



# **Regional Waste Management Initiative**

**Project Update & Endorsement of  
County By-law 2023-40**



# Background

- Report PWES-2023-23 “Food, Organics and Biosolids Waste Management Update & Regional Waste Management Proposal” was presented to Council on March 14, 2023.
- Resolution RCM-56/23:
  - ***And that Council endorse the concept of a regional approach to waste management and direct Administration to report back at a future Council meeting with additional information on a regional waste management program, including the County’s by-law and the logistics of uploading the waste management service.***



# Background

- **July 19 2023 County Council**

- Update provided on the regional waste management program and the logistics of uploading the service.
- County Council raised concerns on how the charge basis would be structured (i.e. general levy, user fee model, a hybrid combination).

- **August 16, 2023 County Council**

- Additional update and necessary information was provided.
- County Council passed By-law 2023-40 which initiated the process to collect/deliver waste to a regional service.



# Background

- County Council passing By-law 2023-40 only starts the process.
- Section 189(2) of the *Municipal Act*, requires that at least 4 of the 7 local municipalities, comprising at least 50% of the electors in the County pass resolutions in support of the County's By-law before the service is uploaded.



# EWSWA Waste Collection Review – EXP Services Inc.

- EXP Services Inc. was retained to assist in the review of broad waste collection. Their final report was provided to the EWSWA Board on July 12<sup>th</sup> and County Council on July 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Their report identified several conclusions and recommendations:
  - Every Other Week (EOW) garbage collection as a best practice to support waste diversion (recyclables/organics) and for potential savings.
  - Clear bag garbage policies have been shown to be effective at diverting recyclables and organics across Ontario.
  - Organic Waste program should be for urban and rural areas. Better positions the County when the proposed provincial landfill ban on organics is implemented (anticipated 2030).
  - Regionalization of waste collection services is an accepted practice across Ontario.



# Level of Service

- Initial transfer of waste collection to the County would see existing level of service be maintained for a time.
- Ultimately, a future standardized residential service would be determined.
- The Regional Waste Working Group (comprised of representatives from each municipality) is currently recommending that a future standardized service level would include:
  - Every Other Week garbage collection
  - Maintaining bulk/large item collection
  - Weekly organic collection
  - Bi-weekly leaf/yard waste collection
  - Monthly white good pick-up



# Proposed Funding Model

- Financial impacts to the local municipalities will depend on the funding model that is agreed upon and implemented.
- Expected cost savings and administrative efficiencies with regional collection.
- A **Hybrid funding model** was proposed by the County CAO/Treasurer to the municipal CAOs and Regional Waste Working Group.
- Factors that were considered as part of the Hybrid funding model:
  - Existing contract pricing
  - Existing service levels
  - Subsidization concerns
  - Existing catchment areas
  - Authority and decision-making



# Proposed Funding Model

- The Hybrid funding model would account for tonnage, households and population data for each local municipality.
- Hybrid funding model would prove to be more transparent for the use of regional waste service.
- When calculating the County Annual Tax Rate, two tax rate calculations would be made:
  - **County Services** (not including waste services) – calculated as normal based on global weighted assessment
  - **County Waste Services** – calculated as a separate special area rate establishes a tax rate by the local municipality for only its share of the regional cost based on its own tonnage/households in relation to only its weighted assessment.





# Proposed Funding Model

- A homeowner would then see four tax rates on their bill:
  - Local Municipal Rate
  - County General Levy Rate
  - County Waste Levy Rate
  - Education Rate
- Tecumseh Administration is in favour of proceeding with the Hybrid funding model as proposed by the County's CAO/Treasurer.



# Recommendations

- It is recommended:
  - **That** report PWES-2023-57 titled “Regional Waste Management Initiative, Project Update & Endorsement of County By-law 2023-40”, **be received**;
  - **And that** Council support and **endorse** County of Essex By-law 2023-40, being a by-law to transfer all power of the lower-tier municipalities of the County of Essex with respect to the collection of waste and the delivery of such waste in the County of Essex, to the County, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 189 and 190 of the *Municipal Act, 2021, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended*;
  - **And further that** Council accordingly **give consideration to** the first, second, third and final reading of By-law 2023-92, being a by-law to approve County of Essex By-law 2023-40.

