

Council Resolutions and Status

City Council, at its meeting held on September 28, 2015, considered the Efficient Waste System Project Update report and resolved, in part:

- “2. That the performance metrics and reliability efficiency of the Efficient Waste System program be reported no later than June 2016.”

The performance metrics, reliability, and efficiency of the Efficient Waste System program are included in this report and the capabilities of the system informed the recommendations for Pay as You Throw.

City Council, at its meeting held on January 23, 2017, considered the Motion – Councillor M. Loewen – Holiday Season Recycling Pickup and resolved:

“That Administration report to the appropriate Committee with options and projected financial implications of adding an extra city-wide recycling pickup date during December 2017.”

Administration studied the potential to make changes to the holiday season recycling pickup schedule (including gathering information about the cost to add this service), and determined there will not be sufficient benefit to resident satisfaction with the program, nor extra diversion benefit to warrant making this change. Administration will, therefore, review this again when negotiating a new contract for 2020.

City Council, at its meeting held on February 27, 2017, considered the Waste Management Master Plan – State of Waste report and resolved, in part:

- “3. That the Administration be directed to report back at the next stage of the Waste Management Master Plan.”

The report outlined how the current funding model for waste services uses a combination of property taxes and utility-based charges, and that the business model is not environmentally or financially sustainable.

City Council, at its meeting held on August 28, 2017, considered the Waste Utility Design Options report and resolved:

- “1. That the Administration continue to develop a program to expand the Waste Services Utility to include variable-pricing options; and
2. That the Administration engage citizens and stakeholders on variable-pricing options based on the information presented in this report, and report back in the first quarter of 2018 with a proposed design and timeline for implementation for a utility model.”

A September 2018 report will provide additional detail on design including frequency and base cart size.

At that same meeting, City Council also considered the Organic Opportunities report and resolved:

“That Administration continue research and program development on an organics program for the Residential, Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sectors.”

This report responds in part to this resolution by providing program design and research results for the Curbside Residential Organics Program.

Recommendations for organics program for Multi-unit Residential and Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sectors will be tabled in September and November respectively. A September 2018 report will provide additional detail on curbside organics program design including collection frequency and cart sizes.

City Council, as its meeting held on September 25, 2017, considered the Waste Handling Levels of Service report and resolved, in part:

- “3. That the waste handling funding gap decision be deferred to the 2018 decision on waste utility options; and
4. That all other service level changes be considered during the development and implementation of waste utility options.”

The new waste utility is intended to address the funding gap but rate setting and financial modeling are not specifically included in this report as the options for addressing the gap will be provided in a September report outlining affordability considerations. Recommended service levels for both garbage and organics will also be included in a September report.

City Council, at its meeting held on November 20, 2017, considered the Next Steps in City-Wide (Mandatory) Organics and Waste Utility Program Development report for information. The report outlined the proposed approach and timelines for the development of a city-wide organics program, and the design of an expanded waste services utility.

Administration is following the outlined approach provided in the November report.

City Council, at its meeting held on February 26, 2018, considered the Recovery Park and Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Centre Project Comprehensive Funding Plan report, and resolved:

- “1. That the comprehensive funding plan for the integration of Recovery Park with the Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Centre as

- outlined in the report of the Acting General Manager, Corporate Performance, dated February 13, 2018, be approved; and
2. That the budget for Capital Project #2050 be adjusted to reflect the additional \$16.4M included in the plan.”

The report identified a need to borrow \$9.08M, with repayments being made over 10 years using funds from a proposed phased-in increase to the mill-rate or the proposed Unified Waste Utility. The specific source for repayment of borrowing for Recovery Park will be outlined in the September report.

City Council at its meeting held on May 28, 2018, considered the Landfill Airspace Value report and resolved:

- “1. That the landfill airspace valuation be used in the development of future waste rates and funding plans; and
2. That additional funding requirements be included in the calculation of a user fee associated with a potential Unified Waste Utility.”

The cost of landfill air space is included in the cost of garbage reported in this report and will be used in financial modeling and rate setting to ensure a financially sustainable program.