

## **Introduction**

The City of Greater Sudbury is responsible for the planning, design, approvals and the operation of solid waste management programs and facilities. These responsibilities are in-line with Council approved service levels and have been developed over time based on various planning studies, legislative requirements or funding best practices.

Three key plans have been developed over the years and include the Waste Management Systems Plan, the Waste Optimization Study and the 2015-2020 Solid Waste Strategy. The Waste Management Systems Plan was initiated in the mid 1990's and provided the area with a long term waste disposal capacity system that was approved by the Province in 2002. The Waste Optimization Study was initiated in 2003, adopted in principle by Council in 2005 and the major system components were implemented over a four year period. These systems are today's roadside co-collection systems, the single-stream blue box recyclable processing system, the organic windrow composting system and the landfill gas to electricity system. The 2015-2020 Solid Waste Strategy included strategies to enhance educational services, the development of a construction & demolition material recycling site & program, policies that increase waste diversion, the review of solid waste processing & disposal capacities, the expansion of the organic program and divisional improvements such as the development of the Waste Wise App and a custom integrated software for AVL/GPS technology systems for waste collection vehicles.

Staff anticipates completing the required tasks outlined in the 2015-2020 Solid Waste Strategy over the next year or two. For this reason, staff is seeking approval from the Committee to develop an updated solid waste management plan.

## **An Updated Solid Waste Management Plan**

The plan once finalized will provide the City, citizens, businesses and other stakeholders with a clear direction on how to achieve shared solid waste management goals for the next 10 years. The overarching goal of the plan will be to develop a sustainable waste management system that minimizes the quantity of waste requiring handling and disposal and maximizes waste diversion opportunities.

The following is a listing of key deliverables:

- Core statutory requirements (current and proposed).
- Linkages to the strategic priorities of Council, especially as it relates to asset management/service excellence, climate change and creating a healthier community.
- Alignment with the City's Long-Term Financial Plan 2018-2027 and a review of funding options.
- A review of other municipalities to determine best practices.
- A review of trends at the provincial, federal and international levels.
- The development of various policy statements to guide future decision making.
- A high level cost/benefit analysis of various options to determine the best value for money (this will include an estimate on the corresponding landfill life savings).

## **Plan Development**

Given the significant amount of work involved in developing the plan, staff is recommending that the plan be developed over four phases.

Phase one will identify the current state of solid waste management in Greater Sudbury, including a review of upcoming legislations, trends and best practices.

Phase two will set the plan direction and determine where we want to be in the future. This includes setting goals and measurable targets in line with the City's Corporate Strategic Plan.

Phase three will identify any gaps, challenges or opportunities from moving from the current state to the future state. This information will then be used to outline various options for consideration and selection in line with the City's long-term financial plan.

Phase four will produce the final draft of the plan for review and adoption by the Committee. The adopted plan will be structured as a "Living" document and posted to the City's website.

## **Committee Review**

Unless otherwise directed, staff is proposing to update the Committee following the completion of each phase, before and following public consultation.

## **Public Consultation Process**

Staff is proposing the following public consultation process:

1. Survey – encourage residents, businesses and various stakeholders to participate in an online survey during each phase of the plan update. Paper versions of the survey will be made available upon request.
2. Open Houses – staff is recommending that open houses be organized following phase three. This will provide the public with the opportunity to review display materials and to ask questions in person.
3. Marketing – develop marketing and promotional tools to ensure awareness of the plan update and how the public can participate.

## **Implementing Recommended Plan Components**

Anticipating that the plan will provide a list of recommendations, staff suggests that recommended plan components adopted by Committee and Council be initiated and implemented by staff as follows:

## **Implementing Recommended Plan Components – continued**

Recommended plan components with no net financial implications – Implement the recommendation and advise the Committee by way of an information report, the public through established notification processes (if required) and update the “Living” document plan.

Recommended plan components with net financial implications – Prepare a report for the Committee’s review and approval, including the detailed financial implications. If the recommended plan component is approved, the request moves to the annual budgeting process. If budget approval is granted, the recommendation is implemented, the public is notified through established notification processes (if required) and the “Living” document plan is updated to indicate whether the plan component was implemented or delayed for future consideration.

## **Funding the Project**

Upon approval of this report, staff will determine an estimate to conduct this project. Once this information is available, staff will submit a funding request as part of the capital prioritization process. Initiation of the project is subject to Council’s review and approval during annual budget deliberations.