

The Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Action Summary

The following excerpt is from the Action Plan, Appendix B of the *Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan* (the Plan). It shows the: in-progress, short, medium and long-term initiatives, actions, and projected environmental benefits.

In Progress

Initiative	Key Actions	Details
Residential curbside organics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Complete organics processing procurement. ▶ Develop capital purchase plan. ▶ Develop implementation, education and communications plan. 	<p>Implementation: 2023</p> <p>Diversion: 15,000 (8%+)–22,000 (12%+) tonnes per year</p> <p>GHG reduction: 12,000–17,000 tonnes CO_{2e} per year</p>
Requirements for businesses and organizations (ICI) to divert recyclables and organics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Waste Bylaw update. ▶ Develop education resources. ▶ Communication and phase-in of requirements. 	<p>Implementation: 2022–2024</p> <p>Diversion: 5,400 tonnes per year (City landfill)</p> <p>38,000 tonnes per year (private landfills)</p> <p>GHG reduction: 38,000 tonnes CO_{2e} per year</p>
Recovery Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Develop materials business plan. ▶ Develop site operations plan. ▶ Construction and site commissioning. 	<p>Implementation: 2023</p> <p>Diversion: 5,000 (4%)–17,000 (13%) tonnes per year</p> <p>GHG reduction: 8,400 tonnes CO_{2e} per year</p>
Recycling depots: immediate safety/contamination improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Identify options for safety and contamination improvements at Recycling Depots ▶ Provide City Council with a service recommendation. 	Alleviate safety and contamination concerns until the Recycling Depot review is complete.
Provincial household hazardous waste regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Monitor and actively participate in implementation of the provincial regulation. 	<p>Prepare for the launch of provincial stewardship program in 2021.</p> <p>Collaborate with stewards on a permanent depot at Recovery Park.</p>
Requirements for storage and safe collection of waste at multi-unit buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Finalize "Waste Collection Design Guidelines for Residential Developments" document. 	Provide clear service guidelines to multi-unit developments.
Vertical landfill gas well installation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Procurement and construction. 	GHG reduction: 25,000 tonnes CO _{2e} per year for 10-20 years.

Short Term (2021–2023)

Action	Next Steps	Outcome
Accessible curbside collections program	<p>Initiate a project to explore the feasibility of alternatives to expand and alter the existing Special Needs Garbage Collection Service.</p> <p>Provide City Council with a service recommendation.</p>	Ensure equitable access to curbside solid waste collection services for residents.
Business and organization waste diversion regulation compliance	<p>Conduct an operational analysis and needs identification for City facilities to comply with the incoming regulation.</p> <p>Collaborate with Facilities Management to develop a business plan to deliver recycling and organics services at City facilities.</p>	<p>Diversion: negligible, as many facilities currently recycle.</p> <p>Demonstrate leadership and ensure compliance with the mandatory recycling requirement for the ICI sector.</p> <p>GHG reduction: 431–980 tonnes CO₂e per year</p>
Emergency waste management and recycling strategy	<p>Review disaster debris management and operations plans from other jurisdictions.</p> <p>Build on work completed as part of COVID-19 response.</p>	Ensure equipment, infrastructure, and plans exist to handle influx of waste and service continuation during emergencies such as extreme weather events or pandemics.
Compost depot program review	<p>Understand the impact of new programs and city growth on service levels.</p> <p>Engage with users.</p> <p>Provide City Council with a service recommendation.</p>	Determine the role of compost depots in future waste management services
Mandatory residential multi-unit organics	Complete “Multi-Unit Residential Proposed Changes to Waste Management” reporting in late 2020 or early 2021 with multi-unit organics options and recommendation.	<p>Diversion: 600 (0.5%)–900 (1%) tonnes per year</p> <p>GHG reduction: 431–980 tonnes CO₂e per year</p>
Construction and demolition waste diversion: City of Saskatoon options	<p>Short-term: develop business case for engagement and research.</p> <p>Medium-term: Implementation</p> <p>Align with Recovery Park operation.</p>	<p>Diversion: 700 (0.7%)–1,200 (1.3%) tonnes per year</p> <p>GHG reduction: TBD</p> <p>Support the success of Recovery Park</p> <p>Approximately 17,000 tonnes of C&D material were buried in the Landfill in 2019.</p>

Recycling market development for Recovery Park	<p>Develop a business case to resource engagement and research.</p> <p>Consider opportunities as part of Recovery Park (ex. bulky waste).</p> <p>Assess community partnership and social enterprise opportunities.</p>	<p>Provide partnerships and incentives to recycle difficult material.</p> <p>Prepare a Civic Re-use Policy to support the beneficial re-use of materials diverted at Recovery Park in civic projects and operations, such as concrete, asphalt shingles, glass, porcelain, compost, and wood waste.</p>
Disposal ban at the Saskatoon Landfill	<p>Short-term: develop a business case to resource engagement and research.</p> <p>Provide City Council with a service recommendation.</p> <p>Medium-term: Implementation</p> <p>Develop an approach for a disposal ban at the Saskatoon Landfill for any materials where diversion opportunities are in place for all sectors.</p>	<p>Diversion: 2,500 (3%)–5,000 (5%) tonnes per year</p> <p>GHG reduction: 1,500–3,000 tonnes CO2e per year</p> <p>Encourage similar landfill bans at a regional level by working with other landfills operating in the region and the provincial government.</p>
Recycling depot program review	<p>Short-term: develop a business case to resource engagement and research.</p> <p>Understand the impact of new programs and city growth on service levels.</p> <p>Provide City Council with a service recommendation.</p>	<p>Determine the role of recycling depots in future waste management services.</p>
Waste reduction through procurement and specifications	<p>Support waste reduction and diversion in sustainable procurement through the implementation of the Triple Bottom Line policy.</p>	<p>Influence waste reduction and recycling markets through procurement policies.</p>
Federal single-use plastic ban and performance standards for plastics	<p>Participate in federal engagement opportunities.</p> <p>Consider impacts of ban and performance standards for plastics on waste management services.</p>	<p>Understand the impacts of the Federal Governments 2021 single-use plastic ban and new performance standards for plastics on waste management programs.</p>
Provincial stewardship program review	<p>Actively seek opportunities to participate in the review of provincial programs, beginning with the Multi-Material Recycling Program which dedicates funding for residential recycling.</p>	<p>Ensure the City of Saskatoon provides input on the future of residential recycling.</p> <p>Understand the service impacts of any changes.</p>

Medium-term (2024–2025)

Actions	Next Steps	Outcome
Long-term waste management service and sustainability plan	<p>Build on Compost depot and Recycling Depot reviews.</p> <p>Explore future disposal needs, including alternate/additional waste handling/transfer stations.</p> <p>Explore comprehensive modeling which integrates the financial impacts of all recycling/diversion programs.</p>	A clear understanding of the impacts waste diversion and population growth will have on the landfill capacity, revenue and related infrastructure.
Residential waste cart technology	<p>Monitor technological developments in pay per tip garbage collection in other jurisdictions.</p> <p>Asses if a pilot project is required in Saskatoon.</p>	Determine the ability of cart collection tracking by household.
Special/bulky waste program for collection, recycling and disposal	Investigate service options to reduce illegally dumped waste and/or implement a pilot program at hot spots, such as the recycling depot.	<p>Diversion: 500 (0.5%)–1,000 (1%) tonnes per year</p> <p>GHG reduction: material type not available in model</p> <p>Reduction in illegal dumping.</p>
Construction and demolition waste diversion: community options	<p>Research best practices for construction and demolition waste diversion policies and programs.</p> <p>Align with the services available at Recovery Park.</p>	<p>Diversion: 700 (0.7%)–1,200 (1.3%) tonnes per year</p> <p>Approximately 17,000 tonnes of C&D material were buried in the Landfill in 2019.</p>
Public space and event waste reduction	Develop business case to resource engagement and research.	Require festivals and events that occur on City property to meet waste diversion criteria.
Food waste reduction program	<p>Align with development of a City Food Policy.</p> <p>Support federal, provincial and community initiatives.</p> <p>Develop a business case to pilot a program to redirect edible food waste.</p>	<p>Reduce food waste.</p> <p>Redirect edible food to support people in our community.</p> <p>Divert unavoidable food waste.</p>

2024 Waste Characterization Study	Procure a comprehensive waste characterization study to determine the initial impact of new programs.	Understand Saskatoon’s residential waste composition after the implementation of Curbside Organics and Recovery Park. Identify education opportunities and challenges and future waste diversion options.
2025 Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan Update	Identify and prioritize waste management actions for 2026 - 2030 with an increased focus on reduce and reuse following the establishment of core diversion services.	Updated Solid Waste Reduction & Diversion Plan.

Long-term (2026+)

Actions	Next Steps	Outcome
Share, reuse, and repair program	Explore opportunities for research partnership. Support federal, provincial and community initiatives.	Improve waste reduction by increasing the longevity of items in use.
Textile and apparel reduction and recycling program	Identify research or community partnership opportunities. Support federal, provincial and community initiatives.	Diversion: 45 (0.04%)–90 (0.08%) tonnes per year GHG reduction: material type not available in model.
Economic incentive tools to support reduction and diversion	Pilot, research, and develop options for economic incentives to improve residential reduction and diversion such as pay-per-tip for waste.	Diversion: 5,000 (5%)–16,000 (17%) tonnes per year GHG reduction: 3,000–10,000 tonnes CO2e per year
Landfill closure and replacement plan	Review results of the long-term waste management service and sustainability plan. Explore options for waste to energy after reduction and diversion options have been exhausted and a firm date is established for Landfill closure.	A plan to provide garbage disposal once the Saskatoon Landfill reaches capacity. Promote innovation by exploring alternative waste processing opportunities.