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-1-2018:

That the agenda for the March 1, 2018 Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

* See text for arrivals

◆ See text for departures

3. DELEGATIONS

- 3.1. **Sean Rana, Business Manager, Green Comfort Innovations, Presenting a New Chemical Free Solution to Increase Collection of Organic Waste at Source**

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-2-2018:

That the presentation by Sean Rana, Business Manager, Green Comfort Innovations, be referred to staff in Public Works to report back to a future meeting of the Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee with information regarding the product called Bagez.

Sean Rana, Business Manager, Green Comfort Innovations, provided an overview of Bagez, a new chemical free solution to increase collection of organic waste at sources, including its consumer, financial and environmental benefits.

In response to a question from Councillor Ras, Sean Rana stated that the cost of Bagez is approximately \$24.99 per unit. He stated that biodegradable bags used for green bins are a myth because research showed that there is no difference between plastic bags and biodegradable bags sorted at recycling centres.

Norman Lee, Director, Waste Management, informed the Committee that the advantage of biodegradable bags for green bin waste is not a myth. He stated that plastic bags used for organic waste get ground up or shredded during the composting process at Peel and, while most of the plastic is later separated from the compost, some small pieces of plastic remain in the finished compost. Biodegradable plastic will eventually break down but regular plastic will not. These small pieces of regular plastic make it difficult to market finished compost and have resulted in some unmarketable compost because it contained plastic.

Councillor Ras requested that the presentation by Sean Rana be referred to staff in Public Works to review the product called Bagez and that Sean Rana provide a sample of the product to Waste Management staff.

In response to a question of clarification from Councillor Mahoney, Norman Lee advised that historic green bin contamination rate at the Region of Peel is approximately 1.5 percent.

Councillor Mahoney stated that the Region has conducted an aggressive campaign to educate Peel residents about waste, organics and recycling and suggested that the delegation present to other municipalities that continue to accept plastic bags for composting.

4. REPORTS

- 4.1. **Overview of the Region of Peel's Comments on the Proposed Amended Blue Box Program, Food and Organic Waste Framework and Tire Regulation (Oral)**
Presentation by Norman Lee, Director, Waste Management

Received

Norman Lee, Director, Waste Management, highlighted the actions and timelines of the provincial strategy for a Waste Free Ontario including Peel's position to support the proposed

Tire Regulations and the proposed Food and Organic Waste Framework to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change; and Peel's position not to support the proposed amended Blue Box Program Plan in its current form to Stewardship Ontario. Norman Lee advised that Regional staff will monitor the progress for the proposed Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment regulation announced by the province on February 8, 2018. He stated that the province has yet to make an announcement with respect to the municipal hazardous and special waste program.

In response to questions from Councillor Ras, Norman Lee stated that the Region's position on the subject regulations is generally consistent with the other municipalities. Regional staff have been working with the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative Group, which includes the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the City of Toronto, to regularly review the subject regulations. Norman Lee advised that Peel and other municipalities pay approximately 50 percent of the net cost of delivering the Blue Box Program. If the blue box program transitions to full producer responsibility, Peel could benefit by an estimated \$10 million savings per year. Under the plan proposed by Stewardship Ontario, Peel would not be eligible to transition until at least 2024, which is later than the 2023 date shown in the provincial strategy. Norman Lee further stated that these savings are shown in the Council-approved Roadmap to a Circular Economy as being used to offset the cost of other Regional waste programs. The transition to full producer responsibility would also have environmental benefits because once producers are responsible for designing both packages and packaging recovery systems, they should be able to improve recovery rates through smarter package designs.

Councillor Ras suggested that the provincial budget submissions and plan of the Government Relations Committee be circulated to the members of the Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee. She advised that, in consultation with the Chair of the Government Relations Committee, Regional staff could include Peel's position on the Proposed Amended Blue Box Program, Food and Organic Waste Framework and Tire Regulation as part of the Region's advocacy with the provincial government.

4.2. Region of Peel's Comments on the Proposed Amended Blue Box Program Plan

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-3-2018:

That the Region of Peel not support the proposed amended Blue Box Program Plan in its current form;

And further, that staff continue to work with Stewardship Ontario, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Waste Management Association and other stakeholders in order to develop an amended Blue Box Program Plan that meets the requirements set out in the Minister's August 14, 2017 request letter in a fair and equitable manner;

And further, that the comments outlined in Appendix I of the report of the Commissioner of Public Works titled "Region of Peel's Comments on the Proposed Amended Blue Box Program Plan" be endorsed.

4.3. Region of Peel's Comments on the Province's Proposed Food and Organic Waste Framework

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-4-2018:

That the comments outlined in Appendix I of the report of the Commissioner of Public Works titled "Region of Peel's Comments on the Province's Proposed Food and Organic Waste Framework", be endorsed.

4.4. Region of Peel's Comments on the Province's Proposed Tire Regulation

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-5-2018:

That the comments outlined in Appendix I of the report of the Commissioner of Public Works titled "Region of Peel's Comments on the Province's Proposed Tire Regulation" be endorsed.

4.5. Waste Collection Vehicle Time Off Road Requirements

Received

In response to a question from Councillor Parrish, the Director of Waste Management indicated that Regional staff did not ask the City of Thunder Bay why they chose a 7:00 pm time-off-the-road for its waste collection contract and undertook to provide the information to Councillor Parrish.

The Director of Waste Management was requested by Councillor Palleschi to provide him with information as to whether truck drivers operating the collection vehicles log their hours in a log book since they are under the Commercial Vehicle Operator's Registration.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5.1. Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority Notice, dated February 15, 2018, Regarding the Amended Blue Box Program Plan

Received

6. IN CAMERA MATTERS - Nil

7. OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. or at the call of the Committee Chair.

Please forward regrets to Stephanie Jurrius, Committee Clerk, (905) 791-7800, extension 4502 or at stephanie.jurrius@peelregion.ca

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.