



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Environmental Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Date to Council: February 9, 2021

Report Number: PWES-2021-06

Subject: Food and Organic Waste Management Plan
Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority

Recommendations

That Report PWES-2021-06, Food and Organic Waste Management Plan **be received** for information.

Background

On April 30, 2018, the Province issued a Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement (Policy Statement) pursuant to Section 11 of the 2016 Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, compelling some Ontario municipalities to achieve certain waste diversion targets related to food and organic waste generated by single family dwellings in urban areas by 2025. Part 1 of the Policy Statement states that “waste reduction and resource recovery of food and organic waste will help improve environmental outcomes, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and recover valuable nutrients, thus fostering a circular economy.”

Impacts of Policy Statement on Essex-Windsor Municipalities

The Policy Statement uses the following population and population density figures in order to identify which municipalities are required to achieve specific target rates and what type of collection will be required to be provided by the municipality:

- Population greater than 50,000 and a population density greater than or equal to 300 persons per square kilometer.

These criteria identify the **City of Windsor** as needing to provide **curbside collection** of food and organic waste to single-family dwellings in an urban settlement area and to achieve a **target rate of reduction of 70% by 2025**.

- Population greater than 20,000 but equal to or less than 50,000 and a population density greater than or equal to 100 persons per square kilometer.

These criteria identify **Amherstburg, LaSalle, Leamington and Tecumseh** as needing to provide **collection** of food and organic waste to single-family dwellings in an urban settlement area and to achieve a **target rate of reduction of 50% by 2025**.

Essex-Windsor municipalities that are **not required to achieve specific rates of reduction** for food and organic waste because their population and population densities do not fall within the criteria as noted above are **Essex, Kingsville and Lakeshore**.

Based on guidelines of the Policy Statement, the City of Windsor will be required to provide curbside collection, while the Towns of Amherstburg, LaSalle, Leamington and Tecumseh are to determine whether to provide curbside collection or if public drop off depots will be established in key locations.

Comments

Throughout 2020, there has been a number of meetings and discussions between the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) and the City of Windsor on how best to proceed in a collaborative approach to achieve the legislative target rates of reduction for the region.

An EWSWA Administrative report on the Food and Organic Waste Management Plan was presented at the October 6, 2020 Board Meeting, which resulted in a motion being passed that in summary included:

- The EWSWA Board approved the development and implementation of a Regional Food and Organics Waste Management Plan and that the funding for such form part of the EWSWA Budget consistent with the Landfill funding model.
- That a Food and Organic Waste Oversight Committee be comprised of municipal representatives from the City and the County of Essex as well as an Environmental Consultant for the development of the Regional Food and Organics Waste Management Plan.
 - A subsequent administrative report was requested by the EWSWA Board to make a recommendation as to which municipal representatives will comprise the Oversight Committee.
- The City of Windsor would be responsible for all technical aspects of the Regional Food and Organics Waste Management Plan development.

At the November 3, 2020 EWSWA Board Meeting a motion was passed as a result of an EWSWA Administrative report regarding the Food and Organic Waste Oversight Committee, which in summary included:

- The Food and Organic Waste Oversight Committee be comprised of members from the EWSWA, the City of Windsor and the County of Essex.
- The Oversight Committee strike a Technical Working Group.
- The seven County municipalities each appoint a staff member and an alternate whose role will be to participate in meetings of the Oversight Committee in order to observe, provide information, pose questions and act as resources to the process.
- The Oversight Committee would have the ability to make decisions regarding the engagement with the consultant, budget, and scope changes which may be based on progress reports and recommendations from the Technical Working Group.
- The Oversight Committee will report regularly to the EWSWA Board.

In November 2020, the City of Windsor engaged the consulting firm GHD Limited to undertake Phase 1 of the initial study, which includes consulting and project direction. A biosolids review and evaluation process will also take place, separate from the overall project, as this relates to the City of Windsor's needs. The City of Windsor had also reached out to the various County municipalities to determine if there is interest from those municipalities (who own a wastewater treatment facility) to co-process their biosolids with the regional food and organics.

The Oversight Committee held its inaugural meeting on November 17, 2020. The tasks for the first meeting of the Committee were to strike the Technical Working Group and to approve the Project Charter. The Technical Working Group will be comprised of representatives from the EWSWA, the City of Windsor and the County of Essex. As part of its work, the Technical Working Group will invite and engage with the representatives from the seven County municipalities to seek input and information that will serve to assist the consultant in its study. The representatives for the Town of Tecumseh are the Manager Roads & Fleet, Kirby McArdle, and the Director Public Works & Environmental Services, Phil Bartnik.

EWSWA Administrative reports were presented at the December 1, 2020 Board Meeting which resulted in a motion being passed endorsing the Project Charter and approval for the budget revisions regarding the Regional Food and Organics Waste Management Plan. Further information on EWSWA Board Meetings and Agendas, including Administrative reports can be found on the EWSWA website.

It is anticipated that an EWSWA Administrative report will be brought before the EWSWA Board in March 2021 with a recommendation of next steps and terms of the Request for Proposals.

Tecumseh Administration will report to Council with updates as to the progress of the study as it progresses.

Consultations

Financial Services

Financial Implications

At their October 6, 2020 meeting, the EWSWA Board approved the development and implementation of a Regional Food and Organics Waste Management Plan and that funding for such form part of the EWSWA Budget consistent with the Landfill funding model.

Funding for the Phase 1 budget will be a contribution from EWSWA Waste Reduction Reserve and will have no impact on the budgeted operational deficit for 2021. The breakdown of the Phase 1 project budget is as follows:

Budget Items	Organics Estimate	Biosolids Estimate*
1. City Project Management (Phase 1 only)	\$42,500	\$7,500
2. Engineering and Consulting – GHD Ltd.	\$112,625	\$19,875
3. Contingency	\$17,000	\$3,000
4. Non Recoverable HST	\$1,983	\$350
Grand Total Expenses	\$174,108	\$30,725

* Biosolids processing work related to Phase 1 will be paid for directly by the City of Windsor to an upset limit of \$30,725.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐

Social Media ☐

News Release ☐

Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Dana Reid
Clerk I Administrative Clerk

Reviewed by:

Kirby McArdle, P.Eng.
Manager Roads & Fleet

Reviewed by:

Tom Kitsos, CPA, CMA, BComm
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by:

Phil Bartnik, P.Eng.
Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachment
Number**

**Attachment
Name**

None