



Waste Diversion Committee

June 17, 2020

Zoom Meeting

3:30 PM

Members Regional Councillor Jack Heath, Chair Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton Regional Councillor Joe Li Councillor Reid McAlpine Councillor Khalid Usman Valerie Burke Guests None Regrets Karl Lyew	Staff Phoebe Fu, Director of Environmental Services Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and Environmental Management Kimberley Dunsmoor, Supervisor of Waste Diversion Programs Juliana Aparicio, Diversion Programs Technician Michael DiPasquale, Supervisor, Waste Operations Sara Tam, Manager, Business Planning & Innovation Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator
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1. Call to Order

The Waste Diversion Committee convened at 3:33 PM with Regional Councillor Jack Heath in the Chair.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Councillor Reid McAlpine

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

That the Minutes from the March 10, and June 9, 2020 Waste Diversion Committee be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Textile Update

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and Environmental Management provided a textile update. During the pandemic Diabetes Canada ceased pick-up of textiles from Markham's charitable donation bins. This decision was not communicated to the City. The City was able to continue to recycle textiles throughout the pandemic, as the Salvation Army and B'nai Brith Canada stepped-up to the plate and agreed to service the Diabetes Canada donation bins. Consequently, Committee was requested to: 1) send a letter of appreciation to Salvation Army, and B'nai Brith Canada that continued to pick-up textiles during the pandemic; and 2) review the future role of Diabetes Canada in Markham's textile strategy.

In response to an inquiry from the Committee, staff advised that there is no formal agreement (contract) between Diabetes Canada and the City of Markham in regards to the pick-up of its textiles from charitable donation bin.

Committee suggested staff look into the possibility of clearly stating expectations and formalize the agreement with charitable organizations that pick-up of textiles in Markham now that the program is more developed, Staff responded indicating the charitable partners are licensed to operate in Markham under the Stationary Business By-law. The use of the licensing by-law is more flexible and effective than a servicing agreement; The City can amend or rescind the licensing agreement with any charitable partners.

Moved by Councillor Khalid Usman

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

- 1) That a letter of appreciation be sent to the Salvation Army, and B'nai Brith Canada for picking-up Markham's textiles during the pandemic; and,
- 2) That the role of Diabetes Canada in Markham's textile strategy be reviewed, including its licensing agreement; and further,
- 3) That staff provide guidance on how to move forward.

Carried

4. "Best of the Best # 2" Markham's Diversion Strategy 2020-2023

Claudia Marsales continued the presentation of the Best of the Best 2" Markham's Diversion Strategy 2020-2023 from the June 9, 2020 meeting.

Committee provided the following feedback:

Waste Management at Events

- Asked that the slide title be updated on slide 14 "Waste Management at Events";
- Noted that it is difficult to enforce the waste management recommendations at events, but recognized that it is important to keep on trying;

- Suggested partnering with local organizations or groups (i.e. Cadets, Boy Scouts, students or the Environmental Advisory Committee) to provide volunteers to assist with the waste management at events.

Waste Management in Recreation Facilities

- Asked that the slide title be updated on slide 15 “Waste Management in Recreation Facilities”.

Waste Management at Administrative Buildings

- Suggested the City should look at replacing paper towel dispensers with hand dryers, noting the newer hand dryers are much quicker and softer on the hands;
- Update to say “Investigate different types of paper towel or options that are divertible”. Current brown towels in use are not recyclable in blue box and are considered a contaminant
- Add “Investigate the elimination of paper towels in City facilities and in washrooms”;
- Add “Would like to eliminate paper towel at Civic Centre”;
- Include education on where to put paper towel;
- Add “explore, investigate and start the process of eliminating paper coffee cups at Civic Centre”.

Waste Management in Parks

- Suggested putting video cameras in parks to monitor who is dumping their garbage at parks;
- Agreed to pilot project, which includes removing the waste receptacles from a park and making residents responsible for their own waste;
- Noted that signage will need to be posted, advising why the waste receptacles have been removed from the park where the project is being piloted;
- Suggested that bigger waste receptacles need to be put in targeted locations where dumping is an issue;
- Suggested that residents need to be engaged in keeping their own parks clean, possibly through the Adopt a Park program.

Summary

- No changes were made to this slide.

Recommendations

- Add that the Waste Diversion Committee will carry on with its mandate and work out the details of the plan, and that it will report back to the General Committee on its activities on a regular basis.

Moved by Councillor Reid McAlpine

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

1. That the Waste Diversion Committee endorse the “Best of the Best # 2” Markham’s Diversion Strategy 2020-2023; and,
2. That the “Best of the Best # 2” Markham’s Diversion Strategy 2020-2023 be brought forward to the General Committee for Council’s consideration.

Carried

5. New Business

Staff thanked Councillor Reid McAplene for his assistance in helping open-up Markham’s recycling depots. The Unionville Recycling Depot is the only depot that remains closed, but the City is working on a plan to re-open it soon.

It was noted that residents saved their recycling and lined-up to bring their recycling to the depots.

6. Adjournment

The Waste Diversion Committee adjourned at 5:00 PM.