

City Staff Report

Original signed by: Byron Johnson, CAO

Report Date: Oct 18 2019

Meeting Date: Oct 29, 2019

To: City Manager

From: Director of Corporate & Financial Services

Subject: Landfill/Recycling

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to review the results of the Landfill / Recycling Strategic Review the City undertook this past year and the proposed directions the City will be taking to ensure the City continues towards its strategic goal of environmental stewardship of the landfill and recycling programs.

Summary

The Solid Waste/Recycling Strategic Review highlighted several important issues the City must address.

1. The current landfill space is expected to be full in 2040. Ongoing work will continue to look at the best options for extending this timeline, such as building a berm to enable more air capacity to be used and expanding into the former baseball fields. The expansion and the work required to close sections of the landfill will require significant capital investment.

It is important that the City and the community work towards diversion options that will reduce the amount of waste going into the landfill and the recycling programs to reduce the future costs of these programs.

Proposed City Response:

- The City will be hiring a Solid Waste Manager. The landfill and recycling business is a highly regulated, quickly evolving industry. The strategic review showed that the City requires more management of the Solid Waste function. This position would have oversight of the solid waste function ensuring the City is compliant with regulations, and exploring and working on zero waste initiatives to decrease the volume going into the City's landfill.
- The City will be adding another Landfill Operator to the landfill. This position will enable the City to adopt best practices for how the landfill is filled and how waste is separated to increase diversion opportunities.
- The City is engaging in a social media campaign to educate citizens about the zero waste hierarchy. The three R's (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) are no longer sufficient. It is essential that we look to the additional R's of Refuse and Repurpose in order to reduce the amount of waste going into the City's landfill.
- The City intends to withdraw from the commercial garbage pickup business. There are many private businesses that do commercial garbage pickup and most cities no longer provide this service. This will enable the City to turn its focus to look for more ways to promote waste diversion to extend the life of the landfill.
 - At this point, the City intends to withdraw from the commercial garbage pickup service on June 30, 2020. The City will be working with waste management companies and the affected customers to ensure that the process can be as smooth as possible. More details will be released, as they are available.



- The City intends to review landfill and residential garbage rates to ensure the funds collected are covering the full cost of the service provided. This review will take place as part of the regular review of the City's comprehensive fees bylaw with new rates effective Jan 1st, 2020.
2. The City's contract with Northern Recycling Inc. for recycling services expires June 30, 2020.

Proposed City Response

- The City's long-term goal is to move towards an Eco Depot where recycling and various Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) services are co-located to make it easy for the public to use these services. The Solid Waste Manager working with staff from the Cariboo Regional District will work on the long-term plan for options to expand the recycling options currently available.
- Request for Proposals will be issued for the various recycling service functions beginning July 1st, 2020.

Recommendation

THAT Council receive this report for information.

Strategic Objective

Environmental Stewardship – Landfill and Recycling.

Attachments

1. Resolutions Oct 15, 2019 Special Closed Meeting of Council



Oct 15, 2019 Special Closed Meeting of Council

October 15, 2019

Resolutions

IC19-14-65 MOVED/Seconded and resolved:

THAT Council approves the following two additional full time landfill positions that will be filled in 2020:

1. Solid Waste Manager; and
2. Landfill Operator.

CARRIED

IC19-14-66 MOVED/Seconded and resolved:

THAT Council approves staff to move forward with issuing the following two contracts for recycling activities, effective July 1, 2020:

1. Commercial Cardboard; and
2. Reuse Centre.

AND THAT Council approves the Cariboo Regional District moving towards taking over administration of the Recycle BC Depot in Quesnel, effective July 1, 2020.

CARRIED

IC19-14-67 MOVED/Seconded and resolved:

THAT Council approves, the City begin to make plans to exit the commercial garbage business, and bring back the transition plan to Council as part of the 2020 budget process.

CARRIED

IC19-14-68 MOVED/Seconded and resolved:

THAT Council intends to raise the landfill and residential garbage rates;

AND THAT Council recommends the Financial Sustainability and Audit Committee to review these rates when updating the Comprehensive Fees Bylaw.

CARRIED