



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the General Committee**

From: **Cynthia Fletcher,
Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services**

Meeting Date: **February 3, 2020**

Subject: **Report IPSES20-005
Workplan and Timelines for the review of Waste Management
Options for the Future**

Purpose

A report to outline the workplan, timelines and regulatory requirements related to the review of Waste Management Options for the Future.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report IPSES 20-005 dated February 3, 2020, of the Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services, as follows:

That the report be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget and financial implications associated with receiving the report.

Background

At the Council meeting of November 25, 2019, Council approved the following motion;

“Whereas landfill is widely recognized as a poor environmental option for dealing with waste management;

And whereas landfills are huge producers of carbon dioxide and methane, both major contributors to global warming and climate change;

And whereas we have approximately 15 – 20 years remaining in our current landfill capacity, and an urgency to deal with global warming.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

- a. By the end of the first quarter of 2020, staff report to Council outlining the regulatory requirements for a review of waste management options; and
- b. The report includes the City’s workplan and timelines for undertaking the review of waste management options for the future.”

The Bensfort Road landfill began operation in 1981 as a City of Peterborough Facility. The landfill was approved in 1979 after an Environmental Assessment Board hearing and upon recommendation of the hearing panel.

In 2002, the City of Peterborough and County of Peterborough came to an agreement for joint ownership and operation of the now “Peterborough County/City Waste Management Facility” (the Landfill). The City and County have maintained the partnership since that time.

Discussion

Significant bodies of work will occur over the next 5 years which will influence the lifespan of the landfill and future direction for solid waste management.

- 1) 2020 – Waste Management Master Plan:
A comprehensive review of the Waste Management Master Plan and by-law is scheduled for this year. This project will include public consultation and policy revisions. These revisions will provide the framework for the City/County’s existing and evolving waste management programs.
- 2) 2019-2023 – Source Sorted Organics program:
As per Report IPES19-010 (Peterborough Organics Project and Low Carbon Economy Fund Application Results), the City has been granted funding for a city-wide Source Separated Organics (SSO) collection system and processing

facility, through the Low Carbon Economy Fund. The City was successful in securing \$6,110,586 of the \$15.3 million overall project cost.

The SSO project will extend the life of the landfill through waste diversion and will have a significant impact on climate mitigation. The SSO program is projected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by approximately 1900 tonnes of CO₂ per year.

- 3) 2024 -2025 Landfill Comprehensive review:
Beginning in 2024 the City will review the future of the City/County landfill and the technologies of the day/emerging technologies as part of the landfill Environmental Assessment.

Regulatory Requirements

Landfill replacement reviews are mandated through the Province's Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Assessment Act. The Act mandates the study of potential positive and negative effects of all options and alternatives, before determining an approach forward. This assessment process will be required in 2024 and includes the comprehensive review of all options. Out of the assessment process, we will be in a position to analyse and recommend a future path for landfill and associated technology.

Summary

The technology in the waste and landfill sectors is changing very rapidly, and the needs of the City of Peterborough are evolving in response (recycling program, textiles, Source Separated Organics, etc.). This report outlines the bodies of work and timelines for the review of waste management programs and the future of landfill:

- 2020: Waste Management Master Plan
- 2019 – 2023: Source Separated Organics program
- 2024 – 2025: Landfill Comprehensive review

At this point there is an estimated 15 years of life left in the Landfill. The Source Sorted Organics program and supporting Waste Diversion efforts are expected to increase the lifespan of the Landfill by an additional 5 years due to waste diversion.

Submitted by,

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Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services

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