

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2021 March 08

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE: 36500-03

SUBJECT: 2020 ANNUAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING REPORT –
HIGHLIGHTS AND LOOKING AHEAD

PURPOSE: To present the Environment Committee with the 2020 Annual Report on
the City's integrated Solid Waste and Recycling Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council receive the 2020 Annual Solid Waste and Recycling Report for information.

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This annual report provides an overview of the City's waste management system including an outline of the programs and service elements in the upcoming year to achieve future waste diversion goals in Burnaby. Single family, multi-family and commercial/institutional waste diversion (recycling/green waste collection) and disposal (garbage) volumes are shown from program inception year to 2020 to illustrate waste trends.

POLICY SECTION

The Solid Waste and Recycling Program is aligned with the City of Burnaby's Corporate Strategic Plan by supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the Plan.

Goals

- A Connected Community
 - Partnership –
Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments

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- An Inclusive Community
 - Serve a diverse community –
Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community
- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy environment –
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
- A Dynamic Community
 - City facilities and infrastructure –
Build and maintain infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing community
- A Thriving Organization
 - Organizational culture –
Ensure that our core values are reflected in our policies, programs and service delivery

DISCUSSION

The City of Burnaby provides a comprehensive solid waste and recycling service to its residential, commercial and institutional customers. The services offered by the City range from curbside collection of all streams to central depot drop-off of recyclables. The program is considered as one of the most integrated solid waste and recycling management models in this region.

The City's solid waste and recycling collection workforce services approximately 33,700 single and two-family households, as well as 39,095 multi-family households and 505 commercial / institutional / civic facilities. In addition, thousands of person hours are devoted each year to keeping streets and public spaces clean through regular litter pick-up and bulky-item collection.

The 2020 Annual Solid Waste and Recycling Report (provided under separate cover) highlights the key achievements from the past year, which include:

- Unprecedented volumes of waste and recyclable material collected during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2nd year that green waste was the largest component of the waste stream for an overall diversion rate of 61%.

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- Completion of Phase 1 of a feasibility study for a City-owned green waste facility.
- Developed a program to recycle wet and soiled mattresses which accounted for an additional 105 tonnes of waste diversion.
- Twice recognized as a depot leader for our clothing donation collection and household battery recycling programs at the Eco-Centre.
- Enhanced wildlife protection by expanding the designated Bear Area to include neighborhoods in South Burnaby near Robert Burnaby Park and Deer Lake Park.
- Added the first electric vehicle to the Solid Waste & Recycling fleet.

The City has successfully met environmental challenges over the years through developing innovative solutions while maintaining its commitment to environmental protection. Looking ahead to 2021 brings forward enhancements to Burnaby's waste reduction programs that will further strengthen our waste reduction goals.

In 2021, the focus will be placed on:

- Presenting the results of the feasibility study for a City-owned green waste facility to Council.
- Eliminate the first free pick-up of multi-family garbage containers to provide a financial incentive for residents of the multi-family sector to increase the diversion of recyclable materials and green waste.
- Pilot alternative fuel collection vehicles to reduce G.H.G. emissions.
- Initiate pilots programs for "smart" technology to enhance efficiency of collection operations.
- Enhance the Large Item & Appliance Pick-up Program to reduce the length of time items are placed curbside.
- Develop mobile camera technology to be deployed in areas where abandoned waste is commonly observed to deter illegal dumping activity.
- Further enhance the Bear Area program and continue research on bear resistant equipment to further reduce waste associated wildlife encounters.
- Continue to work with the Marketing and Communications team to improve communication for Solid Waste & Recycling programs and services across all media platforms.
- Coordinate with the Engineering Development Services division to streamline development reviews; review Solid Waste Plans to look for diversion opportunities and ensure the plans are aligned with other Engineering development requirements.

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In keeping with the position of reducing waste, only a limited number of hard copies of the 2020 Annual Solid Waste and Recycling Report will be printed. This report, as in previous years, will be available on the City website for viewing.

This is provided for Committee and Council's information.



Leon A. Gous, P.Eng., MBA
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

Attachment (under separate cover)

Copied to: Acting City Manager
Director Corporate Services
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Director Planning and Building
Chief Information Officer