



Committee of the Whole Report

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Report Number: | WM2025-005 |
| Meeting Date: | May 6, 2025 |
| Title: | Making Waste Matter: Integrated Waste Management Strategy Update (2025-2029) |
| Description: | Update to the 2020-2024 Integrated Waste Management Strategy for the 2025-2029 period |
| Author and Title: | Bonnie Ferguson, Waste Technician II |

Recommendation(s):

That Report WM2025-005, **Making Waste Matter: Integrated Waste Management Strategy Update (2025-2029)**, be received;

That the Integrated Waste Management Strategy Update, attached as Appendix A to Report WM2025-005, be approved for implementation; and

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: Bryan Robinson, Director of Public Works

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

At the Council Meeting of October 27, 2015, Council adopted the following resolution:

CR2015-1119

RESOLVED THAT Report WM2015-011, Integrated Waste Management Strategy, be received;

THAT Council approves the Integrated Waste Management Strategy as appended to Report WM2015-011, as the guiding strategy to inform the City's Waste Management Program and waste master planning consideration;

THAT staff be directed to plan and phase-in the recommended initiatives, in consultation with Council and the Waste Management Strategy Task Force, as generally outlined in the appended Strategy; and

THAT the Waste Management Strategy Task Force's Terms of Reference be updated and approved to include the implementation of the Integrated Waste Management Strategy, as appended to this Report to November 30, 2018.

The Strategy stated that it would be critical to regularly review, update, and expand the document due to frequent and significant changes in waste management practices, legislation, and waste quantities in the municipality. Based on the frequency of these changes it has been determined that an update of the Strategy will occur every five years.

This Report addresses this direction.

Rationale:

The City's Integrated Waste Management Strategy (IWMS) was first implemented in 2015 and updated in 2020. This Making Waste Matter: IWMS update (2025-2029) will guide the delivery of solid waste management services for the City of Kawartha Lakes (City) over the next 5 years.

The IWMS update outlines the success of the initiatives identified in the previous IWMS period and introduces new actions to support the City in meeting their overarching waste management goals, including:

- Maximizing the amount of residential waste diverted from landfill;

- Optimizing the remaining landfill space in the City's five active landfill sites; and
- Continuously improve how waste management services are being provided.

The IWMS document highlights industry trends, policy changes, and new City programs since the last Strategy update. Changes included:

- the transition of the Blue Box program to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR),
- implementation of a new urban curbside organics collection program, and
- improvements to diversion programs at City-owned sites including a textile diversion program, construction demolition diversion, and bulky plastics recycling.

The City's updated Growth Management Strategy estimates that the City will grow to a population of 130,000 residents by 2050. From 2021 to 2024, the City managed approximately 58,000 tonnes of waste per year. With population growth, this is expected to increase to an average of 63,000 tonnes of waste per year between 2025 and 2029, with no changes to waste programs.

The City is fortunate to have five active landfill sites, and therefore it is critical to continue to pursue actions that will reduce the volume of waste going to the landfill to preserve the remaining capacity. The Fenelon and Laxton landfill sites recently received approval for vertical expansions to provide some additional capacity, and the City is initiating the Environmental Assessment process to evaluate long term waste disposal and management options, as a separate initiative from this strategy.

Establishing the future state of waste management within the City is a critical component of strategic planning and governance. It provides a well-defined vision that guides decision-making and policy development, ensuring alignment with long-term sustainability goals and enables the City to proactively address emerging challenges and capitalize on opportunities in waste management. The initiatives presented in this strategy will be phased in over the implementation period (2025 – 2029).

Integrated Waste Management Strategy Consultation

To support development of future initiatives, input was gathered from City staff, the Waste Management Advisory Committee, residents (both permanent and seasonal), and local businesses.

Waste Management Advisory Committee (WMAC) Engagement

At the WMAC meetings in February and March of 2024, staff and the committee discussed the use of a consultant to facilitate the IWMS update and what was to be included in the Scope of Work included in the Request for Proposal. (**WMAC2024-01** and **WMAC2024-02**)

In August 2024, Dillon Consulting presented to the Waste Management Advisory Committee for the Integrated Waste Strategy for 2025 through 2029. Dillon explained that they are completing a full study and will be bringing back a draft to the Committee in Q4. (**WMAC2024-07**)

In November 2024, Waste Technician B. Ferguson presented to the Committee a presentation from Dillon Consulting and advised the Committee about upcoming open houses that Dillon Consulting was hosting. At that meeting, the following motion was passed:

WMAC 2024-18

Moved By Councillor Joyce

Seconded By B. Junkin

That the presentation by Waste Technician B. Ferguson, **regarding the Integrated Waste Strategy**, be received.

Carried

In January 2025, Dillon Consulting Ltd. presented to the Waste Management Advisory Committee with updates on the development of the Integrated Waste Management Strategy for 2025-2029. At the January 2025 meeting the following motion was passed.

WMAC 2025-03

Moved By Councillor Warren

Seconded By J. Taylor

That the presentation by Dillon Consulting Ltd., regarding the Integrated Waste Management Strategy, be received.

Carried

The Final Draft IWMS was presented to the Committee on April 23, 2025. The Committee passed the following resolution:

WMAC 2025-12

Moved By J. Taylor Councillor Warren

Seconded By Councillor Warren

That the committee endorses the Integrated Waste Management Strategy Update (2025-2029).

Resident and Business Engagement

As noted in the IWMS report, residents were invited to complete an online public survey on the Kawartha Lakes Jump In platform and attend two open house events, located in Lindsay and Little Britain. The feedback received through the engagement process was used to develop and finalize the initiatives outlined in this strategy.

An online public survey was available on the Kawartha Lakes Jump In platform for five weeks from September 17, 2024, to October 23, 2024. Over 800 responses to the survey were received. The core themes expressed during the public consultation process included:

- Strong interest in organics diversion through a curbside collection program (i.e., an organics collection and processing program);
- Support for biweekly garbage collection to encourage more recycling and diversion;
- High demand for more frequent leaf and yard waste collection, particularly during the peak seasons in the Spring and Fall;
- Expansion of diversion programs to other community waste management facilities for better accessibility;
- More recycling bins in public spaces and better waste management in parks and recreational areas; and
- More communication and education for recycling and reuse programs.

Residents were asked to rank the priorities when envisioning the future of waste management with the most important being (in order of importance):

1. More waste reduction and reuse opportunities;
2. Cost and efficiency of services;
3. Reducing impact on climate change;
4. Effective education and promotion of waste management programs; and
5. Enforcement of waste management by-laws.

Strategy Update Initiatives:

As noted in Part 4 of the Strategy Update, initiatives were developed by reviewing best practices in similar jurisdictions, input from waste management staff, and through the public consultation process, which helped shape the future vision for waste management. The initiatives included in this IWMS Update will require some time to plan prior to implementation, the initiatives and proposed implementation timelines are listed below.

Reduce

- Corporate Waste Reduction Initiatives (Launch 2025)
- Improve Access to Food and Organic Waste Recycling in Rural Communities (Launch 2026)

Reuse

- Repair and Sharing Programs (Launch 2026)

Recycle

- Leaf and Yard Waste Program (Launch 2027)
- Organic Waste Program Monitoring (Launch 2027)
- Expand Household Hazardous Waste Collection (Launch 2029)
- Public Space Recycling Strategy (Launch 2028)
- Agricultural Waste Diversion (Launch 2027)
- Boat Wrap Diversion (Launch 2027)
- Expand Construction and Demolition Collection at Landfills (Launch 2028)
- Expand Bulky Plastic Recycling Program (Launch 2028)
- Develop Targeted Promotion and Education Campaigns (Launch 2025)

Innovate

- Landfill Optimization (launch 2029)

New Goals and Performance Metrics: As noted in the IWMS update, because of the Blue Box transition, municipalities are no longer eligible to submit data to Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPPRA) to receive Blue Box funding and will not have data on diversion resulting from the Blue Box program. This means the common comparative metric, waste diversion rate, will no longer be measurable. Now, Ontario municipalities are exploring alternative metrics, such as per capita disposal rates and

total waste disposed, to model program performance annually and compare performance against similar jurisdictions.

The new performance measures include:

1. Residential per capita disposal rate, and
2. Overall waste disposed

Since its inception in 2015, the goal of the Making Waste Matters: Integrated Waste Management Strategy is to achieve an overall residential diversion rate of 70% by 2048 through the implementation of strategically selected initiatives. The goal of 70% diversion rate was converted to a target residential disposal rate per capita of 130 kg per person per year, equivalent to a 53% reduction in waste generation by 2048. A per capita disposal rate is a measure of how much waste each person throws out on an annual basis, on average. The historical residential per capita disposal rates from 2016 to 2023 are an average of 277 kg per capita. It should be noted that this metric does not take into consideration IC&I volumes. The goal for this strategy period is to reduce the annual residential waste generated per capital by 12%.

Additionally, the City currently disposes approximately 50,700 tonnes of waste annually including residential and commercial waste. The Strategy includes a goal of monitoring and reducing overall waste disposed by 6% by 2029.

The 2025-2029 Integrated Waste Management Strategy update is consistent with Council's strategic priority of a Healthy Environment. Setting a new Strategy target provides a clear goal that unites the community in waste reduction and diversion and drives innovation and the adoption of best practices to support environmental sustainability.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

Detailed financial justification for specific programs will be analyzed internally and detailed in a staff report to council prior to implementation. Future budgets will include program costing as actions are implemented.

As part of the IWMS update, the unit value of landfill space remaining at City landfills was calculated. This value includes the projected costs associated with the City's existing five landfill sites. The value of Kawartha Lakes' remaining landfill space is approximately \$105 per tonne. The costs for future waste management options, once the City's landfill sites reach capacity, have not been defined at this time and therefore

are excluded. In determining validity of future diversion or waste program initiatives, the City should evaluate program savings against overall lifecycle waste disposal costs as determined through additional studies.

Initial estimates of landfill space savings and initiative costs are listed in the IWMS update document where evaluations were completed as part of the update.

Consultations:

Waste Management Advisory Committee

Heather Dzurko – Manager Waste Management Services

Attachments:

Appendix A – Integrated Waste Management Strategy 2025-2029



Appendix A City of
Kawartha Lakes Inte

Department Head email: brobinson@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Bryan Robinson