



Ottawa's Solid Waste Master Plan – what will be included and how will it be developed?

The Solid Waste Master Plan (Waste Plan) will establish a planning framework and strategic direction for the management of waste from:

- Curbside residential
- Multi-residential
- Parks and public spaces
- City facilities
- Partner programs and other non-City waste

The Waste Plan will examine the limited life span of the Trail Waste Facility, how the City collects and processes waste and how it will continue to increase diversion rates. It will also look at broader policy issues like single-use plastics, alternative technologies, greenhouse gas emissions and circular economy programs like green procurement. Funding mechanisms and legislative tools and instruments will also be examined.

The Waste Plan will recommend waste management programs and policies, including the management of post diversion residual waste, which are environmentally sustainable, socially acceptable and economically viable (the triple bottom line). All existing, as well as new and emerging diversion and disposal technologies and options will be reviewed and considered during this process.

The development process will be supported and informed by the work that is already underway with respect to waste pilot projects and other initiatives, for example:

- Multi-Residential Diversion Strategy: This strategy will provide recommendations on how to increase diversion in the multi-residential sector by reviewing, enhancing, and developing pilots, policies and initiatives designed to increase participation and tenant engagement in programs offered by the City.
- Elimination of Single-Use and Foamed Plastics in City Programs and Services: This project involves examining the types of problematic single-use plastic products the City is most often seeing in its waste stream. Following this examination, an impact



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assessment for instances where single-use items are no longer available will be conducted as well as a scan of whether environmentally available alternatives exist.

- Parks Waste Diversion Pilot: Staff undertook a pilot in summer 2018 that involved placing co-located recycling bins with garbage in approximately 50 parks. This approach was continued in 2019, along with the addition of Green Bins in 10 parks to examine the feasibility of collecting dog waste and other organic materials. Waste diversion in parks and public spaces will also be consulted on with stakeholders through the Waste Plan to solicit resident feedback on having a wide-spread program in place permanently.
- Curbside Service Level Options, Tender and Contracts: To ensure that Council is well-positioned to make an informed decision on service levels in advance of tendering the City's next collections contracts, staff are undertaking a Curbside Collection Service Level Options project concurrent to the development of the City's renewed Waste Plan.
- Future Organics Processing Capacity (Post-2030): This project will involve the development of a study that will analyze the various organics processing and treatment technology options best suited to meet Ottawa's needs beyond its existing contract with Renewi (end of contract 2030).
- Transition of Waste Programs to Individual Producer Responsibility (IPR): A project team is currently preparing the City for the transition of the provincial Blue Box Program, MHSW Program and WEEE Program to a full extended producer responsibility model. More information on this provincial initiative can be found on the Province of Ontario website.
- Green Bin Program Products Acceptance Policy: This initiative involves evaluating and determining the suitability of new materials being added to the City's Green Bin Program (e.g., compostable coffee pods, compostable utensils, etc.).

Development of the Waste Plan will include the exploration of opportunities and options for the reduction, reuse, diversion, recovery and disposal of Ottawa's waste for the next 30 years. Work is currently under way and the final Waste Plan will go forward to Council in early 2022. The Waste Plan is being developed using a phased approach broken down as follows:



Solid Waste Master Plan

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- Phase 1 – Where Are We At
- Phase 2 – Where We Are Going
- Phase 3 – How We Are Going to Get There

Phase 1 – Where Are We At (Q2 2019 to Q1 2020)

Phase 1 is now complete and included:

- Completing an assessment of the current waste management profile of the City of Ottawa.
- Identifying federal and provincial solid waste policies, programs and legislative instruments.
- Identifying emerging policy and program trends in solid waste management.
- Conducting a best practice review of policies and programs implemented within other jurisdictions both nationally and internationally.
- Identifying current and emerging technologies for waste collection, processing and disposal and recovery that could potentially be used to help develop waste management solutions in Ottawa.
- Development of a communications and engagement strategy in order to obtain meaningful feedback from a broad range of residents and stakeholders, which will be used to help develop the Waste Plan.

Phase 2 – Where We Are Going (Q1 2020 to Q2)

Phase 2 will:

- Develop and finalize the vision, goals, guiding principles, and objectives of the Solid Waste Master Plan based on feedback from Council, stakeholders and the public on the current waste management system and what criteria are important in terms of managing the city's waste in the future.
- Identify the City's future needs.
- Identify and evaluate options to meet these needs.



The following steps will be taken to achieve these tasks:

- A needs assessment analysis will be undertaken to identify the City's waste management needs over the 30-year planning horizon, broken out by short-, medium- and long-term needs, which will be used to help determine options for the Master Plan.
- A tool will be developed to evaluate these options and will use a weighted approach that balances the social, environmental and financial components of each option or combinations of options. This tool will be validated by key stakeholder groups, including the Councillor Sponsors Group, the Stakeholder Sounding Board, City Champions Group and key City Staff.

Phase 3 – How We Are Going to Get There (Q2 2021 to Q1 2022)

Finally, Phase 3 tasks will include:

- Developing a fully-costed business case for the recommended options.
- Preparing a draft Solid Waste Master Plan and short-term implementation plan for consultation.
- Finalizing the Solid Waste Master Plan and short-term implementation plan.
- Recommending performance measures and monitoring and reporting requirements.