

Durham Region Long-term Waste Management Plan

Record of Consultation



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Consultation Summary

Durham Region (Region) developed its initial Long-Term Waste Management Strategy (LTWMS) in 1999 to cover the twenty years to 2020. The Region has developed a Long-Term Waste Management Plan (Waste Plan) for the next twenty years (2021 to 2040). Development of the Waste Plan included a significant consultation component to ensure feedback from various stakeholders, including the public, was considered.

This document summarizes the consultation events held in 2020 and 2021 and what was heard as a result of the consultation. In addition to the specific consultation events described below, throughout 2020/2021, the Region promoted the Waste Plan development through the Waste App, newspaper and radio ads, and through social media. A project website was developed to provide further information on the project with a project-specific email.

A graphic summary of consultation events can be found in Appendix A, a table of correspondence can be found in Appendix B, and correspondence received can be found in Appendix C.

2020 Consultation

Starting in the late spring through fall 2020, consultation was undertaken with Regional staff, Local Area Municipalities (LAMs), Regional Advisory Committees and the public to get feedback on current and future waste management challenges as well as the proposed vision, guiding principles and objectives of the Waste Plan. The following table outlines the consultation events held in 2020.

Stakeholder & Event	Date of meeting
Regional Staff Workshop	May 27, 2020
Local Area Municipality Workshop	July 24, 2020
Regional Advisory Committee Meetings	
Durham Agriculture (DAAC)	June 9, 2020
Durham Environmental (DEAC)	June 18, 2020
Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC)	June 19, 2020
Energy from Waste - Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC)	July 15, 2020, September 22, 2020, November 18, 2020
Public (Virtual Open House, Online Survey and Virtual Town Hall Event)	August 19 to November 8, 2020

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Consultation Format

The consultation formats with Regional Staff, LAMs and Regional Advisory Committees were similar including surveys, discussions, activities and question/answer sessions. All consultation was originally planned to be in-person, live events. However, due to COVID-19, the consultations were converted to on-line formats to maintain physical distancing. The following provides more details of each consultation event.

Regional Staff Workshop

The staff workshop was hosted by HDR via Webex with Regional staff. Staff from different departments within the Regional Municipality of Durham attended including from solid waste, planning, communications, facilities, contract management, and operations/public works.

In advance of the staff workshop, HDR developed a workbook with a series of exercises on current and future challenges. The responses were discussed at the workshop. Attendees were also asked to provide input on the proposed vision statement and objectives for the Waste Plan. After the presentation, attendees were asked to complete a survey to propose key messages for the Waste Plan.

Local Area Municipalities

The Local Area Municipalities (LAM) workshop was hosted by HDR via Webex. Participants were asked to complete a short survey in advance of the workshop to aid discussion on the waste management needs of the LAMs, current and future challenges, alignment with the Region's proposed objectives and vision, and preferred method of future communications.

Regional Advisory Committees

Regional Advisory Committees were given a presentation providing an overview of the results from the Staff Workshop and LAM Workshop hosted prior to the committee meetings. The committees were asked to provide input on the proposed vision, objectives and key considerations for the Waste Plan. A survey was provided to each committee member after the meeting.

Public

A virtual open house and survey was launched in August 2020 to solicit feedback from the public. The virtual open house provided background information on the Waste Plan, proposed vision and objectives and examples of what the Waste Plan could include. Participants were invited to complete an online survey to offer input on the proposed guiding principles, vision and objectives. The survey also asked respondents about waste management habits and areas where additional support to better manage waste is needed. The survey was available until November 8 to allow residents time to provide input.

A virtual town hall was held on November 5, 2020 to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions to Regional staff in a live forum regarding the Waste Plan. The virtual town hall included a brief presentation on the proposed guiding principles, vision, objectives and the feedback received to date. Following the presentation, participants were invited to submit

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questions via the chat feature in Microsoft Teams which were answered live by Waste Management staff.

In addition, throughout the Plan development, the public was encouraged to reach out to Regional staff by email. Please see Appendices B and C for the record of the emails and correspondence received.

What We Heard

The feedback received from the various consultation events in 2020, including regarding the guiding principles, vision and objectives proposed by the Region, is summarized below.

- Regional Staff Feedback
 - Include policy changes that align with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), improve collection and processing operations and reduce barriers to improve participation.
 - Improve diversion through program enhancements and development of new projects, include producers/importers in research and development of new technologies and best practices and improve participation/awareness of waste reduction and Circular Economy.
 - Enhance promotion and education (P&E) by improving communication/education, include other languages and target diversion problem locations.
- Local Area Municipalities
 - Focus on improving diversion from multi-residential buildings and in high population density areas.
 - Maximizing reduction, reuse and diversion, the inclusion of zero waste/ circular economy were the most important objectives, followed by considering the environmental/climate change impact.
 - Develop new/changes to policy/bylaws to tackle EPR and the 4Rs.
 - Improve P&E of waste management to the public.
 - Most agreed that the Region's proposed objectives and proposed vision aligned with theirs.
- Regional Advisory Committees
 - Increase P&E to encourage participation and improve multi-residential diversion initiatives.
 - Reduction/ Reuse/ Zero Waste were the most important objectives and should also be included within the guiding principles.
 - The EFW - Waste Management Advisory Committee suggested that reduce and reuse be added to the guiding principles.

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- Most Regional Advisory Committee members did not have specific comments on the proposed guiding principles, vision, or the proposed objectives.
- Public
 - Increase amount of Promotion and Education, promote the 4Rs with an emphasis on reduction, implement aggressive waste diversion methods, changing frequency of curbside collection, switching curbside collection boxes to carts, and improve diversion overall (including from commercial and multi-residential buildings).
 - 70% of respondents replied that there were no barriers to using the Green Bin program and 85% of respondents felt that there were no barriers to the Blue Bin program.
 - The public were asked to comment on the four guiding principles. When asked if there were any other guiding principles that should be considered, 73% of survey respondents indicated “no”, provided favourable comments to the existing guiding principles or did not provide any comment.
 - A majority (~94%) of the respondents agreed that they support the proposed vision with additional comments relating to more waste reduction, encourage use of waste-as-a-resource, making industry/ businesses accountable for their waste and keeping costs affordable.
 - A majority (average 95%) of the respondents agreed that they support the proposed new Waste Plan objectives with additional comments to improve promotion and education, changes to curbside collection, cost reductions, imposing financial incentives, and encouraging reducing/ reuse/ circular economy practices.

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2021 Consultation

Phase Two of the consultation program commenced in January 2021 through November 2021. Feedback was solicited on the draft Waste Plan, targets and actions. The following table outlines the consultation events held in 2021.

	Phase 2 Consultation
Regional Staff/Local Area Municipalities Workshop	May 19, 2021
Regional Advisory Committee Meetings	
Energy from Waste - Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC)	May 25, 2021
Durham Agriculture (DAAC)	June 8, 2021
Durham Environmental (DEAC)	September 23, 2021
Durham Region Roundtable Waste on Climate Change (DRRCC)	June 18, 2021
Energy from Waste - Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC)	May 25, 2021, September 28, October 14, 2021
Public (Online Survey #1, Virtual Open House, Online Survey #2 and Virtual Town Hall Event)	April 19 to October 26, 2021

Consultation Format

Virtual presentations were made to Regional Staff, Local Area Municipalities and Regional Advisory Committees due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

Regional Staff/Local Area Municipality Workshop

The workshop was hosted by HDR via Webex with attendees from the Region and Local Area Municipalities. Five poll questions were developed to solicit feedback on the targets and measurements for the five objectives during the Webex.

Regional Advisory Committees

Regional Advisory Committees were given a presentation on the draft Waste Plan, targets and actions. A follow-up meeting was held with the EFW-WMAC to receive formal comments on these items.

Public

A survey was launched in April 2021 to solicit feedback on how residents currently manage waste and potential uptake of new/enhanced programs and services.

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A virtual open house and survey was launched in September 2021 to solicit feedback from the public on the draft Waste Plan, targets and actions. Participants were invited to complete an online survey to offer input on the proposed targets, actions and measurements and to provide feedback on priorities for implementation of the draft actions. The survey was available until October 26, 2021.

A virtual town hall was held on October 19, 2021 to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions to Regional staff in a live forum regarding the draft Waste Plan, targets and actions. The virtual town hall included a brief presentation and participants were invited to submit questions via the chat feature in Microsoft Teams which were answered live by Waste Management staff.

In addition, throughout the Plan development, the public was encouraged to reach out to Regional staff by email. Please see Appendices B and C for the record of the emails and correspondence received.

What We Heard

- Regional Staff/Local Area Municipality Feedback
 - Top ranked items LAMs would like to collaborate on are: Increasing Waste App subscribers, dedicated section on reduction and reuse, enhancements to Waste App.
 - Top ranked target for annual reduction in garbage disposed is 20 kg/capita.
 - Regarding opportunities to collaborate on actions to increase diversion of organics from disposal, respondents indicated willingness to collaborate on public education materials for consistent messaging.
 - Regarding synergies between the Region's programs and services and the proposed targets/actions, respondents asked why the Region is limiting climate change to only corporate and not also community emissions if it was possible that actions such as reducing routes and number of trucks could be a target that reduces GHGs.
 - Regarding opportunities to increase accessibility of waste management programs and services, respondents generally indicated there were few existing programs available.
 - Municipality of Clarington Feedback
 - Formal comments were sent to the Region on October 29, 2021. The full correspondence can be found in Appendix C.
- Regional Advisory Committee Feedback
 - DAAC – Concerned about illegal dumping
 - DEAC – Inform public of progress on actions to ensure they are aware and continue to support.
 - DRRCC – Supportive of measures to reduce food waste, as part of biocover suggest integrating wildlife habitat and/or public use, AD residue can be used for land

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reclamation/reforestation work, consider tree planting as offsets coordinated with other land reclamation efforts, include 5Rs in glossary, engage with school boards through their environmental services department.

- WMAC – Asked if the committee help with commenting/supporting the Region’s efforts on lobbying MECP on EPR, and/or work on ideas for recycling to recommend to Public Works committee. Members indicated the targets and actions are very thorough and don’t see any significant things missing; it is a 20 year plan so there is much uncertainty in what can be done in later years but Plan covers a lot of ground to move forward on what the Region can control.
- WMAC formal comments: Minutes of the WMAC meeting can be found in Appendix C.
 - Provision of a rectangular box resembling a 9-volt battery, constructed of heavy cardboard or plastic instead of a bag to potentially increase the quantity of batteries collected and keep more batteries out of the regular garbage.
 - Inclusion of an annual electronic waste collection drive whereby electronic waste would be set out by the resident on a specific day for pick up from the curb for recycling, to potentially reduce the amount of electronics that are placed in the regular garbage.
 - Under the collection mandate, encourage or mandate developers to install under the sink garburators in new multi-residential development.
- Public Feedback
 - Survey #1
 - The majority (79%) of respondent access information about the Region’s waste management programs including waste collection schedules through the Region’s Waste App.
 - 94% of respondents dispose of items they no longer want or use by donating items.
 - The top three items taken to Regional Waste Management Facilities in the past year; Household hazardous waste (66%), Garbage (54%), Renovation material (54%).
 - 37% of respondents indicated they would use a free program to pick up opened fertilizer dropped off by other residents at Region Waste Management Facilities
 - 62% of respondents indicated they were satisfied with the current hours at the Waste Management Facilities.
 - 47% of respondents indicated they were not interested in fixing things themselves.
 - 45% of respondents indicated “No tips were needed” about food waste reduction.
 - 55% of respondents indicated they do not use a backyard composter and they are not interested in backyard composting.

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- Survey #2
 - Respondents chose Add a Reduce and Reuse page to the Region's website (46%) for the Region to focus on first for educating residents about the 5Rs.
 - Fairly equal support for garbage reduction targets over the next 20 years of 5% target (25%), 10% target (26%) and 20% target (32%).
 - Items ranked the highest to be added to future EPR programs included Small and large appliances (76%), mattresses (71%), furniture (61%).
 - 42% of respondents chose "Convert contracted collection vehicles to alternative fuels" as a priority for evaluating GHG reduction options.
 - 33% of residents indicated they would be willing to travel 3 to 5 kilometers to use a smaller drop-off depot for reusable goods and 37% indicated there was no need for new facilities as there are either already enough charity drop off locations or curbside programs were sufficient.
- Townhall
 - Strong support for Waste App.
 - Increase organic waste diversion at apartments and condos.
 - Request for the Oshawa WMF to be open longer hours.
 - Request for the Region to offer a service to help get heavy items to the curb for collection.
 - Comments about curbside collection of textiles and used items, expansion of materials collected in Blue Box, weekly collection of garbage, collection containers.
 - Reporting on progress being made towards actions.

Appendix A

Consultation Summary

2020 Consultation (Phase One)



Planned to be in-person community engagement



Pivoted to virtual community engagement due to COVID-19 pandemic



Phase One consultation for the Waste Plan focused on the proposed Waste Plan framework (Guiding Principles, Vision & Objectives)

2021 Consultation (Phase Two)



Continued virtual community engagement due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic



Phase Two consultation for the Waste Plan focused on the Draft targets, measurements and actions for achieving the Waste Plan objectives approved by Regional Council in January 2021



Participation in Phase Two consultation was lower than Phase One consultation which could be attributed to the timing of the survey coinciding with a wider re-opening of Ontario's economy with return to in-person work and school and a more normal after-school activity level than in phase one consultation

Ongoing Consultation



Residents can continue to provide feedback on the Waste Plan during implementation via email at WastePlan@durham.ca



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WebEx Workshops

2020 - 2021



2020

2

Webex Workshops hosted with Regional and Local Area Municipality staff

5

Presentations at Regional Advisory Committee meetings



100+

Engaged individuals



26

Follow-up surveys received

2021

2

Webex Workshops hosted with Regional and Local Area Municipality staff

5

Presentations at Regional Advisory Committee meetings



100+

Engaged individuals



Formal comments were received from the Corporate Sustainability and Finance staff at the Region, Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee and the Municipality of Clarington.



Project Website, Email, Newspaper and Radio

2020 - 2021

2020



Developed 1 project website:
www.durham.ca/WastePlan



Established 1 project email:
WastePlan@durham.ca



2 'Ask Katherine' Newspaper Articles



Ran 72 Radio Ads

2,700

Unique pageviews on website



37

Emails received



242,950

Newspaper circulation

796,619

Digital impressions

348,100

Listeners for radio ads

2021



1 'Ask Katherine' Newspaper Article



Ran 72 Radio Ads

3,900

Unique pageviews on website



41

Emails received



242,950

Newspaper circulation

250,668

Digital impressions

348,100

Listeners for radio ads

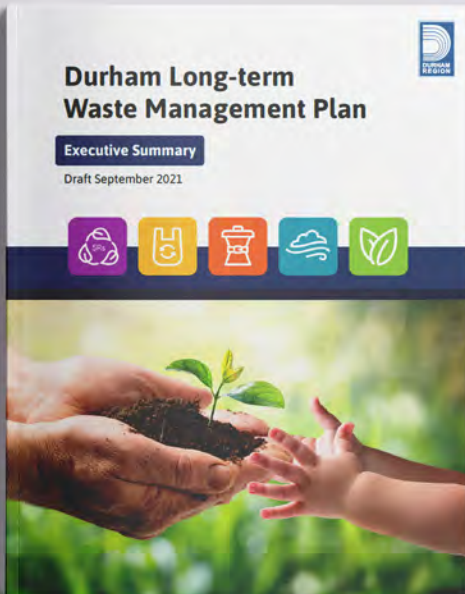
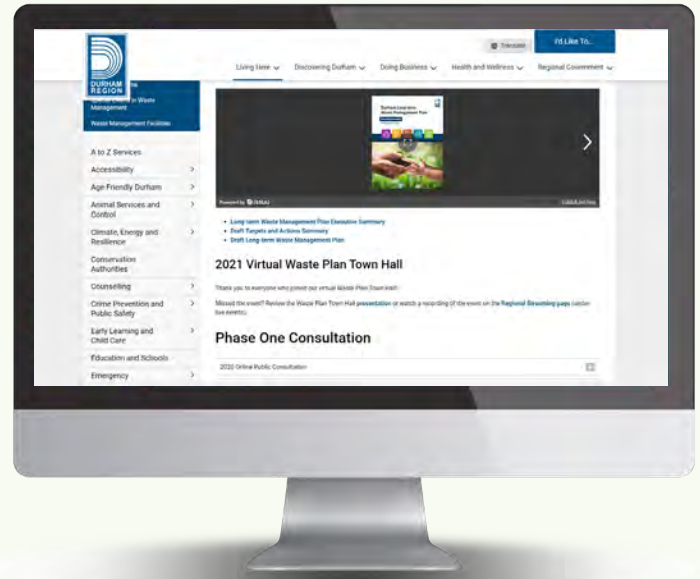


Waste Plan Documents 2020 - 2021

Coinciding with the launch of the open house, a magazine-style Waste Plan Executive Summary was posted on the Waste Plan webpage along with the full text of the Draft Waste Plan.



2,800
Views of the Waste
Plan Executive Summary



Durham York Energy Centre
The Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) is an energy from waste facility that produces energy from the combustion/ burning of garbage that remains after all diversion programs. The facility was developed in partnership with York Region, permitted to process 140,000 tonnes per year of residential garbage. This facility is the primary disposal facility for Durham Region, processing 110,000 tonnes annually of post-diversion residential garbage. York Region sends 30,000 tonnes annually of post-diversion residential garbage to DYEC.

Mixed Waste Pre-sort/ Anaerobic Digestion
To plan for growth, the Region is building a Mixed Waste Pre-sort (MWP) and Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility. When the garbage arrives at the facility, the mixed waste pre-sort will take out the organics, recyclables and non-combustibles from the garbage bag. The AD facility will convert organic waste into a renewable natural gas (RNG) and digestate (a compost-like product). RNG will be a valuable resource of renewable energy (including for heating homes) and the digestate will be used as a beneficial agricultural fertilizer.

Tonnes Collected by the Region (2015-2020)

Material Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*
Garbage	110,498	107,887	115,271	119,716	120,637	129,926
Organics	26,796	27,612	28,318	28,446	28,522	33,031
Blue Box	48,254	47,923	47,839	43,139	41,738	41,944
Leaf & Yard Waste	27,554	24,730	25,082	27,330	26,646	30,140
Other Materials	7,231	10,837	6,887	6,712	6,553	6,585
Total	220,333	218,989	223,397	225,341	224,096	241,626

Source: Durham Region, 2019 Annual Report, 2020 Waste Tonnage Summary
*2020 diversion data presented is unverified by RPPA.
Other materials includes household hazardous waste, electronics, textiles etc.

What the Region is Managing

Sanitary/pet waste and textiles that could be diverted with future programs (17%)

Materials that cannot be diverted in current programs (e.g. Non-Blue Box materials, construction/demolition materials, bulky items etc.) (36%)

Materials in the garbage stream that could be diverted through existing program/service offered by the Region (e.g. food waste, Blue Box program, hazardous waste, electronics etc.) (47%)

Multi-residential

with strategies will be aligned region's

2019 levels, 8,500 tonnes of tons → **2025**

2019 levels, 100 tonnes of tons → **2030**

2019 levels, 8,500 tonnes of tons → **2045**

s of waste management generate significant GHGs. Waste Plan, going forward, five to continually reduce impacts from waste management activities.



Social Media and Waste App Service Alerts

2020 - 2021

2020

1

Campaign



3

Waste App Service Alerts



280,839

Waste app signups

78,820

Waste app downloads

Social Media Channels:



94,300

Social media impressions

2021

1

Campaign



1

Waste App Service Alert



103,237

Waste app signups

90,174

Waste app downloads

Social Media Channels:



57,864

Social media impressions



Virtual Open House, Online Survey and Virtual Town Hall

2020 - 2021

2020

- Hosted 1 Virtual Open House
- Hosted 1 Online Survey
- Hosted 1 Live Virtual Town Hall

13,619

Users of the virtual open house



2,094

Survey responses



300+

Participants in the live town hall



2021

- Hosted 1 Virtual Open House
- Hosted 2 Online Surveys
- Hosted 1 Live Virtual Town Hall

9,357

Users of the virtual open house



3,991

Survey responses



30+

Participants in the live town hall



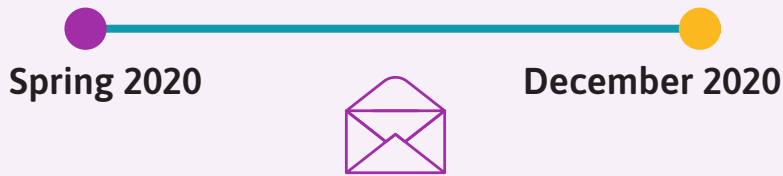


Other Correspondence

2020 - 2021

2020

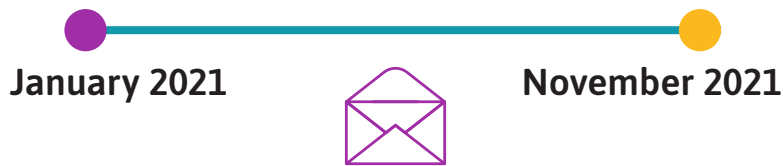
37



37 emails were received from the project start in Spring 2020 to the end of 2020.

2021

41



To date, 41 emails have been submitted between January 2021 and November 15, 2021.

This email will continue to be monitored for resident comments during the Waste Plan implementation.

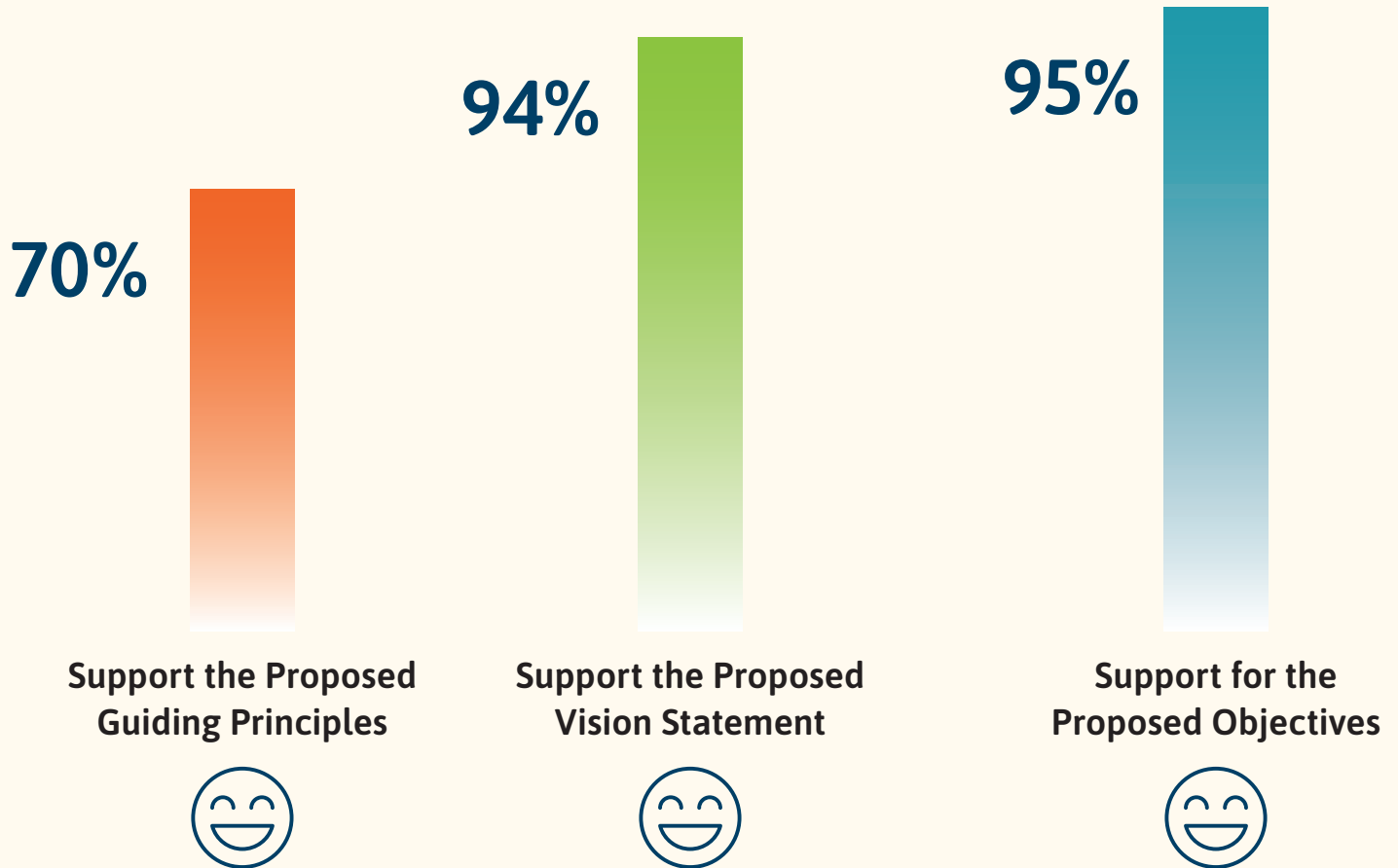




Survey Feedback on Proposed Waste Plan Framework

2020

Strong support received for the proposed Guiding Principles, Vision and Objectives





Survey Results on Draft Waste Plan 2021



79% of residents get their waste information from the Waste App.



Residents prioritized adding a reduce/reuse page on the Region's website (46%) and converting contracted collection vehicles to alternative fuels (42%).



Residents indicated a fertilizer reuse program, repair clinics, food waste avoidance and backyard composting tips would be somewhat useful (44-62%).



High level of satisfaction with current hours at WMFs and number/location of facilities (62%).



Residents support a target for reduction in garbage disposal with an almost even split between suggestions of 5%, 10% or 20% reductions over 20 years.





Stay Connected



The Regional Municipality of Durham

durham.ca

Durham Region Waste Management

durham.ca/waste



Download the Durham Region Waste App



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@RegionofDurham



Subscribe online to receive email updates in the Contact Us section at durham.ca/waste

Appendix B
Table of Correspondence

Table 1 Table of Correspondence

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
27-May-20	Municipality of Clarington	LAM Workshop Response	<p>The respondent felt it challenging to complete the LAM Survey and instead provided written comments. She requested some background context and further definitions of the content.</p> <p>She has omitted the ranking lists that were included in the survey and provided preliminary comments in response to each question instead. These are listed in the following:</p> <p>Question 1. What issues do you currently experience or foresee for the future that need to be considered as part of the Plan? Preliminary list of key issues that the plan should address include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aggressive residual waste diversion, ensuring the current capacity of the Durham York Energy Centre is maximized. - Growth management and waste service delivery for new medium and high density development. - Development and implementation of a comprehensive community consultation and communications program, including increased promotion and awareness of waste programs, services and facilities. - Identify opportunities to implement the district energy potential of the Durham York Energy Centre. <p>Question 2. What would you be prepared to do, as a local area municipality, to address these challenges? In accordance with the Clarington Council's Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 and the Clarington Official Plan, the Municipality is prepared to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advancing waste reduction initiatives by promoting the four Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. - Promote the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste, with particular attention to multi-residential housing forms, which meets applicable Provincial standards and has given consideration to the Region's waste collection design and servicing requirements. - Enhance policies to further support waste diversion and servicing for new developments. <p>Any consideration of local by-laws, local by-law enforcement, and/or assuming responsibility of program and/or services requires full consultation with local municipalities and the concurrence of local municipal Councils.</p> <p>Question 3. What would you rank as most important to consider as part of the Plan development? Preliminary list of important considerations for plan development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community consultation; - Protection of human health and the environment; - Waste minimization and aggressive waste diversion; and - Consideration of waste as a resource and maximizing the secondary resource potential of waste facilities. 	<p>Comments were considered in the recommendations for an objective on the 5Rs and in the development of targets and actions for the Waste Plan.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
15-Jul-20	Public	Requesting access to Durham's strategic plan	The respondent requested to provide a link to access a pdf version of the current completed plan.	The email thanks the respondent for their comments. The respondent was provided with a link to the new digital version of the new Strategic Plan at www.durham.ca/strategicplan . The respondent was then notified that there was a new process of creating an abbreviated single page, fold-out version which highlights the five goals and related priorities. The email continued to explain that the summary version would not have the same breadth of content and narrative as found in the digital version.
16-Jul-20	Public	Questions regarding the Durham 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	<p>The respondent asked the following within their email (paraphrased): Does the Region intend to develop any document with the Strategic Plan's commitments/action plans/steps to achieve the stated 5 goals, similar to the details contained in the previous plan, and if yes, when?</p> <p>Is the Region aware of any document regarding the Strategic Plan that contains a reference to the LTWMP Guiding Principles? Has the Public Works staff included this on the LTWMP web page (i.e. is there a related draft or background document that was discussed by the Strategic Task Force and/or put out for stakeholder consultation, and/or a background, etc.)? This is a document that stakeholders would have reviewed during the development of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>The respondent requests to discuss the Guiding Principles for the Long Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP). The respondent continues to explain that they are confused of where to find specific references to Report 2020 COW 2 (which was referred within the budget). Lastly the respondent is looking for details regarding the subsequent action taken by council re COW 2.</p>	<p>The email discusses the Regional Strategic Plan regarding the goals and priorities to guide further action. It clarified that there were three Special Meetings of Council on the topic of the Strategic Plan (which were open to the public), approximately 741 stakeholders and members of the public provided input to the Strategic Plan through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two deep-dive sessions with Regional stakeholders; • A community survey that was open for 3 months and available in both print and online formats; • Pop-up events across the Region; • Information/engagement booths at six Fall Fairs across Durham; • Five Town Hall discussions hosted at venues across Durham; • Staff focus groups; and • A social media campaign. <p>The email continued to discuss the new public engagement portal "Your Voice Durham" for members of the public to follow the process and provide input, including the introduction of the 'Ideas Bank'.</p> <p>The email continued by discussing Report 2020-COW-21, regarding its presentation, endorsements, and purpose. It continues to clarify that the Guiding Principles are related to the LTWMP, that they are consistent and aligned with what was heard from Regional Council and the community during the development of the Strategic Plan, including the importance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering value for taxpayer dollars (through cost

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
				<p>effective waste management services);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with producers and importers (consistent with our focus on greater collaboration and maximizing waste recovery); • Innovation (where it pertains to approaches to managing waste, is both a corporate value and a strategic priority, as we continue to strive for service excellence in all operational areas); and • Demonstrating leadership in sustainability (this is the entire focus of Goal 1 in the Strategic Plan and was consistently articulated throughout the public engagement process). <p>The email then refers Gio Anello for further information and details.</p>
13-Sep-20	Public	Waste management future planning	<p>The respondent provided various recommendations to the Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Region provides curbside collection to condos, multi-residential, industrial, and hospital. - the Region considers buying/leasing/outsourcing smaller collection trucks to collect from condos, multi-residential, industrial, and hospitals. - the Region purchases collection trucks with automated collection systems to reduce the labour and improve efficiency. - the Region implements a colour-coding system to the collection bins in order to help improve sorting. 	<p>Suggestions that are in scope for Durham Region waste management have been considered in developing targets and actions for the Waste Plan. Target 3A includes actions to increase the quantity of higher density housing serviced by the Region.</p> <p>Some suggestions, such as collecting IC&I waste are out of scope.</p>
14-Sep-20	Public	Wasteful Packaging	<p>The respondent recommends that the Region considers mandating the reduction of packaging used within companies.</p>	<p>Resident thanked for the comment; Regulating packaging is not within the Region's control.</p>
16-Sep-20	Public	Waste Plan 2021-2040	<p>The respondent recommends that the Region implements a bin system for collection using 65-95 gallons bins for garbage, recycling, and organics. He believes that it is an efficient, cost effective and safe method for collecting curbside waste.</p>	<p>The email thanks the respondent for their comments and has informed them that their comment will be considered during the Waste Plan development.</p>
18-Sep-20	Public	Further to my survey response	<p>The respondent has the following recommendations to reduce waste and lower contamination at new condominiums and apartments. He continued to list the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create three chute options (plastic, metals and other); - Garbage chutes should no longer accept garbage; - Garbage can only be walked down to the garbage receptacles within the condo/apartment; - Have garbage bag limitations such as size and number accepted (controls using barcodes or tags); - Condos/ apartments should have targets similar to households; and - The first condo/ apartment building to achieve a diversion rate higher than 80% should receive a rebate/tax refund/ incentive. 	<p>Resident thanked for the comment; For condominiums and apartments receiving Region garbage and blue box collection, the Mixed Waste Pre-sort is designed to capture organic material from the garbage stream. Target 3A includes actions to increase collection from higher density housing.</p>
20-Sep-20	Public	Pls send pdf or saveable, printable doc of LTWMP Virtual Engagement	<p>The respondent requested that the Region provides a pdf or other printable/downloadable document that contains the information found within the link provided</p>	<p>A response email was sent providing a pdf of the final consultation slides.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
		Open House web pages		
22-Sep-20	Public	Re: pls send pdf or saveable, printable doc of LTWMP Virtual Engagement Open House web pages	Thanks for Open House document. I forgot to ask for a hard copy of the survey that accompanies this. Please email a copy of said survey.	A response email was sent providing a pdf of the survey questions
23-Sep-20	Public	Recycle bin	Hi There, The only concern I have is..recycle bin that you guys provide are useless. They are small and they have no lid. Every time there is wind..everything floats around and the neighbour hood gets dirty. Please get us new bins like Toronto has blue bins..they are big and with lid.	A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment. The Region has chosen to maintain a two stream blue box system to reduce contamination of recyclable materials. Changing to a tote system would be a significant program cost.
23-Sep-20	Public	plan suggestion	Hello I have completed the survey. Subsequently I had another thought. Combining with Durham college and a charitable foundation; would it be possible to train people to 'up cycle' / repair some appliances and furniture. This might provide 'community service hours' or pre apprenticeship training for unemployed / under employed youth & adults. As well it would keep some items out of land fill and provide reduced cost furniture TVs & appliances to people entering 2nd stage housing form shelters.	A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment. Consideration of collaborations with community groups on repair café's is an action identified in the Waste Plan under Target 2B.
23-Sep-20	Public	new trucks	Leaking to much	Forwarded to Waste Operations group for follow up re: leaking trucks.
24-Sep-20	Public	survey	It does not seem that my survey answers were submitted for some reason, so rather than waste all the time I took to answer, I have taken screenshots of my answers and attached them here. There should be eight in all. I hope they will be accepted regardless of format.	A response email was sent thanking the resident for providing her survey responses and indicating they would be considered as we move forward with the Waste Plan development.
24-Sep-20	Public	upgrade pathways?!	A present our collection is inconsistent. (you never know when a product will be picked up: garbage at 9:00am one week- - 5:00 PM the next) Do we really need 4 different trucks to go by to collect 4 different products ? I would like to see a CENTRAL drop off location where people could drop by (perhaps walking) with a small bag of garbage, recycle, etc. Might save a truck having to go up and down EVERY street !	A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment and indicating it would be considered as we move forward with the Waste Plan development.
24-Sep-20	Public	windy days	would it be possible on windy days for the garbage collector to replace a brick I place in the recycling bin to be put back in the bin to prevent it from blowing away? /a Pickering resident	a response email was sent indicating the request for forwarded to our operations group

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
24-Sep-20	Public	Regarding Garbage Curbside Pick Up	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I reside on [redacted] in Pickering. I have a complaint to make. My family and I reside in a townhouse. The garages of the townhouse complex where we live are not affixed to our homes. They are detached. Currently, garbage is picked up on the curb in front of the garage located on [redacted] This make sense. My complaint is that during the winter months (November onward) garbage is picked in front of the house on [redacted]. This is a cumbersome task because we often are forced to drag multiple smelly garbage bags and recycle bins from the garage through the house before resting it at the front of the house. I'm certain that this is being done because of snow plowing days. However, it make little to no sense given that the garbage trucks continue to pass by the garage area ([redacted] during the winter season anyway. FYI, snow is pushed on to the curb on both sides of our home ([redacted] and [redacted]). I am requesting that the residents of [redacted] be allowed to place all garbage on the curb beside our garages on [redacted]. As Durham Residents our property taxes are high and are paid without default. Therefore, I would like my request to be honored. Please advise.</p>	<p>a response email was sent indicating the request for forwarded to our operations group. Investigating options for improving options for collection in multi-residential and higher density housing developments is an action in the Waste Plan under Target 3A.</p>
29-Sep-20	Public	Programmes	<p>Please consider developing separate recycling programs for plastic bags and Styrofoam containers.</p>	<p>A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment and indicating it would be considered as we move forward with the Waste Plan development.</p>
29-Sep-20	Public	Re Kingston Rd Ajax	<p>We need an extra day for garbage. And just make every Tuesday garbage day. Would work a lot better.</p>	<p>A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment. Every other week garbage collection is considered an industry best practice to maximize recycling options.</p>
29-Sep-20	Public		<p>Hello. I'm not sure why we have recycling every week and garbage every second week. I absolutely have a problem with keeping garbage for 2 weeks in my shed in the summer but to have to trudge through the snow to the shed in the winter is insane. Please please consider my request. I'm 69 and yes I do have son at home but he is a long haul truck driver and most times is not home to help put the two weeks garbage out for me.</p>	<p>A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment. Every other week garbage collection is considered an industry best practice to maximize recycling options.</p>
30-Sep-20	Public	Resending - LTWMP comments incl. correction on page 14	<p>Good morning: This morning, I noticed I had included only part of a sentence, on page 14 re Q 3 responses. That complete sentence on page 14 under Q 3 should read: "Protecting land, water etc -these should be integral criteria for all regional projects that have the potential for adverse impacts to public health and the natural environment". I have attached a corrected version of my comments fyi. Comment letter attached in Appendix A</p>	<p>A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment and indicating it would be considered as we move forward with the Waste Plan development.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
20-Jan-11	Public	FYI	<p>Hello, just watched CBC documentary, called Good People with Mark Sakamoto. To make along story SHORT.</p> <p>In Nanaimo B.C they recycle their own garbage thru Recycling. Food waste is sorted, given to shelters etc.</p> <p>No incarnation! Very very little goes to landfill.</p> <p>Has or is anybody looking into these alternatives.</p> <p>Regards <input type="text"/></p>	<p>A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment.</p>
02-Nov-20	Public	<p>Re: Join the Long-term Waste Plan Virtual Town Hall on November 5</p>	<p>hello,</p> <p>thank you for the opportunity to learn more about our future in waste management.</p> <p>While I do not have any questions right now about what changes you have planned, I do have some questions about what we currently do.</p> <p>One Major hurdle people have with regard to recycling is TRULY understanding How each item we toss in the blue bin is recycled.</p> <p>Citizens should SEE all the steps that follow after the bins are picked up.</p> <p>We should SEE your sorting process, is that Pizza box a little too "soiled"?</p> <p>Should i rinse out this plastic bottle?</p> <p>should i break small boxes down?</p> <p>What items are they tossing that belong in the blue bin, but failed an inspection for some reason?</p> <p>I understand a lot of what is put in the blue bin is not recycled. but we don't KNOW why.</p> <p>If we could SEE the WHOLE process, perhaps you'll have less waste. Via proper sorting or proper care.</p> <p>What are you doing to improve the education of waste management?</p>	<p>A response email was sent thanking the resident for the comment.</p> <p>Creation of additional videos and other educational material is an action under Target 1 in the Waste Plan however, the focus will not be on the Blue Box system since the Region will no longer be responsible for Blue Box material after 2024.</p>
05-Nov-20	Public	Replacement of stolen bin	<p>I had my green bin stolen from my home and believe I should receive a replacement free of charge. I do not think it fair to pay for a new one as this was obviously not my fault.</p> <p>I wrote an email when it was first stolen and was told I would have to purchase a new one. I disagree. I have paid over \$25,000 in taxes in the eight years I've lived here & believe a replacement is a reasonable request.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	<p>Forwarded to Waste Operations group for follow up</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
05-Nov-20	Public	Feedback regarding LTWMP	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I would like to provide the following feedback:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any goals developed should aim to reduce waste generated as a first priority. The second and third priorities should be to re-use and recycle, in that order. Let's set a goal to reduce the DYEC's capacity over the next decade, not expand it. If producers are going to decide what is recyclable, will they not simply reduce the types of materials we will be permitted to put in our blue boxes? Producers will be less interested in reducing waste and more interested in how to cut their costs for managing the program and in how much profit they can make from the recycled materials they sell. What is to prevent them from exporting the less profitable materials overseas? A true circular economy means there is no waste or toxins generated from all stages of a product's life cycle. How can we say we are leaders in sustainability when we intend to create an anaerobic digester whose main function is to produce methane and carbon dioxide? 2. The Vision should state: The Region of Durham will reduce solid waste, through innovation and adaptability to ensure environmental sustainability. Diverting the waste and using it as a "resource" doesn't eliminate the creation of more waste. Let's put a plan in place to reduce, with a view to eliminating future waste from being created. 3. How much greenhouse gas emissions will the Mixed Waste pre-sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility create vs. how much emissions it will reduce? Will the existence of this facility give people incentive to not sort their waste if it is being done for them? 4. Do we have a plan to approach the Federal government to demand a National Packaging Strategy which will establish regulations for what types of packaging can be manufactured in an effort to create packaging that is at once reusable, biodegradable and recyclable. This will stop us from creating new waste. Then we can work on initiatives to re-use and recycle the waste we have now. 5. Let's approach the Federal government to demand a National Packaging Strategy which will establish regulations for what types of packaging can be manufactured in an effort to create packaging that is at once reusable, biodegradable and recyclable. This will stop us from creating new waste. Then we can work on initiatives to re-use and recycle the waste we have now. Let's create a national, provincial and regional initiative similar to the mandate of non-profits like Second Harvest, to reduce food waste in the business/agricultural sector. Portugal has a program that is part of the municipal government that collects surplus food and re-distributes it to food banks and other charities. 6. Let's reduce the types of waste we create, before we expand the types of waste collected. 7. The fees charged for the drop-off of household hazardous waste is a disincentive to take materials there. 	<p>Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan. Your comments will be considered as we move forward with the Waste Plan development.</p> <p>Please note the Region of Durham does not charge for drop off of household hazardous waste at its Waste Management Facilities. However, mixed loads of garbage and household hazardous waste are subject to a tonnage fee. While not ideal, residents are encouraged to drop off garbage or for fee items separately from non-fee items. Improving the logistics of waste drop off at the Waste Management Facilities is a consideration in the Waste Plan development.</p> <p>A new guiding principle was added to the Waste Plan development highlighting the importance of rethink and reduce.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
05-Nov-20	Public	Virtual Town Hall	I cannot attend the virtual town hall on November 5th but I still have a question. Is there any plans to start leaf collection using a vacuum truck like is done in Mississauga? I believe the rules in Mississauga are neighborhoods 35 years or older with many trees have a vacuum truck leaf collection service. When I lived in Mississauga, that was the best service. It was fast, very convenient and cost nothing for homeowners. The cost of garden waste bags is going up and the work involved to fill them can be hard at times. I do have 7 mature trees so I might not be the typical Whitby homeowner. Just curious if this is being considered. Thanks	Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan. Accessibility of waste programs is a consideration in the Waste Plan development.
05-Nov-20	Public	Waste	The link to this is saying not valid.	A recording of the virtual town hall will be posted on the Waste Plan website for viewing. I apologize for any technical difficulties viewing the event last night.
05-Nov-20	Public	Recycling Question for Waste Town Hall	Will Durham advance recycling capabilities to recycle all plastic types that include the vast majority of packing materials used by Amazon, etc? Specifically: 1 through 7 types Foam / Styrofoam Plastic pots used for home landscaping (flowers, bushes, etc) Plastic bags I'm concerned that the recycling capabilities are not advancing to match the majority of packing materials used, especially with increased deliveries in a growing e-commerce market fuelled by the pandemic and by the overall population growth in Durham.	Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan. Successful transition of the Blue Box to Extended Producer Responsibility is an action in the Waste Plan. Extended Producer Responsibility is designed to encourage producers to use more easily recyclable materials for packaging since they retain responsibility for end of life management of the materials.
05-Nov-20	Public	Waste plan town hall Nov 5	Hi, I recently moved into a brand new subdivision in Whitby and I have a couple requests... 1. Me and my neighbors would like to have yard waste to include grass clippings. All we have for yard waste is grass clippings and we have no way of discarding them. 2. Also we would like weekly garbage pickup, or if not then provide Whitby citizens with a large lockable garbage can so we can put extra garbage in (similar to how Toronto has their garbage cans)	Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan. Durham Region continues to encourage all residents to leave grass clippings on the lawn to return nutrients and moisture to the lawn. Bi-weekly garbage collection is an industry best practice to maximize recycling.
05-Nov-20	Public	New proposed waste plan inquiry	Greetings, I understand there is a new proposed waste plan for Durham. I live in North Whitby. Could you kindly outline what this new plan is as I am unable to attend the Town Hall tonight	Please visit our website for details regarding the development of the new Waste Plan. www.durham.ca/WastePlan
05-Nov-20	Public	Hello!	I don't have a question. Pick up diapers more. Hanging on to shit filled diapers for two weeks is not ideal, especially when Toronto takes them as compost. Thanks for your time.	Thank you for your email and comment for Durham's new Waste Plan. Actions in the Waste Plan include commissioning a new Anaerobic Digestion facility that will be capable of managing dirty organics such as diapers. The launch of an enhanced Green Bin program to include these types of materials is also an action in the Waste Plan.
05-Nov-20	Public	garbage	Please advise what to do with many items. Where does one go? I want to know where I get rid of a 45" tv, carpets that are rolled, who to contact as far as to throw out boxes of "stuff"everything is accumulated due to no knowledge during the COVID 19.	forwarded to Waste Operations group for follow up information

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
05-Nov-20	Public	Choosing limits and whose voices to listen to (600 words)	<p>To Wasters in Durham. 5 Nov, 2020</p> <p>In 2013 I delivered a request to the Chancellor of the local University of Ontario Institute of Technology that he start a 'Zero Waste' initiative among senior students and staff. It was ignored. I did it a second time... also ignored. Too many people have a vested interest in producing and fiddling with garbage rather than eliminating it. To do the latter, Municipalities have to dictate to suppliers what the suppliers and manufacturers are allowed to bring in to that initially experimental area.</p> <p>It needs widespread citizen participation. In that context, one must re-define what is a 'citizen'... not just an entrepreneur trying to make a buck and retire. It means very aware local citizen input, long term. Different foods and household supplies needed, and local hands-on services. Their resulting rates of decay, item-class by item. How does it wear out and become reprocessed locally at a defined honest cost in money, man-hours, petroleum needs, Global Warming impact? No one in Durham is honest about the real costs of electricity, the cost of other municipal services like dumping salt on roads that eventually pollute the lakes, the land fills, the underlying wish plain citizens have that 'we do no harm' at all (and instead do a lot of good as we downsize).</p> <p>Right now the mind-set of you who are responsible, is to accept a level of damage from decades ago, and then claim 'fiddling with detail' is reducing the underlying problem. Your cartel pushing 'Energy From Waste' seems to be because an American Incinerator company has been getting away with it in their land of Make Believe for a long time. You got into the mess led by the late Roger Anderson (a disgraced cop, a Real Estate speculator) who was very casual about legality and morality. Your cartel is so deeply self centered and skilled in misdirecting critics, it is unaware of its own level of moral corruption. Go back to the Drawing Board. Yes, it is difficult to do amid COVID Crazyies. Perhaps hold an essay competition among the brighter of those under age 25. Describe what happens at every stage to 'stuff' we buy and throw out, and let a panel of young citizen peers poke fingers in between the spokes.</p> <p>But whatever you do, do it quickly. We may have already passed the tipping point of Earth being now unable to recover from our bad habits. Drs, David Suzuki and David Lovelock (of the Gaia Theory on Life in Balance) think so. No point in having more children. The Planet will not give then life beyond childhood. The 40 to 60 year olds are after immediate monetary profit. Our so-called Market System. The rich owners of corporate shares screwing the poor.</p> <p>Excerpt...The deeper problem is touched on by Justin Rosenstein*, a former engineer with Facebook and Google: .."We live in a world in which a tree is worth more financially, dead than alive. A world in which a whale is worth more dead than alive. For so long as our economy works in that way, and corporations go unregulated, they're going to continue to destroy trees, to kill whales, to mine the earth, and to continue to pull oil out of the ground, even though we know it is destroying the planet and we know it is going to leave a worse world for future generations." (Who wouldn't like to have a conversation/contact with this man?)</p>	Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan.

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
06-Nov-20	Public	Question	<p>Thank you for providing this opportunity for input. Your plan looks excellent. My one question centres on Doug Fords plan to do away with the beer and wine bottle return program that is touted to be one of the best waste reduction programs around. Where does Durham Region sit on this issue. I would hate to see another excellent program that is working abandoned.</p>	<p>Good Morning- The proposed Blue Box Regulation is not intended to impact the Ontario Deposit Return Program operated by the Beer Store. Below is a paragraph from the government posting about the new regulation and a link to the full posting.</p> <p>"The government recognizes the success and positive impact programs like The Beer Store's deposit return program have on the environment. The proposed regulation would not designate alcoholic beverage containers or their associated packaging as blue box materials. The proposed regulation would not interfere with the existing Ontario Deposit Return Program and would ensure that the deposit return programs for alcoholic beverage containers can continue."</p> <p>https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-2579</p> <p>I hope this clarifies the proposal</p>
08-Nov-20	Public	Additional comments to LTWMP consultation	<p>Good evening:</p> <p>See attached additional comments and related attachments. (Letter in appendix)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - release waste generation (per capita and household) data - release all waste related costs by category - historic population growth should be provided as well as population growth projections should be available - there should be a complete re-evaluation of all individual Durham run Diversion programs that do not transition. Any diversion options Durham would propose such as depots for non blue box materials must be fully costed with targets so these could be evaluated over time. 	<p>Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan.</p> <p>The waste plan measures include a per capita waste generation metric.</p> <p>Waste program information is available in the annual budget.</p> <p>Population projections are provided semi-annually from the Planning Dept.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
08-Nov-20	Public	Waste Plan Town Hall comments	<p>The following are my comments regarding the Waste Plan Town Hall which I watched November 5th on the internet. They are brief and incomplete due to time constraints. Please consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First of all I felt as if I was listening to a lecture, not a town hall. To be fair, I respect the difficulties presented by Covid 19 constraints. I felt as though senior staff had said to their subordinates, "here are the answers, please provide us with appropriate questions". 2. As I experienced over many years with the garbage incinerator issue, there seems to be a serious lack of transparency. From my point of view important information is missing that the public should be made aware of. The Region is not providing us with all the information - good and bad -for the public to make a proper assessment. Some of that information that is missing includes the following but this by no means is a complete list. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was no financial information such as estimates of capital and operating costs and how they they would be financed. - It would have been helpful to have a description of the physical appearance of what a Mixed Waste Processing Facility looks like and how it operates. Is it labour or machine intensive etc.? - Does such a facility exist elsewhere or is this a "first of a kind" as I think it is? If I am correct, how risky do you consider it to be? - Also, with respect to transparency, your information is sadly lacking. in that there is rarely any disclosure or reference to the negative effects of incineration and other initiatives. I remind you of Dr. Blecher's comments where he pointed out that Denmark decided to discontinue incinerating waste after they found that the country had the highest rate of cancer in the world. Waste Incinerators are not exactly flying off the shelves, maybe expanding ours isn't a good idea. - When you made these decisions regarding anaerobic-digestion and mixed waste processing, what alternatives if any did you consider? 3. Finally, when it comes to Guiding Principles I suggest you add adopting the Zero Waste Strategy. It would help you to ask the right questions before you decide on mixed waste presort and AD. <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan. Your comments will be considered as we move forward with the Waste Plan development.</p> <p>Annual budget and 10 year capital forecasts are available to the public as part of the Region's annual budget process. Any initiatives in the Waste Plan will be subject to the budgeting process and additional Council approval of the spending.</p> <p>Details of how a Mixed Waste Pre-sort facility operates and links to existing facilities is available on the AD website in the posted graphics, videos and Council reports.</p>
08-Nov-20	Public	Comments on the LTWMP	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>Please find two attachments with both containing my further comments on the Long-Term Waste Management Plan initial consultation. (Letter in appendix)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving waste reduction and reuse must be stated as a guiding principle - A guiding principle should set a priority on reduction of toxic load to the environment - Low tech, Low cost initiative should be maximized first <p>Thank you for your consideration,</p>	<p>Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan.</p> <p>As part of the approval of the Guiding Principles, vision and objectives for the Waste Plan, Regional Council added a fifth Guiding Principle: To emphasize rethink, reduce and reuse as the first steps in reducing waste generation.</p> <p>Many actions in the Waste Plan focus on resident education and resident roles in reducing waste generation.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
11-Nov-20	Public	waste management plan ideas	<p>I am very interested in the fact that Durham region is planning a long term waste management plan.</p> <p>I noticed the in the Whitby park at the lake all the open top waste bins have been removed and replaced with covered bins that animals and wind cannot distribute garbage around.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has this initiative been put in place all throughout Durham region. These open top bins should be scrapped. They cause more garbage to be spread about than collected. 2. Citizens should have to take all garbage home from parks and natural areas, just as we do in Conservation areas. This way we would not need garbage cans in public places. But if we do have some they need to be covered. 3. Could we give citizens compost bins to use in their gardens, like we do blue boxes, with the new interest in growing vegetables this would help the garden plus cut down on the amount of compost material the region must collect. 4. Could we make composting for apartment buildings compulsory too. They or Durham region could work out a system where the food waste is collected and kept in compost bins on their property to be used in their landscaping. 5. The new garbage information booklet is much better this time it does explain recycling more clearly. But what about a large decal that could be affixed to blue boxes with what not to put in them. 6. How about some kind of net that could be fixed to a blue box by citizens so that recyclables don't blow away. 7. All single use plastic bottles and coffee cups should have a logo on that shows the ocean full, of plastic! Like cigarette packets show lung problems. <p>Just a few ideas that you might consider when discussing the new waste plan.</p>	<p>email address not readable, forwarded from waste account so reply directly to resident was not possible</p> <p>several suggestions are out of scope for municipal waste management such as collection in local municipal public spaces and labeling of single use plastic items</p> <p>Improving organics diversion is supported by several actions in the Waste Plan</p>
28-Jan-21	Public	Oshawa This Week Advertisement	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Thank you for the detailed report on your Waste Plan. However, I have serious issues with the presentation of the information. There is way too much information provided, at a level far above the average citizen reader. Many people will not or cannot read a full page of dense technical text even if they are interested in the subject. It is important to realize that effective public education materials have to be aimed at about a Grade Six level and presented in a visually simple and attractive way. There are several guides to using Plain Language which would hugely improve the effectiveness of your presentation.</p> <p>I am more than willing to discuss the issue further if that is helpful. Also, if you are at all interested I can offer my time as a volunteer to provide input from a user's point of view. I have lots of editing experience and currently sit on the Patient Education Committee for the Durham Region Cancer Centre as a patient representative.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. We will keep it in mind for future communications.</p>
30-Jan-21	Public	Green Bin	<p>Good morning.</p> <p>My name is</p> <p>I was reading your article from last Thursday paper, there I didn't see anything for house hold waste for condos. We live in a condo in Bowmanville on Wellington street, we have a lot of waste going into the landfill that should go into the green bin and collected, why is there no bin like that for condos or apartment buildings?</p> <p>Mind you I speak for my self, we would be glad to separate the stuff we throw out every week. we do have a green bin, we only use it for garbage.</p>	<p>Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan.</p> <p>For multi-residential buildings receiving garbage collection from the Region, the planned Mixed Waste Pre-sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility is intended to remove organics from the garbage stream for digestion.</p> <p>Target 3A in the Waste Plan includes expanding services to include more high density housing.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
30-Jan-21	Public	Blue Community Project	<p>Good afternoon</p> <p>I am a resident in Pickering and just recently was made aware of the Blue Communities in Canada. Interesting to see that Vancouver gained that recognition in Dec 2020. Has this been a project which Pickering or all of Durham have considered? My biggest complaint is the use of bottled water everywhere and the number of people who will not drink water from "the tap". This source of water in my opinion, and many others, is the best potable water.</p> <p>I appreciate your initiatives in developing a Long-term Waste Management Strategy and would appreciate your opinion on this project.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p>	<p>Thank you for your email and comments for Durham's new Waste Plan.</p> <p>Actions regarding reducing waste generation such as from single use plastics are included in the Waste Plan.</p>
01-Feb-21	public		<p>Resident would like to see garbage and recycling set out on one side of the street only to make collections more efficient. He believes this would cut our collection costs dramatically and be more environmentally responsible. Resident is available for additional discussion and to review street collections.</p>	<p>Resident told his suggestions would be shared with the project team</p>
30-Jan-21	Public	just a comment on waste	<p>Hi:</p> <p>I just saw the article in the Port Perry Star and I am so glad to see that we are working so hard striving to eliminate and reduce our waste products.</p> <p>One recent thing that came to light in our house is fluorescent bulbs. I replaced 8 T25's and 8 T20s recently and could not dispose of the old ones unless I drive to the waste disposal site (dump).</p> <p>I ended up storing these bulbs for about 2 months before I made the trip to the facility. I know my neighbours just put them in a garbage bag and break them up because they don't have the time or interest to store them. This is unfortunate but a reality. Lowes, Home Depot and perhaps CTC used to take them but do not anymore? This is something that could/should be rectified.</p> <p>Also we ordered take out food from Chuck's roadhouse and they were excellent in using re-usable/re-cyclable containers. They get 5 stars as I am sure it costs them more. Last order was from a different restaurant and the order came in Styrofoam #6 containers and we argue whether they are recyclable, I believe after checking the website that we ended up putting them in the garbage. This does not feel right. Is there a plan to recycle this material in the future?</p> <p>Anyway just a couple of thoughts</p> <p>Thanks</p>	<p>Submission was to the call centre email</p> <p>Both household hazardous waste and blue box packaging are transitioning to extended producer responsibility. Accessibility of diversion options is a regulatory requirement for these programs.</p> <p>The Waste Plan includes actions on the transition to these new programs and on reducing single use item usage.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
25-Sep-21	Public	input on longterm waste management plan	<p>Completed the survey but at the end was not given an opportunity for suggestions or comments. I wanted to add these comments.</p> <p>Composting. I am very much in favour of this and have 2 composting bins myself. However it will be very important to have strict rules and education regarding this as I personally, in a subdivision, have had neighbours who just create an open compost pile adding meat and bones that attract disease producing animals like rats and racoons. I take every precaution with my compost bins as some can be opened at the top allowing an animal access. If you just encourage people to compost they may go to You Tube and see videos of people creating an open compost pile.</p> <p>Until such time as grocery stores are able to supply meat etc. In a compostable or recyclable packaging we have to currently put this packaging into the garbage bag. The fact that this garbage pickup is not every week but every two weeks is very unhygienic, especially during the hot summer months. Many people end up with more than one bag that can't fit into their garbage can and the bags are sitting outside. The smell attracts animals and often the bags are broken into and waste is scattered around. Solution would be weekly pickup with bag limit or larger wheeled cart with lid to be left at curb with green bin.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments and taking the time to complete the survey.</p> <p>Bi-weekly garbage collection is an industry best practice to maximize recycling options.</p>
01-Jun-21	Durham Region Staff		Comments from Region Finance, email attached in Appendix	Editorial suggestions incorporated as part of Waste Plan revisions
01-Jun-21	Durham Region Staff		Memo from Corporate Sustainability staff on Waste Plan, copy provided in Appendix	Editorial suggestions incorporated as part of Waste Plan revisions
22-Sep-21	Public	Source consistent common sizes, color and construction	<p>Of recycle bins. Its crazy !I have obtained blue bins from you and none are the same. At all. The people at your facility in Whitby are very nice to deal with. Your telephone response is excellent. Miller curb side pick up is prompt and reliable, and if they do miss a pick up (its happened once in my memory and that was this year) your telephone reply to that was excellent along with resolution with pickup.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	Thank you for your comments.
23-Sep-21	Public	Feedback on Survey	<p>A couple of suggestions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I didn't see an opportunity to add misc. additional feedback in the survey tool. I would like to have had that chance to add some comments. 2. The plan itself appears well designed and comprehensive. What would make it even better would be the inclusion of a community communication strategy. For instance the metrics proposed are fine but as a citizen interested in open government I'd like to know how often they would be calculated and where they would be published. <p>Overall a nice piece of work done by staff during a difficult period.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments and taking the time to complete the survey.</p> <p>Plans for annual and every five year reporting on progress to targets and actions is included in the Five-Year Action Plan.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
08-Oct-21	Public	Durham Waste Management Plan	<p>Folks.....Some homeowner input for you.... I am an avid recycler. I would like to see the curb side blue box program expanded to include such things as....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Metal 2. Wood 3. Glass (windows, mirrors ,etc) <p>I know there are alternative ways to recycle these materials that currently exist but they are not very easy or convenient to use. We are missing a lot of these now which are ending up in regular garbage. Hopefully these will be part of the blue box or some other program in the future?</p> <p>Keep up the good work. Thanks</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Consideration of additional diversion opportunities and accessibility of Waste Management Facilities are an action in the Waste Plan</p>
08-Oct-21	Public	Green/blue bin expansion	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I just completed the online survey for the Long Term Waste Management Plan and I was wondering if there was anything about expanding the Green Bin and recycling program to that similar of Toronto.</p> <p>I am a new parent and was shocked to hear that our diapers are supposed to go in the garbage. On a weekly basis our child can produce upwards of 90 diapers and we are filling our allotment of garbage allowance every 2 weeks on diapers mostly. I understand the limit has increased to 4 bags due to COVID. I think it is unreasonable for residents to have to spend money on garbage bag tags for additional bags. For the next 20 years, does Durham region plan on expanding their programs to include more items? Or at least bins to that of Toronto and other Municipalities? This region is falling behind in these programs and there is no mention of expansion in the plan.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments and taking the time to complete the survey.</p> <p>Expansion of the green bin to include more problematic materials such as diapers is under consideration with the construction of Durham Region's anaerobic digestion facility. Unfortunately, diapers are not compatible with the aerobic compost system Durham currently uses to process green bin material.</p>
14-Oct-21	EFW-WMAC Regional Advisory Committee	Comments on LTWMP	<p>Meeting minutes containing full comments attached. Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a container to be used for battery collection rather than plastic bags Host an annual electronic curbside collection day Encourage or mandate developers install in sink garburators in new multi-residential developments. 	<p>Comments were received and considered in final targets and actions.</p> <p>Note electronics collection is currently available at the curb via appointment made either on-line or by calling the Call Centre.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
17-Oct-21	Public	Missing opportunity from survey	<p>There are other ideas that I could not get into the survey and could be implemented; -recycling pick up at restaurants and retailers- should not be optional; -cash back machines for recycling pick up in urban downtown core- this would promote a clean up of city centres while assisting homeless/ low income with a small financial boost. This has been successful in other countries - Styrofoam packaging recycling - disappointed going to Oshawa landfill recently after separated it and told to put in with garbage -Subsidies and advisors for residents wanting to move to electric vehicle- cities could add as a service to advise residents what is needed to add a home charger- if ROD and locals are going to meet GHG target you need to educate people not just on the what but how as well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promotion of Durham manufacturing that have high sustainability efforts/ low GHG or act to reduce GHG in some way- a regular promotion to residents of any business that does xyz whatever is determined - regional based tree sales where small / med native Ontario trees and shrubs can be purchased by residents - LEAF tree program in place is truly cost prohibitive for lower income families who want to participate - it's really not a savings at all for homeowners especially if they can do the labour themselves (ie I paid 680+ for 3 trees??- that was 50%off?? - and they are small trees/ saplings- I participated in 2020 with 2 sugar maples and a white pine) - consistent waste program across the region not different in each municipality - make residents be part of a bigger initiative - create an avenue for residents to communicate to manufacturers and local biz that we want less waste / less packaging and less imported goods (survey to alert business?) - allow residents on highways to naturalize regional road shoulders and city owned corner lots. - reduce noise pollution on roadways like Simcoe North. Higher decibels than allowed for preventing hearing loss (plant more trees where those were lost from gas lines) - bury hydro and run fibre to Raglan water and sewer services would be awesome too (had to get that in there although not related) 	<p>Thank you for your comments and taking the time to complete the survey.</p> <p>Actions in the Waste Plan include transitioning to EPR for the blue box where producers will be responsible for recycling packaging such as Styrofoam. There is currently no recycling market for Durham Region's material.</p> <p>Many suggestions are out of scope for waste management programs.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
13-Oct-21	Public		<p>• First of all I took the survey before but there are not enough choices for answers and no place to write in comments which I think you really need to read about and deal with. I have written and called about the used filthy toilets and other items of garbage sitting on curbs for weeks. I call it Oshawa - home of the lawns with toilet ornaments. Not funny. I understand it is difficult for people moving from outside Durham region to know the rules when the move to Durham. I made several suggestions back then and I know they were not passed on. Sometimes stuff is on lawns for months. I have called and reported it several times but this is not my job BUT when it's near my home I call. I'm sure the region can hire a student(s) to drive around and list the affected properties letting them know they must call for these pick-ups. Also maybe a notice in their tax bill might help as well. I get the calendar twice a year and have the app. I've even told people who have moved into the area about the calendar and the app. You can also see a number of people who don't pay attention to the calendar or app or neighbours (when there is a stat holiday) because they put their stuff out on the wrong day (and if there are high winds - stuff blows all over the neighbourhood until it's picked up!!! ALSO - I wonder why the blue bin pick up has been so late for several weeks. Once it was dark when they came to pick it up and the people came with their bikes and steal the recycling and of course it's always windy. Why can't you notify us so you can send out alerts and we can put the bins back until that time. I'm handicapped and I can keep chasing down my blue boxes and picking up my recycling and others. And I have told many stores to keep all the plastic and Styrofoam because I don't want to have to lug it home to put it in the garbage. I usually have only 1 bag every two weeks; sometimes 2 bags. I have let my neighbours but an extra bag with mine because they have elderly people who have medical stuff to throw out and cat litter. Sometimes I only put out 1 bag a month. I really try to recycle as much as I can and leave excess packaging at the stores. If they don't take it - I will purchase from stores who do. I also send my computer toner back for recycling. I still think we need more 3 spot garbage/recycling bins. I know Covid is still on but after we get back to normal. When I'm walking my dog everyday I have a pickup stick and a bag and we constantly pickup garbage on our daily walks. I can't believe number of people who use our streets, parks and sidewalks as garbage cans (especially throwing food bags with food and drinks) left inside the bags. I can a garbage a week doing this!!!!!! I wear gloves and masks and a grinned thing. I don't sort through this bag because I'm a germophobic - but it makes the neighbourhood cleaner. I do hope that if you have any questions you will call.</p>	no response, submission was via waste app

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14-Oct-21	Public		<p>Hello, I know that Toronto ends up Paying to include Styrofoam in their recycling program for a few reasons. but the largest reason is likely due to spoilage. Durham need not be the same case. Per capita we would not have as high a percentage of spoiled Styrofoam and since it would be a new project, it's something that can be learned and improved upon as well. Younger generations understand (and Care) that spoiled recycled materials end up in the landfill... or worse, the ocean!</p> <p>With that in mind, we can and should be closing the loop on recycling this material. Clear Plastic bags filled with specific CLEAN Polystyrene can be recycled. I would like Durham to propose adding this back to our program. if not pick up in all of Durham, how about testing regions? Drop off at the dumps is an easy and obvious one for the city, but I think we can do better. Perhaps designated drop of zones at Commercial or industrial locations. The City could provide a small Tax break for businesses willing to assist. Maybe even Schools can get involved. Getting Schools involved would help deepen the level of education required to help cut costs and environmental waste.</p> <p>There are 3 companies that we can work with. the best option being Polystyvert or Pryowave, both located in Montreal recycle the material. While locally GreenMantra in Brantford offers an alternative solution that converts it to fuels. (not as ideal).</p> <p>Please add this to the list of potential projects discussion for Durham's upcoming budget meeting.</p> <p>thank you,</p>	<p>no response, submission was to Budget town hall</p> <p>The Waste Plan includes actions to reduce generation of single use items and to transition the Blue Box program to Extended Producer Responsibility where producers are regulated to manage the packaging and products they generate - polystyrene is included in this program. There is currently no market for Durham Region's polystyrene.</p>
18-Oct-21	Public		<p>Hello,</p> <p>I do recognize the importance of having straight forward questions to create clear actions, I wanted to add a comment for one of the questions.</p> <p>The long-term waste survey question 2 listed a couple of actions on educating the community on the 5Rs and the waste diversion programs. While the survey lists YouTube as a potential outlet of media, I was wondering how much consideration has been given to posting on other social media platforms, such as Instagram, TikTok or Facebook, to help reach a different section of the population (and potentially posting the same or similar content onto the aforementioned platforms). (Although I do recognize YouTube content is easier to post on the website and does has other benefits.)</p> <p>Furthermore, developing digital content is a lot easier to access for residents to access compared to the traditional in-person or virtual informational sessions as it is more flexible within people's busy lives and is easier to access (especially for public transportation, weekend transit to such places used to be very difficult).</p> <p>Thanks for your consideration.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments and taking the time to complete the survey.</p> <p>The Waste Plan includes an action to develop more video content for resident education however, we are limited to the social media channels selected for use in the entire Region.</p>

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13-Oct-21	Public		<p>Hello,</p> <p>Are there any virtual or in-person public consultations planned?</p> <p>It would be great to have this form of input from the community.</p>	<p>There is a virtual town hall October 19 at 7 pm. Please use this link to join: www.durham.ca/WastePlanTownHall</p>
14-Oct-21	Public		<p>I am very thankful for the service our city provides for residents.</p>	<p>Thank you</p>
16-Oct-21	Public		<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>Can you please advise if recycling of plastic bags and Styrofoam will be provided in Durham? We moved from Kawartha Lakes where these were collected and are concerned that they are not collected in Durham.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>	<p>The Region doesn't currently collect plastic bags or polystyrene. The Region's polystyrene recycler stopped accepting this material several years ago and we have not been able to find another company to take it. Plastic bags are not compatible with the sorting equipment used at the Region's Material Recovery Facility as they can wrap around equipment causing blockages.</p> <p>Ontario recently enacted extended producer responsibility legislation for blue box materials which will make the producers of paper and packaging responsible for its end-of-life management. Once the transition to the new program is completed in 2026, there may be changes to what is accepted in the blue box as the producers take control of the program.</p>
20-Oct-21	Public		<p>I did respond to the waste management survey but it seem to be so narrow and leading that it seems like a waste of time having recently moved from North York I'm shocked at the crude pick up and recycling options available to us in Clarington. The method of waste bin collection it's close to a joke that is 40 years old. In Toronto there are so many more things you can recycle in the food bins such as flowers, animal waste and much more. This expensive degradable bag option it's not very impressive. And the least desirable is seeing people physically picking up a little blue boxes instead of a single operator running an automated truck that can sweeping entire area. Now I have to watch these trucks come by 5 X spewing diesel.</p> <p>I also found that in Toronto the ability to put out other material was much more flexible and the ability to get rid of Electronics, paint etcetera Did not seem to be as difficult.</p> <p>Sent in confidence....</p> <p>In the end I think it should be a balance of serving the people not a religion of recycling at any inconvenience</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>Please know that houseplants, including cut flowers, are acceptable in the Region's Green Bin program. A full list of acceptable items is available on our website. Leaf and yard waste should be placed in kraft paper bags separate from Green Bin waste – keeping this material separate helps keep the Region's processing costs down. The Region currently uses an aerobic compost system for Green Bin waste. Aerobic composting is not capable of handling dirtier organics such as animal waste or diapers. The City of Toronto uses anaerobic digestion for its Green Bin material. Anaerobic digestion processes are better capable of separating out plastics and grit that are not digestible. The Region is currently in a procurement process for an anaerobic digestion facility. You can learn about the planned facility on our website on this page. Part of the anaerobic digestion project and the new Waste Plan include evaluating additional material for inclusion in the Green Bin. We hope to collect an expanded list of</p>

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				<p>materials when the anaerobic digestion facility is operational.</p> <p>Durham Region decided to maintain a two stream recycling program to generate a cleaner recycling stream with less waste after sorting and processing. Ontario recently enacted legislation that will transition the blue box program in every municipality to the producers of paper and packaging to manage. Durham Region is scheduled to transition Blue Box operations to the producer's control on July 1, 2024. Once all municipal programs have transitioned in 2026, the program may change based on producer requirements to meet their legislated obligations. There are no plans to change the Region's program before it transitions to producer responsibility.</p> <p>In Clarington, electronics are picked up at the curb by appointment. Please visit our webpage for details on how to schedule a collection appointment for electronics and other bulky items. Household hazardous waste is not collected at the curb in Durham Region. There is a drop off location in Bowmanville for Clarington residents to drop-off items such as paint, solvents, batteries and used oil.</p> <p>Thank you again for your interest and comments.</p>
21-Oct-21	Public	yard waste for 2022	The service is excellent in our area, the only thing I wish could change would be to have the yard waste picked up weekly in season as the grass cuttings in compostable bags get soggy and the odor is terrible when held for 2 weeks.	<p>Thank you for your email. We will consider your suggestions for frequency of leaf and yard waste collection going forward.</p> <p>Please note that the Region does not accept grass clippings in any of its waste streams. Residents are encouraged to leave grass clippings on the lawn so they can break down naturally.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
21-Oct-21	Public	Anaerobic Digester	<p>What options were considered for the location of the digester?</p> <p>Is a large volume of water (which is facilitated by the location adjacent to Lake Ontario) necessary?</p> <p>Why is it necessary to place this (along with the other facilities currently placed along the Courtice waterfront) at that location; consuming a resource (the waterfront) that is extremely limited and a resource that will be a valuable asset for the population that we know will be moving into western Clarington? The region owns land along the waterfront but is it really necessary to build up along the waterfront given the poor access to the lake that Courtice residents have and given that a large municipal park and more housing is planned for the land adjacent to the regional land.</p> <p>Clarington, apparently has to pull its weight in terms of hosting regional facilities, but do other jurisdictions in Durham have to sacrifice the same amount of their waterfront as Clarington has committed?</p> <p>The approach to waterfront use seems backwards to what most jurisdictions are doing in terms of protecting such a limited resource and accessibility to Lake Ontario.</p>	<p>Thank you for your inquiry regarding the Region's Mixed Waste Pre-sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility.</p> <p>The siting of the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility was determined following a siting study that is available here. The site, within the Energy Park, was assessed as having the least environmental impacts and provided the best access to transportation and utilities. The Energy Park location was approved by Regional Council. Please note that the AD facility was not sited in the Energy Park for access to raw water from Lake Ontario.</p> <p>The AD is not sited on the waterfront as illustrated by the Energy Park site map. The AD facility will be located adjacent to the Durham York Energy Center and west of Osborne Road and south of Energy Drive on the site map. The Energy Park location will not impede access to the lake which would occur from Courtice Road as illustrated in the attached Courtice Waterfront Park draft Concept Map.</p> <p>The Region does own a large parcel of land on the waterfront which contains the Courtice Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) and this parcel is sized to accommodate future expansions of the WPCP when needed to support anticipated population growth in Clarington.</p> <p>Other Local Area Municipalities such as Oshawa, Whitby, Ajax and Pickering also support facilities on the waterfront which provide space for businesses or services to the Region as a whole.</p> <p>The Region has supported Clarington in its endeavours to make the waterfront accessible to the public. The Region built and transferred to Clarington the waterfront trail and lands just south of the Courtice WPCP. In addition, the Region also transferred lands located east of the Energy Park to Clarington that are now part of the Courtice Waterfront Park concept.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
21-Oct-21	Public	Are you missing 20% of the population	<p>Hi,</p> <p>After reviewing your strategic plan, I often wonder why Durham Region shows numbers about tonnes collected, addresses served, tonnes diverted and changes from year to year, yet they do not show that these figures are missing a great percentage of residential addresses? As you know, apartment buildings have certain requirements they must meet before they receive garbage collection. And without garbage collection, they don't receive recycling. Are the calculations accurate, if they don't represent the entire Region?</p> <p>Compare this to Toronto, where all single family and multi-family properties participate in these programs, if they want to. They have the added benefit of making it easy with rolling totes for not just recycling, but for garbage as well. In Durham, it's the other way, the Region decides whether it wants a large number of residents to remain in the dark when it comes to programs about recycling and waste reduction. In Durham, the municipalities have no authority when it comes to monitoring waste or recycling streams for cross contamination at properties that they choose not to collect from.</p> <p>Does the Region know how many multi-family properties it doesn't collect from? Does the Region know how many of its residents don't receive equal attention and education when it comes to waste reduction. In Oshawa, according to recent census data, nearly 25% of residents live in apartments. If half of these residents live in properties where the Region has no connection, is this equitable? As managers of multi-residential properties, we also know that apartment dwellers also tend to fall in socio-economic groups with lower family incomes. I'm sure the Region hasn't chosen to ignore this group intentionally.</p> <p>I am looking to understand why the Region uses a denominator in its calculations around waste that is not accurate.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>Part of the Region's Waste Management by-law includes property standards for multi-residential buildings to receive garbage and blue box collection services from the Region. The standards are intended to ensure safe access for collection vehicles to pick-up materials. Safety of the drivers and residents who may be on the property at the time of collection are the primary concern. Since the Region does not collect garbage in the City of Oshawa or the Town of Whitby, those municipalities determine the requirements for entering a property to collect and the Region provides blue box collection only for the properties approved in those jurisdictions. If, at some point in the future, Oshawa or Whitby choose to have the Region of Durham provide garbage collection services in their municipality, the approach to multi-residential buildings in those municipalities could change.</p> <p>For the purposes of source separation of Blue Box materials, Ontario considers multi-residential buildings that contain more than six residential units part of the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector. Building owners or condominium boards are required under Ontario Regulation 103/94 to provide source separation opportunities for residents of these buildings that mirror the program provided by the municipality. The requirements of this regulation may change when the new Blue Box Regulation is fully enacted and the producers of paper and packaging become responsible for the collection and post-collection management of Blue Box materials. Under the Blue Box Regulation, Durham Region will no longer be responsible for residential Blue Box collection and processing after the scheduled transition date of July 1, 2024. After transition is completed province-wide in 2026, producers must provide blue box collection services to any multi-residential building that requests service.</p> <p>To address other recycling concerns in the multi-residential sector in Durham Region, the Region is planning a Mixed Waste Pre-sort and Anaerobic</p>

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				<p>Digestion Facility. The Region is in the procurement phase for this facility which will be designed to remove organics from multi-residential garbage so it can be digested to create renewable natural gas. This project is expected to significantly increase diversion in the multi-residential sector in Durham Region.</p> <p>Target 3A in the Waste Plan includes actions to collect waste from more high density residential homes.</p>
21-Oct-21	Public		<p>My suggestion to improve our waste management is to pick up garbage every week in the summer months. Garbage sitting around in the heat causes maggots, and an offensive smell. To compensate reduce recycle pick up to every second week.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. The Region transitioned to garbage collection every other week several years ago with the launch of the Green Bin for food and other organic waste. Use of the Green Bin should divert the food waste out of your garbage to be collected weekly. Collecting garbage every other week is recognized as best practice for municipal waste management.</p>
24-Oct-21	Public	Hi there	<p>I would deeply appreciate some feedback into this matter or at least so that I know who to contact so that this Wednesday I can put out all the garbage I need to put out and know that it will be picked up so that it isn't an eyesore on my Boulevard for the neighbours and a pain in the ass when I come home from work and have to put back into my garage LOL</p> <p>Thank you sincerely your friend</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p>> On Oct 24, 2021, at 3:40 PM, wrote: > > Can you please direct me to the correct people for extra garbage pick up > I do not have the means financially or with a proper vehicle to > have my garbage taken away I need to have it picked up on my carpet > today which is Wednesday this upcoming Wednesday > > We are allowed for garbage bags every two weeks > > I have a patio table and some chairs I no longer want to have no > way to get rid of it plus several bags of garbage > > If I can get the go ahead to do this assured it will be > picked up I will put it out for Wednesday I deeply appreciate it and > do need the help please and thank you</p>	<p>Please contact our waste call centre at waste@durham.ca or by phone at 905-697-5300 or 1-800-667-5671 to arrange for a bulky item pick up. These items are collected by appointment only and may be different from your regular garbage collection day.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
24-Oct-21	Public		Thanks Durham Waste!	none
24-Oct-21	Public		We need more garbage bag requirements 4 to 6 or twice a week pick up	Thank you for your comment.
24-Oct-21	Public	Damaged Bins	It is becoming annoying at how the garbage truck attendants treat our bins. They literally throw them onto the driveway or garden. Almost every week the lid off my green bin is detached. Garbage is left in the bins so when tossed, it goes everywhere. Someone should be supervising them, random follow-up after their routes. We pay taxes for this service and should be treated with respect. My neighbours were thrown over curb and blew up the road. In collecting them, she slipped and fractured one wrist and badly sprained the other resulting in months in a cast. Had a bit of courtesy been shown, the bins could have been stacked to avoid them blowing away.	Thank you for your email. I'm sorry you are having repeated issues. If you would like to send your address I can provide it to our operations group and they can follow up with the contractor.
24-Oct-21	Public	Survey	Hi There....I just filled out your survey but didn't see the survey at the end. It is my opinion that during daylight saving time, garbage should be picked up weekly and we personally can manage blue box pickup every 2nd week. In the heat of summer the garbage wrecks and rapidly gets full of maggots...must be a treat for the pickup guys. My other pet-peeve is the garbage being emitted by the cement plant in Bowmanville. Surely in this time of pollution enlightenment this can't be acceptable. Please do something about it or publicly tell the local population that the effluent being emitted is absolutely harmless.	Thank you for your comments on waste collection. With respect to the cement plant, it is regulated by the provincial Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. Questions regarding its operations should be directed to that agency.
25-Oct-21	Municipality of Clarington	Draft Long Term Waste Management Plan - Clarington Comments	Letter from Municipality of Clarington (attached in Appendix). Comments include: The Municipality would like to discuss the establishment of a shared database with Durham Region to access their messaging and infographics regarding waste management services for consistency of messaging. Local Area Municipalities request to be engaged and consulted with as part of communication planning for this transition (to EPR). It is recommended that the Region develop video and social media that community groups can share on the Region's behalf. It is recommended that materials be shared with Clarington's Diversity Advisory Committee. Annual public reporting for this action is strongly encouraged (2B1) We recommend action focused on addressing existing challenges with medium and high density housing forms that do not receive Regional waste collection services currently, to transition these built forms to full waste servicing. Specifically relating to new developments, we recommend Action 3A5 be broadened to capture other forms of more complex and dense developments / built forms, including mixed-use and other medium and high density housing forms. A strategy to sequester and/or offset carbon emissions The Region should include all GHG emissions from the DYEC as corporate GHG emissions calculations to take responsibility for the impact of the facility The Region has influence over key Scope 3 emissions categories including contracted waste haulage services. The Region should include this in their GHG emissions reporting. the Region could take actions to track and reduce GHG emissions and pollution associated with historical landfills. exploring the possibility of using waste heat generated at DYEC and surrounding facilities for	Many comments are addressed in actions in the Waste Plan, others are out of scope for the Waste Management Division such as the corporate approach for GHG Emissions calculations or out of scope for the Waste Plan such as air monitoring networks.

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			<p>district heating should be expanded to include all potential sites of waste heat production and consumption in the areas in and around Energy Park.</p> <p>In support of this commitment, the Municipality requests that an additional on-going action be added to the LTWMP to review emissions control and monitoring systems at the DYEC and other existing and future Regional waste processing facilities, and to identify, evaluate and implement where feasible and practicable opportunities for improvement based on operational experience, emerging best practices and technological advancements.</p> <p>We request the Region add a further action under Objective 5 committing to collaborate with the Municipality and other local stakeholders on the implementation of a real-term monitoring network in the short-term and to contribute to the monitoring, improvement and reporting on the cumulative impact of the DYEC and other industrial emitters in proximity to the DYEC on an ongoing basis.</p>	
25-Oct-21	Public	Waste Management	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to give my thought in this matter. First, I have not actually read the reports as I am having issues with my eyes and am limiting time on the devices. But very briefly, and just an observation, when I travelled in Europe, it was quite noticeable that they did not seem to have these horrible garbage mountains. Apparently all garbage is burnt. It requires extremely high temperatures of course and is expensive. I understood that these very high temperatures do not create pollution, as the burning is complete.</p> <p>To me it's a no-brainer! But of course it is not as simple as that. Still, if this process has been adapted in other countries, why could it not be adapted here.</p> <p>Another thing that I noticed in Europe, in Finland actually, was that the new way of building subdivisions was pretty revolutionary. Interconnected green villages. People had community gardens, grey water was used was watering. Outhouse instead of inside toilet, waste treated (don't know how it was done). Shared driving to city etc.</p> <p>Maybe research should be directed on how the more environmentally progressive countries are dealing with these issues.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>The Region of Durham co-owns an energy from waste facility located in the Municipality of Clarington. This facility receives Durham Region's residential garbage and generates electricity that is sold to the provincial electrical grid. When you are able, I encourage you to review the facility website: https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/index.aspx</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
25-Oct-21	Public	Durham Long term Management Plan	<p>To Whom it may concern</p> <p>I am very interested in Durham's long term waste management plan. I have heard many advertisements on the Radio to get involved.</p> <p>I have had a hard time finding the information I am looking for on the internet. Unfortunately I am part of the paper generation that prefers to have the paper workout in front of me.</p> <p>That being said. My biggest concern if the emissions for all facilities proposed. It seems like everything is ok. Until its not!</p> <p>How many of these waste pre-sort and anaerobic digestions facilities will there be? What other opportunities (so they are called) to convert biogas at region -owned facilities to renewable natural gas and explore options to install wind turbines (noise pollution) and solar energy panels at waste management facilities.</p> <p>Most of these presentations are all very pretty. But it would be nice to have laid out without the pretty and just the important information.</p> <p>Durham is a beautiful region. We have already have some dumps that at one time were so far away but yet now are just in our back yard.</p> <p>Lets keep Durham a beautiful clean place to live. Atlantic packaging has been here forever. The smell omitted from this facility is horrendous. Lets not let our long term waste management have this type of effect on any of our Durham residents.</p> <p>I would like to have someone call me. I have more questions I would like answered.</p> <p>Thank you in advance</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>Only one Mixed Waste Pre-sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility is planned for Durham Region and there will be no combustion emissions from this facility. The methane generated from the food waste treated at the Anaerobic Digestion facility will be converted into a renewable natural gas or biogas that can replace traditional fossil fuel natural gas. Other Region facilities, such as wastewater treatment plants, also generate methane as a by-product of their operations. This methane has the potential to also be converted to renewable natural gas. Details of the Mixed Waste Pre-sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility can be found on our website: https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/anaerobic-digestion.aspx</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
25-Oct-21	Public	comments on Sept 2021 draft LTWMP	<p>Comment letter in Appendix. Key comments:</p> <p>Durham must make sustained efforts to ensure that staff use multiple public outreach methods including print media</p> <p>a clear explanation as to why 2018 chosen as base year going forward</p> <p>Durham should not be putting forward too many more "R" words</p> <p>Durham should expand the range of recyclables they accept at WMFs to include these materials as just two examples (polystyrene and batteries)</p> <p>Durham staff could offer battery drop off at various regional and municipal facilities and collect appreciable quantities in fewer locations with NO plastic baggie or sticker required</p> <p>All these objectives require coherent and sufficiently detailed implementation plans and policies/by-law updates to support</p> <p>Objective 1 - post this data online regularly</p> <p>No more staff videos please</p> <p>Durham should measure and report breakdown for all categories per capita by municipality as well</p> <p>Most actions in Objective 3 require more detail, 3A1 why include primarily?, 3A2 relaunch of green bin -means what exactly?, 3A4 should also include all regional facilities and agencies (e.g. Police, Paramedics)</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Your comments will be considered as we work to finalize the Waste Plan targets and actions.</p> <p>Waste Management initiatives are regularly updated in print and online media, radio and social media in addition to campaigns in the Waste App and information on the durham.ca/waste webpage.</p> <p>Actions in the Waste Plan will seek to enhance and build on these outreach initiatives.</p> <p>There is currently no market for Durham Region's polystyrene. Batteries are accepted at WMFs and collection at municipal buildings is a local area municipality decision.</p> <p>Implementation plans for all Actions will be developed as part of the Business Plans and Budgeting process at timing identified in the first Five-Year Action Plan 2018 is chosen as the baseline for waste tonnage data based on the most recent waste audit completed in 2018. A Waste Plan action includes developing a regular audit schedule to provide current waste composition data at regular intervals.</p>
25-Oct-21	Public	LTWMP - Comments Attached	<p>Comment letter in Appendix. Key comments:</p> <p>At a minimum there should have been a guiding principle for the reduction of toxic load to the environment</p> <p>Metric for Target 1A should include posting of all educational materials for more uptake/accessibility by wider audience, for transparency and to ensure that education materials provided are accurate, balanced and give a fulsome accounting of all waste management practices and both their positive and adverse effects.</p> <p>Target 1A actions should include widely publicizing Durham's waste per capita data be completely transparent and report on ALL the facts around waste management</p> <p>take bolder actions on banning single-use and other problematic plastics</p> <p>the Region needs to lead by example and has the power to do better for multi-residential</p> <p>Education, including videos, on the problems with organics in the black bag should be included</p> <p>The Region should abandon the mixed waste-pre-sort</p> <p>information on better-for-the environment reusable sanitary products, such as high quality organic washable/reusable sanitary napkins now available in the market place could be provided as well as better reusable environmentally friendly cloth diaper options</p> <p>alternatives like separate dirty organics collection and keeping the source separated organics for clean compost or digestate</p> <p>Objective 2 and Target 4 in the LTWMP which deals with climate change, I support greenhouse gas reduction and true climate change mitigations efforts, but to be able to assess if initiatives deliver them there must be a proper and full assessment of climate impact which includes life cycle analysis assessments</p> <p>Plans to expand the incinerator to burn more garbage should be rejected</p> <p>EA documents done for the incinerator showed 139,000 tpy of t/CO2e when 140,000 tonnes of</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Your comments will be considered as we work to finalize the Waste Plan targets and actions.</p> <p>Actions under Target 1 include significant public outreach in various ways to reach as many residents as possible</p> <p>The measurement for Target 2 includes waste per capita.</p> <p>Several actions in the Waste Plan are focused on increasing service levels and diversion from multi-residential and other dense housing forms</p> <p>The suggestion for reusable sanitary products and diapers is appreciated and will be considered for the Region's Reduce/Reuse webpage under Target 1.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from the DYEC are reported to the federal and provincial governments each year following regulated calculation methodologies. The same data is used for the corporate GHG report showing only the portion attributable to Durham Region Waste (approx 70% of total, non biomass GHG).</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
			<p>garbage were burned, yet the GHG Emissions Summary Data on page 52 gives the emissions as 55,800 t/CO2e. Why are these figures different and has correct information been given there was absolutely no discussion of costs at the most recent Town Hall nor were the costs of projects provided nor summarized in the virtual open house</p> <p>Low tech, low cost initiatives should be maximized first</p>	
25-Oct-21	Public	Feedback from survey	<p>Hi there,</p> <p>In the action plan I would like to see mention of more actively measuring and reporting publicly on the emissions from the incinerator in Courtice with a goal of reducing those emissions. I would also like to see more clear action and accountability with regard to waste management within corporations and businesses.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Emissions from the DYEC are reporting on regularly in a variety of ways - real time Continuous Emissions Monitoring is posted on the DYEC website, quarterly ambient air monitoring reports are submitted to MECP and posted on-line and stack tests are conducted twice per year with results submitted to MECP and posted on-line.</p>
25-Oct-21	Public	New Waste Plan...additional comments and suggestions	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Thanks for the reminder to participate in your New Waste Plan review. I have a few additional comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Points 2A and 2B (Reduce the quantity of waste we create) lack any empirical targets. How can you measure success without empirical targets? • 3d3 Why wait to the mid-term to “Advocate to the Federal and Provincial governments for new EPR programs to divert more materials from disposal”? Do it short term. The sooner Durham and other municipalities engage with the province and the feds, the sooner that much more all-encompassing measures for waste reduction can be implemented. • 4 1 a and 4a 8 (Explore opportunities to convert collection vehicles to use alternative fuels). Do not explore other alternative fuels, we must all graduate to electricity. Ontario has a very clean generation base which should be utilized. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Also, consider adding “idle-stop” devices to the Durham truck fleet to reduce engines running when unnecessary. Peel region was testing these a few years ago and last I heard, they were very pleased with the results. (Contact Gabriella (Gaby) Kalapos, the Executive Director of Clean Air Partnership (gkalapos@cleanairpartnership.org and (416) 948-7125) for more info on who to contact at Peel Region. o Last point here: Get the Durham police to adopt electric vehicles! I can cite numerous cases of police forces who have evaluated switching to the use of Teslas for their patrol cars and found that they offer amazing savings in both fuel and maintenance. More and more police forces are changing just for financial reasons, although they have also discovered a number of additional benefits. • 4a7 (Explore options for wind/solar installations at Waste Management Facilities (WMFs)). I am president of [redacted], a not-for-profit co-operative that developed and for years now has owned and operated over \$60 million dollars’ worth of commercial scale solar electric (PV) systems around Ontario [redacted] may be willing to take responsibility to 	<p>Thank you for your comments. Your comments will be considered as we work to finalize the Waste Plan targets and actions. Metrics for waste reduction targets were part of the consultation on the actions. Specific measurements are included in the Five-Year Action Plan. Programs for five different groups of materials have recently or will soon transition to full EPR. Durham Region has advocated for expansion of these programs as part of the regulatory consultation process and will continue to do so. Alternative fuels could include electric vehicles</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
			<p>develop and operate a PV system on a Durham landfill site and either pay for the use of the site or in some form, sell the electricity it generates to Durham. Please contact me if interested</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>Best wishes for a successful outcome to your consultations. Please advise if I can be of further assistance.</p> <p>Cheers,</p>	
25-Oct-21	Public	Waste plan Sounds great but need to aim high to accomplish anything	<p>Waste plan Sounds great but need to aim high to accomplish anything +++ higher the aim the more that is done/accomplished</p> <p>This plan seems to talk about home waste but the greatest opportunity for improvement Is the elephant in the room -- Industrial/retail waste the humongous amount of waste created here is mind boggling/numbing</p> <p>We need to aggressively tackle this ongoing open loophole in the waste management stream Loads of perfectly good product could be diverted out of this stream Separation such as is purportedly done at the waste incinerator should also be applied to that commercial waste stream Plastic jugs + other waste at gas bars should be separated out & recycled (some gas bars in Oshawa do so now – ALL in the region should be doing that recycling NOW</p> <p>Great opportunities & they should NOT be delayed for years Consult fast, shorten that planning/implementation time frame Eliminate plastic bags at retail checkouts – alternatives are known -- apply them! It should not have taken 2 years + to get rid of these & this is just 1 opportunity wasted! Websites are great but calendar with info on what goes where is needed as well (not everyone has access to smartphone/cell phone!)</p> <p>Get on with it (the diversion programs, the plastic bag elimination etc.) Mistakes will happen even if planning & over planning take place – time to act is NOW! Learn from any mistakes & adjust</p> <p>Kudos on what you have done to date but we need to step it up Increase penalties for transgressors</p> <p>Just a few thoughts off the top of my head— Some in the region are working hard at this – others seem to think they are time challenged &/or above doing the work We need to make it worth while for all to get on board</p> <p>Maybe for those too lazy/time challenged we should encourage commercial group(s) to pick up their waste & go through it to recycle it (for a fee they the individual / organization would pay) just a thought</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Your comments will be considered as we work to finalize the Waste Plan targets and actions.</p> <p>Industrial, Commercial, Institutional waste is out of scope for Durham Region waste management services.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
			<p>a surcharge as it were to pay someone to do that work of recycling Some of us put out 1 bag of garbage every 10 weeks while others put out 10bags every other week what gives there? Composting in our back yards – educate what can go in & what to avoid & bins are available at region</p> <p>I have been known to give talks to some local groups on recycling – what to do with what etc. Maybe you need to cultivate a version of that to educate children but also adults Children will eventually be the ones driving this Sorry if this has been a tad long but it needs to be said</p> <p>Keep up the good work All the VERY best</p>	
26-Oct-21	Public	waste reduction IDEA	<p>Hi there,</p> <p>I've had an idea floating around in my head for a while and after hearing an ad for the Waste Management Plan I thought I'd submit it for consideration.</p> <p>I know it's not easy but big problems require big solutions. I think we need a solution that has been proven to work. It won't solve our problems but it will go further in curtailing the amount of waste sent to the incinerator and landfill.</p> <p>Thanks for looking it over and hopefully putting it in the mix of ideas for consideration.</p> <p>NOTE: attachment detailed a Reuse/Donation drop off location included in Appendix</p>	<p>Thank you for your suggestion. It will be considered as we implement the Waste Plan.</p> <p>Additional was drop off locations are considered in Target 5A of the Waste Plan.</p>
26-Oct-21	Public		<p>I have been getting notifications, including today, that I can have input into Durham Regions Long term waste management plan, when I clicked on the notification, 5-6 times over that many weeks, I was just taken to the waste management app, with no link to anything. Today, approximately 1 Hr ago I received the notification again, same thing. So this time I called, and after 20 minutes listening to recordings and put on hold I was told that this input from the public ended 2 days ago. So my question is how can the public put in their thoughts and ideas with a system like this, and if this is the case I would think this thing should be sent back out to the public with software that works.</p>	<p>I apologize for the difficulties you had accessing the Waste Plan site. If you are interested in learning more about the Waste Plan, please visit our website: www.durham.ca/WastePlan Any comments you have on the Waste Plan can be submitted to this email address.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
14-Nov-21	Public	input into waste collection	<p>Sorry, I did not complete the survey in time. I am not sure if it is too late to provide input but I think 2 things should be instituted for waste collection.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the spring and fall, leaf bag collection should be weekly in the months of May and November. Bowmanville has a weekly leaf bag collection that goes into December! Whitby, Oshawa and other areas end in November. Often leaf bags are left sitting at a curb all winter. 2. Recycle bins should have an east to remove lid/cover. Some areas are experimenting with this. It prevents recycling flying everywhere on windy days which results in recycling becoming garbage that pollutes neighbourhoods. <p>Thanks for listening</p>	<p>Thank you for taking the time to provide your comments.</p> <p>In the Town of Whitby, the Region of Durham is only responsible for collection of the Blue Box each week. Both Whitby and Oshawa have maintained responsibility for collection of all other materials placed at the curb – including leaf and yard waste. Although we work to harmonize the collection as much as possible with weekly Green Bin collection and garbage collection every other week, Whitby has not adopted the same leaf and yard waste collection schedule used by the Region for leaf and yard waste collection in the Municipality of Clarington, Ajax, Pickering, Uxbridge, Township of Scugog or Brock Township.</p> <p>In 2019 and 2020 the Region conducted a pilot study of a blue box lid. Plans are underway to make the lid available to those who want to use one however, the Region won't be providing one to every resident. This decision was based on several factors including the level of usage of the lid during the pilot and the upcoming transition of responsibility for the Blue Box from the Region to the producers of paper and packaging that are placed in the Blue Box.</p> <p>Thanks again for contacting the Region.</p>
22-Nov-21	Public	Suggestion for better packaging.	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I wanted to know if the waste plan includes approaching businesses that sell products that could be packaged better in the Durham region.</p> <p>I'll give you an example.</p> <p>Egg Cartons come in 3 types of packaging. Styrofoam, plastic, and paper pulp.</p> <p>Shouldn't our waste management teams be approaching either the grocery stores or the local farms and telling them What is best for our region? this is LOCAL packaging and shipping.</p> <p>It is confusing for consumers. Consumers who might actually care can't do the proper research because every region (not just in Ontario) in the world has different reasons for why one package system works best for them.</p> <p>That said, municipalities should be helping educate not just their residents, but more importantly the producers and distributors.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>The Blue Box regulation is intended to incentivize the producers of products and packaging to make those items more recyclable. The Region will continue to advocate for improvements to and expansion of Extended Producer Responsibility regulations in Ontario under Target 3D in the Waste Plan.</p>

Date	Organization	Subject	Comment	Response/How Considered
			<p>It's clear that this is not happening, otherwise, we wouldn't see all 3 options in the grocery store.</p> <p>Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is the approach Ontario is using to make companies doing business in Ontario fully financially and operationally responsible for the environmental impact of the products and packaging they produce or import into Ontario.</p> <p>This is all well and good, but this seems too broad a stroke for something like Egg cartons. Toronto region has a different approach to recycling and waste management than Durham. Ontario might be able to provide guidelines to the farmers, but it'll be up to the municipalities to ALL work with the Ontario Gov't at the same time, OR the municipalities will need to address the local manufactures and or distributors with their needs.</p> <p>It sounds a bit complicated, but it really isn't.</p> <p>anyhow thank you for your time, and I hope to see some improvement in the packaging in Pickering in the next year or so with this new plan you are working on.</p>	

Appendix C
Correspondence Received

September 30, 2020.

Reg. Municipality of Durham

Submitted via WastePlan@durham.ca

Re: Preliminary re initial public consultation on Durham's Long Term Waste Management Plan Review

I submit limited comments at this time. Some comments address issues raised in Survey Questions.

Insufficient information on LTWMP project web pages

The current LTWMP survey only posted August 19th -comment deadline Sept 30 -this not even 45 days with very limited and incomplete background materials on LTWMP web pages.

The LTWMP web pages need a major rework to become more accurate, useful and first stop for anyone wanting to understand Durham's current and planned waste programs.

Durham's LTWMP project pages contain very little information about past and future projected tonnages – essential to anyone wanting to review historic numbers, beyond the one table in the 2019 Annual Report. Limited factual information makes it challenging for the public to understand Durham's past and current waste programs, there's nothing about program/project costs past, current and projected both capital and operating.

On July 15th, 2020 Durham's EFW WMAC committee asked Waste staff to add additional info to the LTWMP website so that the public could review prior to commenting – I see no evidence that anything has been added other than the 2019 Annual Waste Management Report which contains very limited waste data.

As an example, a citizen had to request that staff post existing plan 2000-2020.

E.g. Only recently posted 2019 Annual Waste Management report, but have not posted links to past annual reports.

I have requested staff to at least link to past reports which are posted on DYEC website under tab called Diversion reports -most people would not know they are one and the same.

In July WMAC requested staff post waste tonnage data going back a number of years as well as provide future tonnage projections and growth trends -not done.

Staff have not yet posted report 2020 INFO 76 from August 14th on Durham's supposed Integrated Waste system – this describes components of Region's waste services

Staff should list which upper tier government legislation applies to municipalities around waste management. Staff should also clearly indicate which Regulations have been finalized by Ontario and which have not.

Staff should include recent report about Durham's preferred timetable to transition regional responsibility for the Blue Box to producers

Request extension of comment deadline to survey to at least end October 2020.

Though granted Council approval to embark of LTWMP review January 2019, it was not until Report 2020 INFO that the public might have learned about the LTWMP development schedule, but only if the public knew about CIPs and where such Information Reports found.

Durham staff received Council approval to proceed with LTWMP review on January 30, 2019.

The LTWMP needs major improvement by adding data as well as correcting certain staff statements.

Obvious error on main page diagram – the DYEC began commercial operations in January 2016, NOT 2017.

Request of additional consultation including Virtual Open House with Real Time Q & A

Covid or consultation costs should not be used as an excuse for insufficient consultation – Waste projects cost the public a fortune and we deserve to be properly consulted as well as being provided with sufficient information to provide informed input.

Q 1 & 2 combined responses

Unsupported Staff Statements describing status of Guiding Principles and basic terms used are undefined

In January 2019, Council DID approve staff rec in bullet 3 of Rec. A) :

*“that Regional Council endorse a vision for the Long Term Waste Management Strategy 2021-2040 that continues and enhances the **reduce, reuse, recycle principles and incorporates the vision of waste as a resource as a foundation of the plan.**”*

From LTWMP website:

*The Waste Plan will develop **innovative** ways to **use waste as a resource** in a [circular economy](#) - no criteria provided as how to define “innovative”.*

Where is “innovation” defined and who decided “innovation” should be defining criterion for any project or program?

Surely a program’s effectiveness, efficiency, ability to deliver primary objectives, best relative cost and how it meets publicly developed and accepted objectives and criteria trump mere “innovation”.

Something can be innovative but ineffective or undesirable.

Nowhere in staff documents nor on LTWMP web pages have I found a definition that would explain what staff mean by: **Waste as a Resource** – this could mean anything to anybody.

This undefined terminology invites highly subjective interpretations whereby dubious “rationales” could be crafted to consider variety of activities -e.g. is burning garbage to produce electricity is using waste as a resource.

Or, is pursuing staff's stated intention to find what they might assert to be "beneficial use" for ash as staff seem to want to do -whereby ash is a process residue laced with toxic chemicals in the case of even bottom ash that remains after burning garbage, which Durham waste staff promoted and continue to support – as an example of using waste as a resource?

Or, if staff asserted that building a road with plastics -some of them being material sought by producers, is an example of using waste as a resource?

Unfortunately staff conducted a survey fall 2019 using that same undefined term.

The 2019 survey results would be of limited value and should not be relied upon too heavily in and of themselves.

No one should ever rely on or put too much stock in survey results where questions posed are leading and are not open ended and/or where terminology used not clearly defined.

If staff continue to push buzzwords like "waste as a resource" this MUST be defined in all regional documents where used, especially as possible rationale for particular projects, so that all stakeholders understand how staff intend to interpret that term, with that interpretation then open for public input.

Should be clear statement inviting public input on GPs with all statements referencing council endorsement -of which no evidence provided - removed.

Staff Developed Guiding principles from Report 2020-COW-2 –

4.2 The 2021 to 2040 Long-Term Waste Management Plan will be guided by the following principles, as identified and consistent with the 2019 Solid Waste Management Servicing and Financing Study (2019-COW-03):

a)Working with rapid and diverse population growth to ensure community vitality and innovate how the Region delivers cost effective waste management services to its communities.

b)Working in collaboration with producers and importers of designated products and packaging under "Extended Producer Responsibility" regulations and strategies to transition the full costs for managing these materials from municipalities to producers and importers.

c)Applying innovative approaches to repurposing the Region's waste stream and managing them as resources in a circular economy and developing local opportunities that contribute toward ensuring the Region's economic prosperity.

d)Demonstrating leadership in sustainability to address the climate crisis by adopting new or adjusting existing waste management programs and technologies and green energy solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

4.3 Consultation for the Long-Term Waste Management Plan **will commence in Spring 2020** with stakeholders including Regional inter-departmental staff, local municipalities, advisory committees and other interested groups, and residents.

From LTWMP site: Quotes

"We want to thank our community for taking the time to provide their input on our new Waste Plan. We know that the feedback we receive will help us shape the plan to ensure our waste management services continue to be innovative, sustainable and cost effective while addressing the needs of our growing and diverse community."

- Gioseph Anello, Director of Waste Management, The Regional Municipality of Durham

Most GP statements above provide no supporting data or criteria or links to related information so that general public could understand what might be contemplated by staff.

Staff comments say they invite the community to provide input and "**help us shape the plan**", while also implying that certain principles have already been endorsed by Council, which is not the case of the 4 staff developed Guiding Principles.

What this survey exercise appears to be is staff seeking public's endorsement for **their** predetermined priorities.

How many members of the public would have seen staff's LTWMP Guiding Principles buried in Report 2020 COW -2 with Region's Strategic Issues forecast nor that staff would develop these arbitrarily before the LTWMP consultation process began and months before the public was notified LTWMP web pages?

In various places on LTWMP website staff assert these Guiding Principles were endorsed by Council January 29, 2020 however, after making inquiries to the Clerk who then forwarded my request to the Finance Commissioner, **no evidence was provided of said Council endorsement.** In fact, staff's own recommendation to council in report 2020 COW-2 which described Guiding Principles, **was to receive and forward the report....**

In fact Report 2020 INFO 26 does not reference the staff Guiding Principles and in Section 3.2 goes on to say: **"The focus of these consultations will be to develop draft objectives, targets and the vision statement for the plan"**.

Furthermore, at the July 15, 2020 EFW WMAC meeting, waste staff asserted that the Guiding Principles came to them via Durham's Strategic Plan (SP) – which is NOT the case. The SP is has broadly stated aspirational goals and statements around a number of issues – it is NOT prescriptive document.

For their September 22nd meeting, I provided EFW WMAC members and staff with the full email exchanges between staff. In fact, WMAC has asked staff to respond to this Guiding Principles issue – it is unclear if staff have done so to date.

Then staff alter some of the GPs wording from COW-2 to what used in the survey itself.

Staff have an obligation to communicate accurately and clearly at all times and especially with the public.

Durham Waste staff should absolutely NOT continue to leave the impression with anyone that these staff developed Guiding Principles were endorsed by Council or in any way a “done deal” unless they provide clear evidence of Council endorsement of those four principles.

Preliminary comments re staff developed Guiding Principles as written in COW-2.

The GPs do not appear to be consistent with the January 30, 2019 request where staff sought council endorsement : *that Regional Council endorse a vision for the Long Term Waste Management Strategy 2021-2040 that continues and enhances the **reduce, reuse, recycle principles and incorporates the vision of waste as a resource as a foundation of the plan.***”

Staff fail to reference the primary two principles i.e. to reduce and reuse in the current version of GPs

Regardless of whatever messaging put out by Durham, Reduction and Reuse will always precede Recycling/Diversion in the hierarchy. Front end solutions are needed, not merely back end as Region references in GPs.

Furthermore, during the development of the Strategic Plan (SP), those involved in developing it referenced diversion and recovery but neglected to mention the primary two principles of Reduction and Reuse.

From SP: https://www.durham.ca/en/regional-government/resources/Documents/Departments/CAOs-Office/DurhamRegionStrategicPlan_web-3.pdf

Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability Objective: To protect the environment for the future by demonstrating leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.

1.1 Accelerate the adoption of green technologies and clean energy solutions through strategic partnerships and investment

1.2 Increase waste diversion and resource recovery

1.3 Protect, preserve and restore the natural environment, including greenspaces, waterways, parks, trails, and farmlands

1.4 Demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change

1.5 Expand sustainable and active transportation

How is it possible that all the staff and councillors developing the SP failed to identify Reduction and Reuse as having primacy over Diversion and Recovery?

This could indicate perhaps the councillors on the Strategic Plan Task Force and/or some staff involved are possibly confused by the various “messaging” put out by Work/Waste Depts. Could they have they forgotten that Reduce and Reuse always precede Diversion?

If councillors i.e. the decision makers with access to information they could request, are unclear on priorities, how do you expect the public to understand the Region's priorities? Staff must be consistent in ALL messaging to the public and of course to council.

Furthermore, though this brought up by citizens in past, Durham has not addressed developing Waste Reduction Targets nor have I seen any plan to achieve those that I am aware.

Durham used to occasionally report Waste Generation data – this has not happened in recent years. It should – without waste generation data as well as population growth past and present, nobody can properly assess any number of Waste related issues.

Other municipalities like York have developed reduction targets and report out results. Durham should.

Re-use – Durham seems to rely on partnerships with other organizations.

Thankfully some lower tier municipalities have considered local programs for textiles e.g. Oshawa and Pickering.

Previous Staff commitments re consultation on LTWMP

Recall staff commitments in **Report 2020 INFO 26 – Section 3.2**

3.3 The focus of these consultations will be to develop draft objectives, targets and the vision statement for the Plan.

The survey puts out staff vision and GPs seeking endorsement yes or no, please explain. This does not address commitments made in above report.

To repeat, a lot more detailed information has to be provided to the general public so they could better understand the context in which such objectives and vision should consider.

LTWMP review undercut -Many individual projects that are/will be primary components of Durham Waste system were approved over the last year.

Instead of embarking on LTWMP review after 2019 approval to do so, staff pursued council approvals for MWP and AD, as well as EA Screening for incinerator throughput expansion – and staff now consider comment on those council approved such as EA Screening for Incinerator Throughput Increase and MWP and AD – around which NO PUBLIC CONSULTATION OCCURRED EXCEPT FOR SHAM SITE SELECTION PROCESS – where Durham ultimately identified **their** preferred site before short list site consultation had ended, and where they provided no consultation record -which they claimed they produced – so that council and public could see comments submitted.

Note that MWP/AD and EA Screening for incinerator are projects that have NO external approvals

They should not be outside the bounds of LTWMP review and this should be made clear on LTWMP website- that separate consultations ongoing in case of EA screening and yet to commence re MWP/AD.

When asked at WMAC what type of issues could be addressed in LTWMP review, Anello said, we can look at what other materials might go in green bin!! and we get to tinker around the margins?

It remains mystifying to me that few councillors appear to understand that various components of Durham’s waste system are at cross purposes e.g. green bin and MWP, or how an incinerator requiring fixed waste tonnage is inconsistent with broadly accepted principles of Waste Reduction.

Annual waste reporting – needs to be more frequent and detailed.

Quality of Information to decision-makers and public needs improvement and clarity.

Less fact based information about Region’s waste programs makes its way to Councillors than four years ago.

E.g. Annual Waste Management Reports, which used to be produced by spring following the reporting year, were more detailed, provided more tonnage information both by housing type, by municipality as well as more information about individual programs, proposed programs etc.

Now there are lots of pictures but less data than before and it’s released late summer or in fall and this is to the detriment of council and the public.

Furthermore, the little data staff do provide is confusing e.g. see table from Page 9 of 2019 Annual Waste Management Report:

Tonnes Collected

Material Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
 Garbage	110,498	107,887	115,271	119,716	120,637
 Organics	26,796	27,612	28,318	28,446	28,522
 Blue Box	48,254	47,923	47,839	43,139	41,738
 Leaf & Yard Waste	27,554	24,730	25,082	27,330	26,646
 Other Diversion	7,231	10,837	6,887	6,712	6,553
Total	220,333	218,989	223,397	225,343	224,096

Anybody with basic math skills would discern from above table that garbage tonnage (120,637) makes up MORE than half of the total tonnage shown (224,096) – which would mean that Diversion would be LESS than 50%

Yet, in that same report staff show diversion rates as follows:

Diversions Achievements

Durham Region submits an annual datacall to the province through the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPPRA), to receive funding from producers to assist with costs of operating the Blue Box program. The datacall is the source of data used to confirm municipal diversion rates across the province.

RPPRA Annual Waste Diversion

2015 – 54%	1 st for Urban Regional Municipalities
2016 – 55%	1 st for Urban Regional Municipalities
2017 – 65%*	1 st for Urban Regional Municipalities, 3 rd Overall in the Province
2018 – 64%	1 st for Urban Regional Municipalities, 3 rd (tied) Overall in the Province
2019 – 63%**	pending verification

All values are rounded.

RPPRA diversion numbers from landfill after curbside collection does not include Durham Region’s approved energy-from-waste initiatives.

*Updated from 55 per cent to reflect finalized 2017 RPPRA diversion rate. First year RPPRA recognized recycled materials recovered through energy-from-waste.

When asked to explain this at the September 22nd EFW WMAC meeting staff claimed these were RPPRA calculations but did not provide a full response as to how Durham’s diversion numbers were pumped up to 63%.

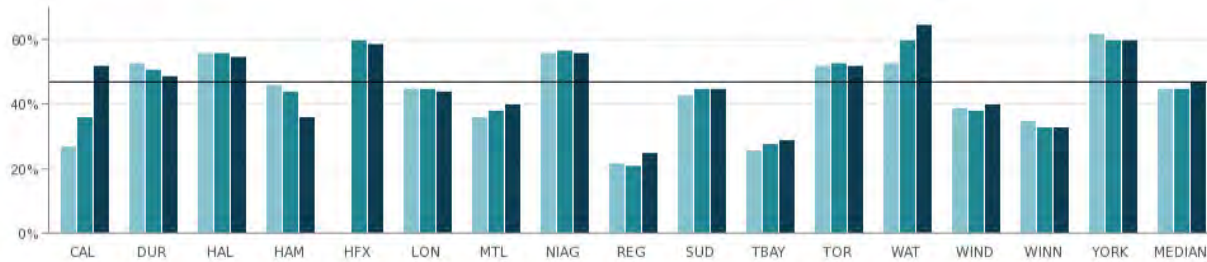
As another example that sows confusion, for 2018, Durham claims in their Annual Waste Management Report diversion rate of 64% yet, MBN benchmarking data indicates a 49% diversion rate for 2018.

See: table from <http://mbncanada.ca/app/uploads/2019/11/2018-Waste-Management.pdf>

Staff should provide clear written explanations for how these both diversion rates are derived, with supporting data provided.

Figure 34.4 Percent of Residential Solid Waste Diverted

This measure demonstrates the percent of residential waste diverted away from landfills and incineration through programs such as organics, blue box, leaf and yard, municipal hazardous or special waste and other recyclable materials, e.g. wood, metal, tires.



2016	27%	53%	56%	46%	N/A	45%	36%	56%	22%	43%	26%	52%	53%	39%	35%	62%	45%
2017	36%	51%	56%	44%	60%	45%	38%	57%	21%	45%	28%	53%	60%	38%	33%	60%	45%
2018	52%	49%	55%	36%	59%	44%	40%	56%	25%	45%	29%	52%	65%	40%	33%	60%	47%

Source: SWST105 (Community Impact). Formerly SWST105M.

Calgary: The large increase in diversion was due to the implementation of the Green Cart Program and change to every other week garbage collection, which was completed in the second half of 2017. 2018 was the first full year of program results.

Hamilton: The decrease in 2018 was primarily due to the temporary shut down of the Central Composting Facility.

On several occasions I have provided MBN Data to council as they are no longer getting it from Works/Waste staff, as was the case in the past.

Durham has set various diversion rates over the years and several projects are sold to council as ostensibly helping Durham to achieve Diversion targets but without providing enough evidence to show how that might occur and under which scenarios.

This unfocused preoccupation with Diversion and Durham’s ranking has caused Durham to not only take their focus off the primary objectives of Reduction and Reuse, but the differences between Durham staff reports and those produced by external agencies requires a full substantiated explanation to public and council.

Durham has not consulted with the EFW AC Advisory Committee re LTWMP – they should.

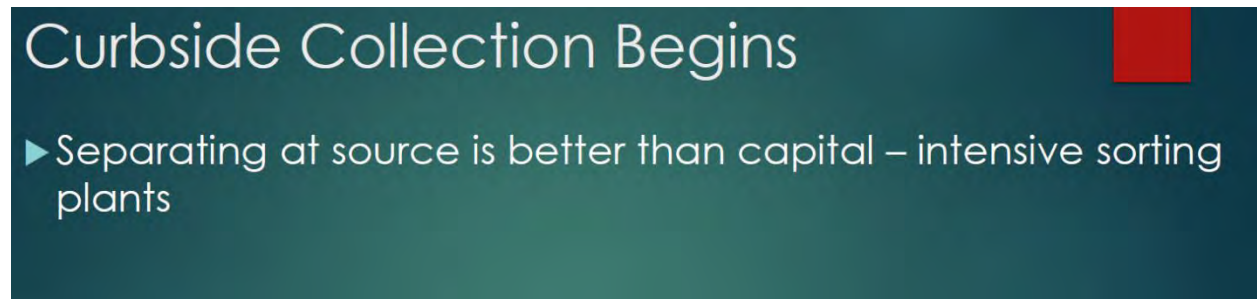
Many components of Durham’s waste system impact their incinerator directly. Formal input from EFW AC members re LTWMP should be solicited, especially with Durham proposing both a throughput increase, a physical expansion and MWP which staff claim would remove non-combustibles currently going to the DYEC.

Durham abandoning key principle of Source Separation for Organics in Multi Residential housing types and pursuing Mixed Waste Presort

Encouraging and developing Source Separation of waste systems, particularly with organics, is hard work. Beyond public education and promotion, clear rules and infrastructure in Multi Res have to in place to support SS for organics everywhere including Multi Res.

Other municipalities who have AD (Toronto) or are considering AD (York), will continue to focus on processing **Source Separated organics**.

The Chair of Durham's EFW WMAC committee (ex Ministry of the Environment) made a presentation on June 1st that included the following statement on Slide 3:



Durham staff suggested the public could now comment, since MWP and AD approved by Council, on what additional materials could be collected in the green bin.

Keep in mind that any organics currently found in the garbage bag, that staff would consider for addition to the green bin, would result in fewer organics in the garbage bag for MWP to extract – meaning, the better we do at separating organics and including them in green bin, will result in less “facility separated organics” - this is a perfect example of staff proposed programs working at cross purposes.

When asked by a Councillor about Source Separation, and the low SS contamination rates for organics (3%) vs the potentially high (20-40%) contamination rate for those extracted via MWP, the Works Commissioner said they are not anticipating a rate of 40% rather that this was included for sensitivity analysis purposes. – where is any data to back up that statement?

In fact, where is the report/data about the MWP facility that GHD claims to have audited so that Council and the public, who are paying the freight, could know what such facilities could achieve?

Furthermore, contamination and quality of organics will affect quality of final digestate. Where is data on whether AD digestate from processing organics from MWP can produce acceptable quality digestate or if it would require additional treatment or even disposal.

At the Sept. 16th COW the Works Commissioner stated that a large amount of Durham's waste comes from Multi Res.

Durham staff no longer break out the figures by housing type in their Annual Waste Management reports as they did up until 2017. Table from Annual Waste Management Report 2017, see tables below:

REGION OF DURHAM TONNES OF RESIDENTIAL WASTE MANAGED (2017)												
Descriptions	Curbside Garbage	Apartment Garbage	Bulky/Other Goods	Curbside Recycling	Apartment Recycling	Food Composting	Leaf & Yard Composting	Composter Credits	Grasscycling Credits	Other Diversion Programs	Total Waste	Waste Diversion
1 Curbside & multi-residential wastes												
Pickering	11,029	892	263	6,273	273	4,460	3,328	835	499	99	27,949	56%
Ajax	13,696	1,391	204	7,613	278	6,173	3,431	714	515	107	34,122	55%
Whitby	13,399	2,565	521	9,131	508	6,442	4,480	1,204	672	58	38,979	58%
Oshawa	19,642	8,168	279	10,637	1,008	5,890	5,885	1,713	883	20	54,124	48%
Clarington	13,101	131	418	7,203	56	3,375	3,482	650	522	61	28,998	53%
Scugog	2,936	184	57	1,580	0	810	1,040	331	156	20	7,115	58%
Uxbridge	2,902	187	73	1,550	0	795	968	271	145	24	6,915	54%
Brock	1,978	0	80	1,116	0	374	341	151	51	14	4,107	50%
sub-totals	78,683	13,518	1,895	45,103	2,123	28,318	22,955	5,869	3,443	402	202,308	53%
		94,096		47,226		51,273		9,312				
2 Regional waste disposal sites												
Oshawa	0	0	15,215	377	0	0	1,456	0	218	4,248	21,514	29%
Scugog	0	0	4,520	189	0	0	494	0	74	1,363	6,640	32%
Pickering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	258	258	100%
Brock	0	0	1,440	48	0	0	177	0	27	523	2,213	35%
MRF (1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	23	100%
sub-total	0	0	21,175	614	0	0	2,127	0	319	6,414	30,648	31%
3 Special Events												
HHW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	24	100%
E-Waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	31	100%
Re-use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	17	100%
sub-total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	72	100%
4 Summary												
municipal residents	78,683	13,518	1,895	45,103	2,123	28,318	22,955	5,869	3,443	402	202,308	53%
Regional waste sites	0	0	21,175	614	0	0	2,127	0	319	6,414	30,329	31%
Special Events	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	72	100%
sub-total	78,683	13,518	23,070	45,716	2,123	28,318	25,082	5,869	3,762	6,887	232,709	
Total Tonnes, with credits	115,271			47,839		53,400		9,631		6,887	233,028	
Total Tonnes, managed	115,271			47,839		53,400				6,887	223,397	
Percentages of Total	34%	6%	10%	20%	1%	12%	11%	3%	2%	3%	100%	
Waste diversion rate	51%										April 10, 2018	

*It must be noted that, while the waste reported in this Table derives a 51 percent diversion rate, the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority, the agency which officially tracks and reports on municipal waste diversion rates in Ontario, adjusts municipally reported waste tonnages to account for deposit return, home composting, grass cycling and other re-use activities across Ontario. In 2017, these adjustments increased Durham's overall waste diversion rate to 55 percent.

Descriptions	Curbside Garbage	Apartment Garbage	Bulky/Other Goods
1 Curbside & multi-residential wastes			
Pickering	11,029	892	263
Ajax	13,696	1,391	204
Whitby	13,399	2,565	521
Oshawa	19,642	8,168	279
Clarington	13,101	131	418
Scugog	2,936	184	57
Uxbridge	2,902	187	73
Brock	1,978	0	80
sub-totals	78,683	13,518	1,895
		94,096	
2 Regional waste disposal sites			
Oshawa	0	0	15,215
Scugog	0	0	4,520
Pickering	0	0	0
Brock	0	0	1,440
MRF (1)	0	0	0
sub-total	0	0	21,175
3 Special Events			
HHW	0	0	0
E-Waste	0	0	0
Re-use	0	0	0
sub-total	0	0	0
4 Summary			
municipal residents	78,683	13,518	1,895
Regional waste sites	0	0	21,175
Special Events	0	0	0
sub-total	78,683	13,518	23,070
Total Tonnes, with credits	115,271		
Total Tonnes, managed	115,271		
Percentages of Total	34%	6%	10%
Waste diversion rate			

For 2017, “apartment garbage” makes up a very small percentage of Total Garbage aka Residual waste requiring disposal.

Yes, there will be more future growth of Multi Res housing.

Until that time, the staff recommended MWP may primarily be churning through the garbage bags from Single Family Homes which are already offered green bin collection, where, if we improved organics capture and/or increase organics materials acceptable in the green bin, the less organics there would be

in the black garbage bag, which illustrates how inefficient MWP will ultimately be as concerns organics capture.

If I were a cynic, while it might appear that capturing additional organics is the cover story for MWP, it may be just as much or more about getting the non-combustibles out of the garbage going to the DYEC and improving combustion and electricity production, the latter subsidized by Ontario ratepayers and used by Durham staff to offset the excessive costs of their incinerator.

In fact the Works Commissioner alluded to other objectives for MWP in her comments at COW Sept 16.

Slide 5 of the Waste staff July 8th 2020 PPT to Works Committee spells it out.

Presort Objectives

- Remove Organics:
 - Quantity: 80 percent
 - Quality: Methane Potential and Digestate
- Remove Non-Combustibles
 - Metals: Ferrous and Non-Ferrous
 - Glass
 - Rubble: bricks, stones....
- Recyclables with a positive marketing potential
- Others



Service Excellence for our Communities

Where WILL those non-combustibles extracted by MWP that staff don't want to process at their incinerator go for disposal?

Will this also be to landfills outside Durham? Like incinerator ash and unacceptable waste which are currently landfilled in Niagara Region?

This would be contrary to what Durham touts processing our waste in Durham and this is NOT telling the public the whole story.

Absent the limited evidence provided to date (I see no reference to facility GHD claimed they audited) the inescapable conclusion is that MWP is a very inefficient and expensive way to attempt to capture organics, but is likely very profitable for the many consultants and "advisors" and vendors paid for by public dollars.

Responses to other survey questions:

Q 3 - Waste Plan Survey Objectives

Currently in survey in the WRONG order – Reduction first, then reuse, then Diversion

Where are links describing Durham’s GHG mitigation efforts so that responders could evaluate?

Does the Region actually have GHG emissions reduction targets? If not, when will these be developed?

Protecting land, water etc -these should be integral criteria for all regional projects that have the potential for adverse impacts to public health and the natural environment.

Q 4 - Durham should pursue projects and programs that avoid or limit adverse impacts to public health and natural environment and where net benefits of project to public could be objectively demonstrated.

Durham should pursue low cost options such as clear bags to improve and incent materials separation by developing clear bag program, as has been done elsewhere successfully for almost a decade. Separated waste streams less contaminated and much lower cost than MWP.

Durham should not abandon Source Separation of organics for multi res (MR). Similar to Toronto could develop building ambassador program.

All new MR buildings should offer separation and collection of separated recyclables and organics. P & E as well as

Should be comprehensive cost benefit analysis to show there is net benefit to public

Q 5 and 6 - Reducing any waste I might generate is a long time priority.

I evaluate purchases based both on packaging and contents.

Starving the highly polluting, expensive and inefficient incinerator is a long time hobby.

I divert all possible recyclables and organics.

I have bought a back yard composter which will be set up next year.

Materials not accepted for recycling or re-use in Durham I take elsewhere where accepted e.g. non rewearable/reusable textiles/shoes etc. and plastic bags that package bread, some vegetables like potatoes etc.

Q 8 –

Durham should investigate and determine which materials currently found in the residual waste stream are potentially recyclable/reusable and prioritize programs depending on quantity of material and recyclability, reuse potential etc.

Likely to be textiles -pursuing textiles program both re-wearable and diversion program for textiles or items like shoes that have fallen apart and cannot be repaired or worn any longer.

Durham should support provincial bans and could develop municipal bans before province e.g. retail plastic bags others doing for decades, single use plastics.

Encourage more back yard composting and how that would still require materials like meat and dairy to go in green bin.

Revamp your Know Before you Throw – more efficient for public to review lists of materials and where they go than to try to figure out how to describe a particular item or items.

Consult on scrapping MWP and then it might make sense to possibly accept more items in green bin – see earlier comments re same.

Q 10) How do I receive waste information?

I am signed up for Regional Works notifications and get various PSAs

Also review waste pages on DR website

Read local newspapers

Hard copy Waste Calendar

Used to get hard copy Works Newsletter in mail

Monitor council and committee meetings and agendas

Small scale depots could be a good idea. Properly signed, managed and monitored.

Q 11

Develop factual, clear and consistent P & E material – ditch the subjective and/or self-promoting statements

More in person workshops led by credible and well informed people with appropriate experience around regional waste programs and upper tier govnt legislation prepared to communicate with wide range of people from differing household types and cultures

More virtual meetings with opportunities for real time Q & A.

Q 12 –try encouraging building ambassadors to encourage, educate and promote source separation of materials

Proper P & E for tenants/condo unit owners as well as Property Managers and Building Owners and Condo Boards

Better tracking and reporting of data -more frequently to both council, public and advisory committees.

Mandatory Recycling including use of bylaws and enforcement of Property Managers and Owners as priority

Q 13

Staff messaging to public and council inconsistent and confusing and unfocused.

Durham puts out messaging mentioning the 4 Rs (2019 Annual Report) and 5 Rs -one example being Nov.1.19 PSA to complete waste survey.

During the LTWMP, clear, accurate, evidence based and consistent messaging must come from Regional Staff. We expect politicians to engage in endless self-promotion but not professional public servants.

Regional staff communications are not to confused with marketing messages, nor should staff be shamelessly characterizing projects that staff recommend and council approves as being “innovative” or that it makes them “leaders”. Give us a break. Staff’s job is to communicate factual information – period.

Ongoing and more frequent evidence based Council education required around waste

I can’t recall a term of council where so few councillors appeared to be prepared and/or sufficiently informed to make the decisions that staff request they make, as has been the case in this term of council.

It is the ultimately responsibility of the CAO and the Works Commissioner to ensure that Council and Committees have sufficiently detailed and verifiable information in good time and before them when requesting their approvals – full stop.

Furthermore, staff must be prepared to respond to councillor questions clearly and provide/explain the requested information immediately.

It was astonishing to me that on May 27, 2020, no staff or consultant in attendance could respond to a councillor’s direct questions asking staff to point to examples of MWP working elsewhere as it would be expected to in Durham. Yet staff were asking for approval where MWP a key part of larger project.

What’s equally frightening is that the majority of council approved the project anyway, though no example was provided by staff at that meeting – the question council and CAO should be asking why were staff not prepared to respond? Or their consultant GHD?

After approval granted, May 27th, only then did a series of “Information Memos” trickle out yet, none that I have seen reference or provide links to the one MWP that apparently GHD “audited”.

When will that specific information be provided and posted online so that all stakeholders could assess what staff have proposed and asked council to approve?

Durham should consider a separate Standing Committee to deal with Waste issues –

Issues around waste intersect with those around public and environmental health, sustainability, climate change to name a few.

Projects are very complex, expensive and time consuming even to achieve basic understanding

The same is true for issues around water, sewage and transportation.

Works Committee responsibilities should be broken up so as to form a stand-alone Waste (Materials) Management Standing Committee. Others could ponder what water, sewage and transportation might require.

General Comments and questions:

Durham needs to develop systematic and consistent evidence informed approach to reduction, re-use and diversion programs. There is no magic bullet.

Durham STAFF must report to council and the public more frequently about waste issues. Reports must include verifiable data, with metrics that measure specific targets, objectives etc.

For the LTWMP review, Durham staff should produce a consultation record for each phase of the consultation, with comments received after each phase of LTWMP development provided to Council and posted online on LTWMP website

Staff should provide cost information and business case documents for all projects under consideration – capital and operating for proposed projects and clear financial reporting on all current waste programs e.g. diversion, re-use and well as full details on ALL disposal costs -incinerator, bypass and unacceptable waste, waste excavated from landfills, where MWP presort non combustibles would go etc.

Updated information should be reported on Regional and specifically incinerator GHG emissions – in past Durham had sought exemptions.

Big changes since Cap and Trade scrapped – what relief is Durham seeking around GHG emissions from their incinerator?

When Durham transitions Blue Box responsibility to producers, what non blue box diversion programs would be retained, reviewed for consideration, dropped?

E.g. other munis divert C & D waste, Durham tried pilot for short time, then dropped.

Durham tried mattress recycling pilot for short time – dropped it.

Where will NON blue box recyclables including those extracted via MWP be processed and at what estimated cost?

Q 14 Whitby

Q 15 over 65

In closing, Durham residents deserve another round of consultation after the LTWMP has been corrected, additional content provided as suggested above and by others including EFW WMAC committee on both July 15th and Sept. 22nd.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

October 6, 2020

Dear Members of the Works Committee,

I am writing to you with concerns with the work and consultation being done on the Long-Term Waste Management Plan.

I am hoping that you have reviewed what has been posted for the initial consultation on the LTWMP. I first draw your attention to a statement (I have bolded below) made on the home web page for the LTWMP and which is also stated in the first question of the Online Open House Survey copied below:

Question 1

1. ***Regional Council endorsed four guiding principles to follow during the development of the Long-term Waste Management Plan on January 29, 2020. These principles are based on the Region's Strategic Plan, developed with public input in 2019, and will help shape the vision and objectives of the new Waste Plan.***

The four guiding principles are:

a. Deliver cost effective waste management services to a rapidly growing and diverse population.

b. Work with producers and importers of designated products and packaging to implement "Extended Producer Responsibility" and adjust Region waste programs as required.

c. Apply innovative approaches to Region waste streams to manage them as resources in a circular economy.

d. Demonstrate leadership in sustainability to address the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from waste management activities.

Are there any other guiding principles you think we should consider when developing the new Waste Plan?

Firstly, where is the supporting evidence that Regional Council endorsed these four guiding principles? I am concerned that the statement regarding endorsement which is on this survey and posted on the LTWMP project website has misled and misinformed the public.

I am a member of the EFW-WMAC Committee. We have had discussions at our last two meetings about concerns with the guiding principles. At our last meeting on September 21st, 2020

we received correspondence from [REDACTED] which provided references to Council reports and staff responses on this matter of endorsement.

I reviewed the reports and correspondence, and I could not find evidence that these guiding principles were endorsed so I asked staff at the meeting what evidence supported the assertion of endorsement. I was not satisfied with the response and made a motion that staff respond to the Committee with a written response regarding evidence of endorsement. The Committee voted in favour of that motion.

It has now been two weeks since our September 21st, 2020 meeting and I have not received that response. **Please direct Works staff to respond to the WMAC members regarding proof of endorsement today. This a fundamental matter that must be addressed now.**

Furthermore, to advise that guiding principles have already been endorsed on both the home page of the project site and again in the first question of the survey, and then to, only a few paragraphs later, ask for input on them, is contradictory and has the effect of suppressing public input.

Guiding principles are very important. They are foundational and steer the plan. The guiding principles for the LTWMP plan stated above were developed by staff without input from the public and waste related committees with public members. The public and those committees should have been asked specifically for input on the guiding principles for the LTWMP – it is a 20-year plan with major implications for Durham residents and taxpayers.

A major concern is that the four guiding principles above do not even mention Reduction and Reuse. In the January 2019-COW-3 report which *was* endorsed by Council and which launched the LTWMP, Recommendation 1A) states:

“Regional Council endorse a vision for the Long Term Waste Management Strategy 2021=2040 that continues and enhances the reduce, reuse, recycle principles and incorporates the vision of waste as a resource as a foundation of the plan.”

Improving reduction, reuse at the front end should be the highest priority, yet this is not captured at all in the four guiding principles. They must be in writing and clearly give the greatest priority. This must be rectified. Addressing waste at the front end is well understood to be the best strategy for our environment and for our health and the most cost effective. Front end should be the focus and driver of this plan.

I am concerned, after reading the guiding principles, viewing the slides in the Online Open House and from following recent waste decisions at Durham Region, there seems to be too much focus and effort on addressing waste at the back end.

Without guiding principles in the Plan which clearly prioritize the front end goals of maximizing reduction and reuse thereby actually *reducing the amount of waste the Region collects and*

manages, I am concerned that the Plan sets us up for waste management decisions that will be detrimental to our health and environment.

Guiding principle c states “Apply innovative approaches to Region waste streams to manage them as resources in a circular economy”. That statement may sound good, but what does it mean? It is subject to many interpretations and raises many questions and concerns. The terms “circular economy” can be used to greenwash practices that are in fact linear (not circular) and detrimental to the environment.

While greenhouse gas emissions are in guiding principle d which states “Demonstrate leadership in sustainability to address the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from waste management activities.”, **there are no other environmental goals explicitly stated in the guiding principles and there should be.** At a minimum, there should be a guiding principle which also includes **the reduction of toxic load to the environment.**

Turning to the Waste Plan Objectives, Waste Plan Objective #1 is “Increase the diversion of waste from disposal.” I found the online survey question #3 on this and other objectives and questions to be “push polls” as I had to select yes/no, but there were no explanations or definitions on very loaded questions. In this instance, how does the Region define disposal and what do they include as diversion? I can only support Objective #1 **if disposal includes incineration/ash landfill and landfill.** Recently I learned that the ash disposal to landfill is being counted as diversion and I am completely opposed to that distortion.

With regards to Objective 2 which deals with climate change, I support green house gas reduction and true climate change mitigation efforts, but to be able to assess if initiatives deliver them there must be a proper and full assessment of climate impact which include life cycle analysis assessments. While there is information in the slide show highlighting methane emissions from landfills, there is not any information about the 140,000 tpy of greenhouse gases our 140,000 tpy incinerator emits. Where is the supporting information the public can review to make informed comments?

I am very concerned that the information that has been provided to the public incomplete and unbalanced. They should have **unbiased information.** With regards to disposal, the public needs unbiased information on the problems with landfill and with the problems with incineration/ash landfill. With respect to costs, where are the major Durham waste projects succinctly summarized and outlined along with the costs made clear? It is hard for the public to read long reports to pick out such information. To get good feedback from the public, the public must have clear, easy to read, fact-based information with supporting documents provided.

Finally, I am very disappointed to see the latest Durham Report on single-use plastics. Durham is dropping the ball on reduction here and failing to take bold action to lead. Other jurisdictions are taking actions and we should be as well. The public is ready and painfully aware that unnecessary plastic waste is wreaking havoc on our environment and hurting our health.

The time to act is now. And furthermore, burning plastics is not a solution – it puts the problem into the air we breathe and toxins into the land through toxic ash.

On a positive note, I am pleased to see that one of the EFW-WMAC recommendations made at our Committee at our last meeting is before you today and that staff are recommending to extend the comment period for the initial consultation of the LTWMP. I hope that you will support this.

Lastly, I will inform of another motion that was unanimously passed at our last WMAC meeting (you do not seem to have received those minutes yet) which was that our Committee meet very soon and prior to the new deadline we asked for so that we could, as a Committee, form and submit comments at this time on the LTWMP. While I received an invitation for our regularly scheduled meeting in November, I have not received an invitation for this requested Special Meeting. I ask that you direct staff to set up this Special Meeting before October 27th so that they will be by the new deadline and that you would be able to receive them at your next Works meeting. It is very important that the Waste Management Advisory Committee advise on this long-term year Waste Plan.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

████████████████████

Further Comments on the Long-Term Waste Management Plan

Submitted by [REDACTED] – November 8, 2020

Below please find my further comments. Please consider them, together with the comments I submitted as correspondence to the Works Committee on October 6, 2020, as my preliminary comments on the LTWMP 2021-2040.

Guiding Principles

There are some major omissions and problems with the stated four guiding principles that must be corrected. Below I address two major omissions:

1. Improving waste reduction and reuse must be stated as a guiding principle in writing and clearly given top priority.

Enhancing reduction and reuse is not captured at all in the four guiding principles. This MUST be corrected.

Furthermore, this omission must be addressed to be consistent with the January 2019-COW-3 report which *was* endorsed by Council and which launched the LTWMP, and which states in Recommendation 1A):

“Regional Council endorse a vision for the Long Term Waste Management Strategy 2021-2040 that continues and enhances the reduce, reuse, recycle principles and incorporates the vision of waste as a resource as a foundation of the plan.”

Addressing waste at the front end is well understood to be the best strategy for our environment and for our health and is the most cost effective.

I am concerned, after reading the guiding principles, viewing the slides in the Online Open House and from following recent waste decisions at Durham Region, there seems to be too much focus and effort on addressing waste at the back end with expensive, “high tech” capital intensive, resource intensive projects which burden host communities, create new environmental problems and are inflexible (put or pay contracts lock Region).

Without guiding principles in the Plan which clearly prioritize the front end goals of maximizing reduction and reuse thereby actually *reducing the amount of waste the Region collects and manages*, I am concerned that the Plan sets us up for waste management decisions that will be detrimental to our health and environment.

2. There should be a guiding principle which sets as a priority **the reduction of toxic load to the environment**.

While greenhouse gas emissions are in guiding principle d which states “Demonstrate leadership in sustainability to address the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from waste management activities.”, **there are no other environmental goals explicitly stated in the guiding principles and there should be**. At a minimum, there should be a guiding principle which also includes **the reduction of toxic load to the environment**. Other environmental goals should also be considered.

Scientists have demonstrated and governments (local, state/provincial, federal and global levels) are increasingly aware that sustainability has many facets – conservation, minimization of resource extraction, forest and habitat preservation, reducing climate change, reduction of toxins – all are essential. **To have a guiding principle that exclusively focuses on climate change, but which does not include toxin reduction does not demonstrate leadership in sustainability**. Toxin reduction must be included at a minimum.

Need for Unbiased, Fact Based, Complete Information

With regards to Objective 2 in the LTWMP outline which deals with climate change, I support green house gas reduction and true climate change mitigation efforts, but to be able to assess if initiatives deliver them there must be a proper and full assessment of climate impact which includes life cycle analysis assessments. **Please explain to residents whether the Region takes into the life cycle analysis of the items burned in the incinerator in its climate impact analysis**.

While there is information in the slide show highlighting methane emissions from landfills, there is not any information about the 140,000+ tpy of greenhouse gases our incinerator emits. **Please provide a comparison with respect to ALL green house gas emissions from landfills (which takes into account that residuals will have had the organics removed) versus the total greenhouse gas emissions associated with incineration**. The public must have supporting information to make informed comments and the decision makers (Council) also needs that information.

At the Townhall, Durham staff stated that greenhouse gas emissions from organics processing for AD were less that greenhouse gas emissions from aerobic composting of organics. Please provide that supporting information and what aspects were analyzed.

With respect to costs, while guideline a) speaks of delivering cost effective waste strategies, there was absolutely no discussion of costs at the Town Hall nor were the costs of projects provided nor summarized in the virtual open house. How can the public determine if the

Region is being cost effective? Recent MBN data shows that Durham has very high costs relative to other reporting jurisdictions. The public and decision makers must have clear, easy to read, fact-based comparative information with supporting documents provided.

Finally, the Waste Plan does not provide alternatives that could be considered.

Alternatives to expanding the incinerator should be discussed and the pros and cons stated so that the public can weigh the information.

What about separate dirty organics collection and keeping the source separated organics for clean compost? Some municipalities are having success with such options.

Risks, too, should be clearly outlined to the public. We know there are risks associated with the Mixed Waste Pre-sort and costs/benefits should be clearly summarized for the general public to understand them on the LTWMP web site.

Low Tech, Low Cost Initiative Should Be Maximized First

Low tech, low cost initiatives should be maximized first. These include the following:

- Clear bag policy should be revisited as other municipalities employing clear bags are having success with reduction.
- Increase bylaw enforcement of recycling and green bin use at the curb.
- Create building requirements for multi-residential buildings which enables organics collection and recycling, so all Durham residents are able participate in source separation.
- Setting clear Reduction Targets.
- Publish our Region's per capita waste totals once a year in local papers. This could be very engaging for residents and start new conversations at the individual household level and municipality level and could spark a productive media campaign. There are Durham residents who are doing amazing jobs closing in on zero waste and have excellent tips to share to inspire others. Believe in your citizens. People like to do better, to set goals and measure their improvements. Set Regional per capita goals and include publishing per capita statistics by municipality.
- Lead by example. Make all Regional activities zero waste events. Be transparent about where Regional waste is going.
- Provide engaging education on the benefits of composting and mulching.
- Provide unbiased and complete education on the negative environmental impacts of disposal for both incineration/ash landfill and landfill.

Finally, I am very disappointed to see the latest Durham Report on single-use plastics.

Durham is dropping the ball on reduction here and failing to take bold action to lead. Other jurisdictions are taking actions and we should be as well. The public is ready and painfully aware that unnecessary plastic waste is wreaking havoc on our environment and hurting our health. The time to act is now. And furthermore, burning plastics is not a solution – it puts the problem into the air we breathe and toxins into the land through toxic ash.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments on this initial stage of the LTWMP.

██████████

Nov. 8. 2020

Via Email to: WastePlan@durham.ca

Supplementary comments to LTWMP Consultation i.e. in addition to what submitted Sept. 30.20

To repeat, Durham staff developed Guiding Principles revealed no commitment to focusing on Reduction and Reuse as “front end” approaches to its waste plan or strategy.

Durham should release waste generation (per capita and household) data from the last decade and projections for at least ten years so that could be evaluated including for the setting of targets.

Collection stops count data as well.

Also, release all waste related costs by category e.g. diversion, disposal including full costs for DYEC annual operations as well as additional disposal costs for bypass waste, unacceptable/rejected waste, disposal of any materials excavated from landfills etc.

Historic population growth should be provided as well as population growth projections should be available through to 2041, broken down by housing type.

Durham has not met historic Council approved diversion targets or even come close and in fact diversion numbers are trending in the wrong direction.

Having said that, Diversion is a “back end” strategy and as has been proven you can’t recycle/divert your way out of a waste crisis.

With producers taking up responsibility for collection and processing of the Blue Box, Diversion calculations are likely to change dramatically.

There should be a complete re-evaluation of all individual Durham run Diversion programs that do not transition.

Any diversion options Durham would propose such as depots for non blue box materials must be fully costed with targets so these could be evaluated over time.

Diversion

Durham does not report diversion metrics at the level of detail set out in the DY Incinerator EA Condition 10 - attached. It should.

How Durham fulfils, or doesn’t, EA Conditions has the potential to impact Durham’s ability to get MECP approvals for future expansions applications. Past performance can be a good indicator of future performance, or lack thereof.

Furthermore, Durham does not break out its reported diversion metrics in a way that would allow readers of its Annual Waste Management Reports to understand the numbers or even the few explanatory notes provided.

See attached diversion summary and tables from 2018 and 2019 Annual Waste Management Reports.

As the attached Waste Diversion “Plan” that Durham submitted in 2011 shows, Durham doesn’t really have a plan to reach the Council approved 70% diversion target adopted in January 2008. Durham did a Mattress Pilot for a short time but it could not be considered comparable because if you wanted the mattress diverted, you had to deliver it to the WMF but, if you wanted to dispose of it, it got picked up at the curb -so not comparable.

Other municipalities recycle C & D - Durham did it for short time and then abandoned. Why? Public and council have right to know results and costs.

There appears to be no systematic data driven approach to any of the Region’s plans.

Durham is justifying projects such as the Mixed Waste Pre-sort as one way to achieve big increases diversion, however, it has not provided data to support such claims.

Durham Commissioner Siopis very recently, in an October 20, 2020 memo to Clarington Council, indicated that 30,000 Tonnes annually would be diverted from the DYEC however, she provided ZERO SUPPORTING DATA - and this might not be a “net” number as Durham as process residues which may require disposal may be produced and which may go elsewhere -this not yet known.

As well other impacts of MWP to DYEC were NOT provided to date though promised in May 2019 in report COW 8. Not keeping commitments to public and council damages the credibility of all at the Region, but mostly that of Waste Managers and the Commissioner of Works.

As well, the cost to achieve the promised organics diversion (percentage range not specified) has to be justified – how much will it cost to divert that promised diversion tonnage in capital costs and annual operating costs?

Cost estimates unverified because staff reports did not include underlying business case and other analyses nor are the posted on the MWP/AD project website.

Unfortunately, from the top on down, there has been a long standing and ongoing lack of commitment to disclosure of basic waste related data to both Council and the public.

Thank you for your attention.

██████████

██████████

Enclosures:

DY Incinerator EA Condition 10

Durham Diversion Plan Oct. 2011

Siopis Memo to Clarington Oct. 20.20 in Clarington Nov. 2.20 agenda at:

<https://weblink.clarington.net/weblink/0/edoc/332929/2020-11-02%20Agenda.pdf>



October 21, 2011

The Regional
Municipality
of Durham

Works Department

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C. R. Curtis, P.Eng., MBA
Commissioner of Works

Ms. Agatha Garcia-Wright, Director
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch
Ministry of the Environment
2 St. Clair Avenue West, 12A Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

and

Ms. Dolly Goyette, Director
Central Region
Ministry of the Environment
Place Nouveau
5775 Yonge Street, Floor 8
North York, ON M2M 4J1

Dear Ms. Garcia-Wright and Ms. Goyette:

**RE: Durham/York Energy from Waste Project
Submission of the Regional Municipality of Durham Waste
Diversion Program Monitoring Plan
(Environmental Assessment Conditions 10)
MOE File No.: EA-08-02**

The Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) continues to work cooperatively with all lower tier municipalities to ensure that waste diversion programs, policies and targets are being met. Currently, the Region provides blue box collection of recyclables for all eight municipalities. Additionally, the Region provides collection of garbage, food waste, leaf and yard waste, Christmas trees, White Goods and Bulky goods for all municipalities except the City of Oshawa and Town of Whitby which are locally responsible for collection of these materials. The Region is responsible for:

- Collection, processing and marketing of blue box recyclables;
- Disposal of residential residual waste;
- Composting of SSO, as well as leaf and yard waste;
- Operation of a Material Recovery Facility. Public Drop-in Facility for residents to obtain diversion information and kits (such as collection calendars, Blue Boxes, Green Bins, Composters, etc.);
- Operation of Brock Township landfill site;

"Service Excellence
for our Communities"



100% Post Consumer

- Operation of three waste management facilities;
- Operating as an approved service provider for Ontario Tire Stewardship, Ontario Electronics Stewardship and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste;
- Providing eight annual compost give-away events to residents within each of the local municipalities;
- Providing eight community events for the recovery of Waste Electronics and Electrical Equipment and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste to residents within each of the local municipalities;
- Operation of four household hazardous waste depots; and,
- Education and promotion of waste reduction programs.

The Region's waste diversion monitoring plan remains consistent with the Waste Diversion Ontario annual municipal datacall which compiles information on residential materials diverted and disposed by Ontario municipalities. This data can be utilized to calculate a residential diversion rate for each municipality using Generally Accepted Principles (GAP). The GAP calculation includes:

- An allowance for provincial deposit systems based on the deposit containers returned from the residential sector;
- An allowance for residential on-property management through backyard composting, grasscycling and evapotranspiration resulting from use of aerated carts for organics programs;
- Municipally operated (directly or through contracted services) reuse activities;
- Municipally operated (directly or through contracted services) recycling activities including Blue Box materials, Other Recyclables, Waste Electronics and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW);
- Municipally operated (directly or through contracted services) centralized composting activities for household organics, leaves and yard waste; and
- Disposal of garbage and recycling and composting processing residues through energy-from-waste and landfill.

The attached "Waste Management Services Annual Report 2010" summarizes the results of the at source diversion programs in Table 1 "Tonnes of Residential Waste Managed" on page 30. This table illustrates that the curbside and residential waste diversion rates for the

area municipalities ranges from 60 per cent to 51 per cent for a Regional average of 55 per cent.

The diversion rate at the Region's waste management facilities is at 30 per cent. In 2011, the Region is focusing attention on increasing the diversion rate at the waste management facilities through porcelain and asphalt shingle recycling and the possibility of expanding into demolition material recycling in 2012.

The Region retained a consultant in 2008 to assist in identifying possible strategies for reaching 70 per cent diversion. The consultant's study released in March 2009 suggests that the Region's waste diversion rate can be increased in two ways, by:

- Increasing participation in existing waste diversion programs; and,
- Creating new waste diversion opportunities.

The progress of our diversion program is documented and communicated to the public using various media. The enclosed Waste Management Services Annual Report 2010 summarizes our accomplishments.

The Region continues to promote the 4 R's through its marketing efforts and is currently implementing/evaluating new diversion programs. The Region has submitted the subject plan to the Energy from Waste Advisory Committee for information. In addition, the Waste Management Services Annual Report 2010 has been posted on the Region's website.

We trust that this plan meets the MOE's expectation as outlined in the EA Notice of Approval. If you require additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Mirka Januszkiewicz, P.Eng.
Director, Waste Management
The Regional Municipality of Durham
905.668.4113 ext. 3464
Mirka.Januszkiewicz@durham.ca

/ms

- c.l D. Dumais, Director, Approvals Program, Ministry of the Environment
- D.I Fumerton, District Manager, York Durham District Office, Ministry of the Environment
- L.I McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection, The Regional Municipality of York
- Energy from Waste Advisory Committee (EFWAC)
- D.I Kelly, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of York
- P.I Madill, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham

Encl.

Oct. 31. 2020 Durham Diversion numbers – impossible to reconcile with limited data provided

Durham and York get credit towards diversion for incinerator ash. NO other Ontario municipality approved an incinerator. RRPA numbers should not be used to compare Durham’s diversion rates to other municipalities. MBN data more accurately reflects diversion performance.

Municipal Benchmarking data reported to MBN Canada for a number of sectors including waste data <http://mbncanada.ca/> Durham reports a variety of waste metrics to MBN Canada. Some used to be reported to Council but have not been in recent years. Most recent MBN data posted is for 2018.

Waste report and links to similar reports going back to 2011 are accessible at link:
<http://mbncanada.ca/practice/waster-management/>

Durham Diversion rates reported to Durham Council via Waste Management Annual Reports, posted online from 2010 to 2018 under Diversion Plan reports on DYEC website:
<https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/education-and-resources/waste-plans.aspx#Reports>

See Table below. Differing diversion numbers claimed in the body of the report and the second diversion rate comes from summary table at end of all Annual Waste Management reports up to 2017.

Thereafter Durham stopped producing summary table breaking out data for lower tier municipalities and by housing type. Numerous delegations had pointed out to council that the gussied up #s were not accurate reflections of Durham’s actual diversion performance.

Starting 2016 Durham also reported the incineration industry’s favoured metric “diversion from landfill”

2010 to 2019 Diversion Rates reported by Durham and by MBN Canada

YEAR	Durham reported diversion %	MBN reported diversion %
2010	52	52
2011	53	53
2012	53	53
2013	52	52.3
2014	Reported 55 and 53%	53.2
2015	Reported 55 and 52%	52
*2016	Reported 55 and 53% and 79% Diversion from Landfill	52.8
2017	Reported 55% and 51% and Revised retroactively to 65% 78% Diversion from Landfill	51
2018	63 pending verification revised to 64%	49
2019	63 pending verification	Not yet posted

See Screenshots of Tables from 2018 and 2019 Durham Annual Waste Management Reports on following two pages

2018 Annual Waste Management Report -Page 8 shows revisions to previous years' diversion rates. (2018 Diversion rate gets revised in 2019 Report)

Looking at the tonnages table below the diversion numbers, diversion of divertible materials from total tonnage added up to less than 50% which is consistent with diversion rate reported by MBN Canada (49%)

2019 Annual Waste Management Report Page 9 also revises diversion numbers – 2019 diversion rate pending verification. Again, looking at waste tonnage reported, diverted materials reported are less than 50%. 2019 MBN data not yet posted.

Durham 2018: https://www.durhamyorkwaste.ca/en/education-and-resources/resources/Documents/20191031_RPT_DYEC_Durham_Region_2018_Annual_Waste_Diversion_Report_RFS.pdf

Durham 2019: <https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/resources/Documents/GarbageandRecycling/Annual-Reports/2019-Waste-Management-Annual-Report.pdf>

Diversion Achievements

Durham Region submits an annual datacall to the province through the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) to receive funding from producers to assist with costs of operating the Blue Box Program. The datacall is the source of data used to confirm municipal diversion rates across the province. The following are Durham Region's annual waste diversion rates since 2014:

RPRA Annual Waste Diversion

2014 – **55%**

2015 – **54%** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities

2016 – **55%** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities

2017 – **65%*** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities, 3rd Overall in the Province

2018 – **63%**** Pending verification

All values are rounded.

RPRA diversion numbers from landfill after curbside collection does not include Durham Region's approved energy-from-waste initiatives.

*Updated from 55 per cent to reflect finalized 2017 RPRA diversion rate.

**2018 diversion data presented is unverified by RPRA at time of printing.

Tonnes Collected

Material Type	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Garbage	110,417	110,498	107,887	115,271	119,716
Organics	27,007	26,796	27,612	28,318	28,446
Blue Box	49,531	48,254	47,923	47,839	43,139
Leaf & Yard Waste	32,123	27,554	24,730	25,082	27,330
Other Diversion	6,296	7,231	10,837	6,887	6,707
Total	225,374	220,333	218,989	223,397	225,338

Diversion Achievements

Durham Region submits an annual datacall to the province through the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRRA), to receive funding from producers to assist with costs of operating the Blue Box program. The datacall is the source of data used to confirm municipal diversion rates across the province.

RPRRA Annual Waste Diversion

- 2015 – 54%** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities
- 2016 – 55%** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities
- 2017 – 65%*** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities, 3rd Overall in the Province
- 2018 – 64%** 1st for Urban Regional Municipalities, 3rd (tied) Overall in the Province
- 2019 – 63%**** pending verification

All values are rounded.

RPRRA diversion numbers from landfill after curbside collection does not include Durham Region's approved energy-from-waste initiatives.

*Updated from 55 per cent to reflect finalized 2017 RPRRA diversion rate. First year RPRRA recognized recycled materials recovered through energy-from-waste.

**2019 diversion data presented is unverified by RPRRA at time of printing.

Tonnes Collected

Material Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
 Garbage	110,498	107,887	115,271	119,716	120,637
 Organics	26,796	27,612	28,318	28,446	28,522
 Blue Box	48,254	47,923	47,839	43,139	41,738
 Leaf & Yard Waste	27,554	24,730	25,082	27,330	26,646
 Other Diversion	7,231	10,837	6,887	6,712	6,553
Total	220,333	218,989	223,397	225,343	224,096



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: June 1, 2021

To: Angela Porteous, Supervisor, Waste Services
Laura Malyjasiak, Waste Management Technician

From: Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability
Melanie Kawalec, Climate Change
Coordinator

Subject: Comments on draft Long-Term Waste Management Plan – 2021- 2040

Having reviewed the draft Long-Term Waste Management Plan – 2021 – 2040, we offer the following comments:

- Page v: definition of the “Electronic and Electrical Equipment” should read “Electrical and Electronic Equipment” as defined as EEE. Same change needed at the start of page 18.
- Page vii: Single-Use Items: missing coma after plates
- Page 4: 4.1 Strategic Plan: Durham Region’s Strategic Plan 2020-2024 was endorsed by Regional Council in March 2020.
- Page 6: Section 5.1 – missing closing bracket associated with “no new landfill site(s)
- Page 7: change “the Regional Municipality of Durham” to “the Region”; change “(LTWMSP 2000-2020)” to ““(LTWMSP 2000-2020 or Waste Strategy Plan)”
- Page 8: Table 1 – first row under title has “per cent” twice and in the last row use either garbage or waste but not both
- Page 14: Figure 5 is confusing with the text below that states there are five waste management facilities, yet the legend and map show only 3 blue dots which represent the Waste Management Facility.
- Page 19: Table 4 – change title to “Tonnes of Waste Collected by Material Type (2015-

2020)”

- Page 21: Table 7 – why is there such a significant increase in tonnages for 2030 by not in 2025 or 2035?
- Page 41: Section 7.2 – note 100 percent below 2019 levels by 2045 but it should be “2050”
- Also, this page says “In 2018, waste management activities accounted for approximately three per cent of community GHG emissions. The Region does not directly control emissions beyond its own corporately owned operations, but it has influence through the provision of its contracted solid waste management services.” This statement might be misleading. The 3% of emissions are the same as the ones that we are accounting for in the Corporate inventory.
- Page 43: Section 10 - table should have a Table # and title
- Objective 4 – GHG reductions has one target 4A: develop initiatives to offset or reduce GHG emissions. To this could be added another target 4B: utilize waste to generate renewable energy resources to reduce community wide GHG emissions.
- Section 10, Table – Objective 4

Objective 4: Support the Region’s greenhouse gas reduction and climate change mitigation efforts.			
Target 4A: Develop initiatives to offset or reduce GHG emissions from solid waste that contribute to Corporate GHG emissions.	x	x	x

Should be contribute to Corporate and Community GHG emissions not just Corporate. With Tires, Batteries, HHW, etc. transitioning to EPR and private sector processing, these waste/diversion streams will now fall under Community GHG emissions, formerly all covered by Corporate GHG emissions. The Region will still want to have an influence on local diversion of these products and education, especially over the 20-year term of the LTWMP.

Laura Malyjasiak

From: Angela Porteous
Sent: June 1, 2021 9:53 AM
To: Laura Malyjasiak
Subject: FW: Long-term Waste Plan Consultation - follow-up comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed



Angela Porteous, BSc. | Supervisor of Waste Services
The Regional Municipality of Durham
Angela.Porteous@durham.ca | 905-404-0888 extension 4101 |

durham.ca



From: Sarah Clayton <Sarah.Clayton@durham.ca>
Sent: June 1, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Angela Porteous <Angela.Porteous@durham.ca>
Cc: Mary Simpson <Mary.Simpson@durham.ca>
Subject: Long-term Waste Plan Consultation - follow-up comments

Hello Angela

Thank you so much for letting me have the extra time to provide my comments. I really appreciated the opportunity to join the Waste Plan consultation session May 19th (great presentation) and want to say that the document is very informative and well written.

The following comments/suggestions (and a few minor typos) on the HDR May 5th version are for your consideration as you finalize the document:

- **Figure 1** seems to have a typo - remove 'start' or 'started' in second yellow bullet
- **Page 2** Guiding Principle 1 – should it also include 'recycle' and 'recover' per section 3.3?
- On **page 7**, I believe some of the dates may be off in Figure 2 and might need to be confirmed:
 - Wasn't 2004 the year we uploaded waste from our 6 local municipalities to implement green bin? I believe the Green Bin program started in a phased approach after that (2004/05?) and was fully implemented Region-wide in 2006?
 - I believe Council directed the 70% target in 2010 as part of DYEC deliberations
 - In 2012, the Region also expanded the Blue Box program (i.e. larger bins and more materials e.g. #3-#7 plastics etc.)
 - I believe Commercial Operations for the DYEC commenced late-January 2016, but the facility was processing waste prior to that during testing / commissioning phase
 - Does the chart utilize the same basis for calculating diversion rate in year 2000, 2008 and 2018 – should be apples to apples RPRA calculations? – consider using a later year than 2018 for current diversion? E.g. is the 2020 RPRA rate available? 2019?

- **Table 1 page 8** says green bin launched 2003 but should be consistent with Figure 2 on previous page and confirmed. DYEC project development commenced with the EA (2005?) – the first preliminary business case was in 2007, Covanta selected Feb, 2009 project approval June 2009, and Notice to Proceed August 2011 and Commercial Operations Jan 2016?
- **Section 5.2**, Planning estimated Dec 2019 population was 699,460 and per Regional Report 2020-INFO-98 indicates a May 2020 population of 704,140 (see Attachment #1). Attachment #2 indicates 240,780 households May 2020.
- **Page 14**: may wish to change “Pickering Private Waste Disposal Facility” to “Regionally Contracted Private Hazardous Waste Collection Facility” as no other private facilities located in the Region are noted although there are many
- **Page 15**: Similarly may wish to change “Every Waste Management Facility” (bottom paragraph under charted hours) to “Every Waste management Facility owned or contracted by the Region...” given the existence of many privately owned facilities across Region offering different services
- **Section 5.3.5** may wish to note Whitby Landfill is owned by CLOCA not the Region, unlike other landfills (although we do manage the portion of the site with waste and we do have site access rights to do that)
- **Section 5.3.6** may wish here too to mention pre-process inspections and hazardous waste recovery at DYEC as well as DYEC post-process metals recyclables recovery
- **Section 5.4** consider rewording to reflect financial planning terminology, perhaps:

Like other Regional programs, Solid Waste Management is funded through the Region’s annual Business Planning and Budget process and approvals and is a Property Tax funded program. Net property tax requirements are offset by Solid Waste Management program revenues which currently include subsidies from Stewardship Ontario for approximately 50 per cent of the Blue Box program (up to the anticipated transition of the program to the private sector in 2024) and revenues from: WMF user fees, curbside garbage bag tags, municipal recoveries (e.g. from York for its share of DYEC net costs) and the marketing of Blue Box materials and other recyclables. Other financing is also approved as appropriate based on long-term financial planning and approvals, including financing approvals through the Solid Waste Management Major Capital Budget.
- **Page 21**: Is Table 7 consistent with the latest AD Report tonnage projections? If not, perhaps update to tonnages forwarded by Andrew last week.
- **Page 31**: Blue Box now anticipated to transition a year later in 2024 - consistent with page 32.
- **Page 34** top paragraph: Could also reference provincial direction was also provided to Multi-residential Building Owners as a sub-group who have responsibility for program implementation in private multi-res sites not already serviced by the Region
- **Section 6.2.2** last paragraph – may wish to reference the AD project website rather than a specific report to ensure an always current reference
- **Section 7.1** could reference the 5-6 options still being explored for RNG use per previous/current reporting?
- **Page 43 target 3C**: Would we develop a transition plan that supports EPR programs as well as full cost recovery for the Region’s programs/responsibilities/assets during and after EPR transition (goal would be to go from 50% to 100% funding for any remaining Regional responsibilities per previous reporting)
- **Target 4A** should note corporate and community GHG emissions reductions as we have Regional programs and or a leadership role under both programs as led through CAO Office
- **Target 5A**: optimize the operation ‘and utilization’ of WMFs? or of ‘all waste facilities’ (e.g. MRF to 2024)? Any optimization goals related to waste asset management (e.g. facility maintenance, refurbishment, capital replacements etc.)?
- **Page 46 Target 2B mid-term actions**: would suggest you move away from the term "partner" in objective 2 (with charities and area municipalities) as it is becoming a loaded term that suggests a lot of joint risks and responsibilities... "work with" would be better terminology... especially since "partner" isn't used elsewhere
- **Page 47 Target 3A** reword for clarity? I think you mean more diversion can be attained at multi-res based on currently low diversion rates, but it currently reads like AD is primarily being built for multi-res?
- Under 3A short and mid-term actions – does expanding multi-res , LTC Home and municipal building services offset the publicly identified benefits of AD in reducing DYEC volumes even if only temporarily? (are

there cost and capital or service implications to the proposed program expansions not yet documented and considered at the project level? E.g. AD and timing of DYEC expansion?)

- Under **3B**: with new provincial regulations placing responsibilities and targets on multi-residential owners too, shouldn't they share the onus of investing in required multi-res waste infrastructure to enable standardized efficient low risk waste collection services? – is there any need to work with these owners who will be seeking solutions too – Regional cost recovery agreements? Also local AMs/province could ensure building codes support proper multi-res waste infrastructure in new or significantly renovated buildings? Are we looking at agreements, in terms of implications to taxpayers/economic efficiency/shared stakeholder burdens? Seems unfair if Regional taxpayers foot the potentially large bill to alter collection methods and infrastructure to adapt to private sector buildings currently unfit for waste collection best practice as determined by current bylaw. Perhaps where the onus is put by the province on a multi-res building owner we look at mutually beneficial solutions but with the Region recouping any Regional infrastructure costs. Seems multi-res owners would save money by investing in bins and trucks versus changes to building envelopes/site so maybe win-win?
- **Target 4A**: use of wood waste at DYEC/AD and WPCP has yet to be discussed at the DYEC or AD project team level – If this material is contemplated, what, if any, are the project level implications? E.g. tonnes, scope, costs, benefits, RFP issuance etc.? Do we need to build into business case or RFP/PA tonnages/requirements to ensure part of initial bid costs, instead of negotiations post-RFP?
- **Target 5A**: optimize operations as well as 'cost efficiencies and/or community service levels?'
- **Table 12** measurements still are % / rates but earlier text notes benefit of moving away from rates to kg per capita measures?

Hope that helps, and let me know if you have questions or wish to discuss,

Sarah



Sarah Clayton | Senior Economic Analyst / Risk Management, Economic Studies and Procurement / Finance Department
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The Regional Municipality of Durham

Minutes

Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 14, 2021

A special meeting of the Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 14, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:02 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Gordon, Whitby, Chair
W. Baszyk, Brock
V. Daram, Ajax
R. Fleming, Pickering
P. Haylock, Clarington, Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 7:10 PM
K. Meydam, Clarington
G. Rocoski, Oshawa attended the meeting at 7:10 PM

Absent: S. Elhajjeh, Clarington
J. Vinson, Clarington

Non-Voting Members

Present: Councillor Janice Jones, Local Councillor, Municipality of Clarington
L. Kwan, Environmental Specialist, Covanta
B. Marsden, Facility Manager, Covanta

Staff

Present: G. Anello, Director of Waste Management Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology
A. Porteous, Supervisor of Waste Services
S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Administrative Matters

A) EFW-WMAC Comments on Durham Region's Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) (2021-2040) Draft Targets and Actions

Detailed discussion ensued regarding adjustments to the Region's battery and electronics collection programs, and potential issues if recycling bins are changed to carts similar to those used in the City of Toronto.

Further discussion ensued regarding waste collection at new multi-residential developments. Staff advised that there is guidance in regard to the road widths within new developments. If the road width is not large enough for regional collection vehicles, that would mean they would not receive service from the Region but would still be obliged to obtain private services for the waste collection. Staff also responded to questions regarding organics collection at multi-residential buildings, and whether or not developers can be encouraged or mandated to install under the sink garburators as a possible solution to organics management. Comments were received and retained by staff for consideration.

Moved by R. Fleming, Seconded by B. Bastzyk,
That the following EFW-WMAC comments on the Durham Region's Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) (2020-2040) be approved and forwarded to staff for consideration:

Battery Collection Containers:

- Provision of a rectangular box resembling a 9-volt battery, constructed of heavy cardboard or plastic instead of a bag to potentially increase the quantity of batteries collected and keep more batteries out of the regular garbage.

Electronic Item Collection:

- Inclusion of an annual electronic waste collection drive whereby electronic waste would be set out by the resident on a specific day for pick up from the curb for recycling, to potentially reduce the amount of electronics that are placed in the regular garbage.

Organics Management in New Developments:

- Under the collection mandate, encourage or mandate developers to install under the sink garburators in new multi-residential developments.

CARRIED

B) EFW-WMAC Work Plan (2021-2022)

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the proposed EFW-WMAC Work Plan including partnering with local libraries to offer information regarding backyard composting or indoor composting; conducting individual research on various waste topics; optimization of the Brock/Scugog Waste Transfer station; and how the EFW-WMAC could assist with the long-term waste management plan.

G. Anello advised that staff will be hiring a consultant to look at opportunities for the optimization of the Brock/Scugog Waste Transfer Stations and will be bringing that forward to the EFW-WMAC for their input.

In response to a question regarding Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector waste as it relates to organics, G. Anello advised that organic waste from the ICI sector is not within the Region's mandate, but that staff will be looking at organics management in multi-residential units and single dwelling homes.

In response to a question from V. Daram regarding the volume of propane bottles and ink cartridges that the Region collects in a year and how those items can be recycled, G. Anello advised that staff are looking to find an agency that will recycle those items, but that staff would have to get back to V. Daram directly regarding the volume collected.

Moved by R. Fleming, Seconded by K. Meydam,
That we recommend to the Works Committee for approval
and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed 2021-2022 EFW-WMAC Work Plan be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

Under the heading of Section 4. strike out "2021-2022 EFW-WMAC Members and" so that Section 4 will now be titled "Workplan Elements";

Delete all of Section 4.1 up to and including the heading "Workplan Goals";

Under Section 5. Workplan Tasks, rename Item #2 from "Green Bin Usage" to "Increased Organics Diversion";

Under Section 5 Workplan Tasks, add a new part ii. to Item #4 Waste Pre-Sorting that reads, "Communication outreach for home-based pre-sorting"; and

Under Section 7. Community Outreach and Stewardship (potential actions), add an additional bullet that reads, “For example - composting, organics diversion, with a requirement to notify Works staff beforehand”.

CARRIED

4. Adjournment

Moved by K. Meydam, Seconded by R. Fleming,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

G. Gordon, Chair, Energy from Waste –
Waste Management Advisory Committee

S. Glover, Committee Clerk

Further Comments on the Long-Term Waste Management Plan

Submitted by [REDACTED] – October 25, 2021

Below please find my further comments. Please consider them, together with the comments I submitted as correspondence to the Works Committee on October 6, 2020, as my preliminary comments on the LTWMP 2021-2040 and with my comments submitted November 8, 2020.

Guiding Principles

- Pleased to see that concern registered previously that improving waste reduction and reuse be stated as a guiding principle in writing and clearly given top priority has been addressed in the new first guiding principle and other places:

“Emphasize rethink, reduce and reuse principles as the first steps in reducing waste generation”

Addressing waste at the front end is well understood to be the best strategy for our environment and for our health and is the most cost effective.

I am concerned that a guiding principle which sets as a priority the reduction of toxic load to the environment was not included.

While greenhouse gas reduction is addressed in the guiding principle which states “Demonstrate leadership in sustainability to address the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from waste management activities.”, there are no other environmental goals explicitly stated in the guiding principles. At a minimum, there should have been a guiding principle for **the reduction of toxic load to the environment**.

Comments on Targets and Associated Metrics

- Metric for Target 1A should include posting of all educational materials for more uptake/accessibility by wider audience, for transparency and to ensure that educational materials provided are accurate, balanced and give a fulsome accounting of all waste management practices and both their positive and adverse effects.
- Metrics currently proposed look at measuring whether the public accesses information sites, but Target 1A speaks to public engagement. The real question is whether efforts result in changed behaviour: are residents actually reducing the amounts of waste they are producing?
- Target 1A actions should include widely publicizing Durham’s waste per capita data on at least an annual basis, and setting aggressive and well publicized (including radio, tv, social

media, billboard) goals and public reporting (region wide and by municipality) on whether they are met. I was pleased to see present waste per capita data included in one of the slides – 172.5 kg per person per year. I am however, disappointed with the survey question which, when asking about reasonable reduction over 20 years, the highest available for selection was 20%. That's too low bar. We need to be setting much higher reduction targets for a 20 year period.

- **The Targets and Actions posted in the LTWMP are missing an absolutely fundamental and essential action to engage residents to reduce, reuse and recycle and that is to be completely transparent and report on ALL the facts around waste management activities – pro and con.** The facts must include all the impacts and risks - both financial and to the environment and health – of Durham's waste management actions, not just the benefits. For instance, with incineration, there should be clear, readily available information about such important facts as the limitations of the monitoring, the financial costs of incineration, toxic emissions, problematic pollutants, that exceedances can and have occurred, the mass of ash landfilled and that the ash contains toxins. The Region often highlights the problems with old landfills but does not fairly represent the problems with incineration/ash landfill. Both disposal options have serious negative environmental and health impacts to consider, and this truth must be represented transparently to the public. I have been and remain very concerned that Durham continues to push a pro-incineration narrative which is detrimental to decision making as well as to reduction/reuse efforts as it contributes to false information of a “magic bullet” solution. Information omission is misinformation. Balanced accurate information of the negative impacts of disposal options help the public realize how essential front-end reduction is. People do better when they KNOW BETTER. Empower people with the truth.
- The Region needs to take bolder action on banning single-use and other problematic plastics as other jurisdictions have done. Waiting for provincial and federal bodies to take action is an easy but unacceptable excuse.
- Regarding Target 2A on behavioural changes re food waste, here the Region needs to lead by example and has the power to do better for multi-residential. Durham approves developments and has the power to set progressive requirements for building developments to facilitate municipal organics collection. We should not have a two-tiered waste collection management system, where apartment dwellers are not provided with the opportunity for source separated organics collection. A family member living in Toronto, in an older multi-residential unit, is able to have source separated organics collection. Durham could do so as well and SHOULD.
- Education, including videos, on the problems with organics in the black bag should be included. The public also needs to be educated on the need for CLEAN source separated recyclables and that education should include related policies, including China Sword policy, that affect us. People do better when they KNOW better.

- The Region should abandon the mixed waste pre-sort (MWP). While AD is a proven technology, MWP is not and is essentially a dirty MRF. Contaminated residuals and digestate are a step backward and bad for the environment and health. Financial costs and risks are too high.
- With regards to dirty organics, reduction initiatives including information on what is now available in the marketplace could be helpful. For instance, information on better-for-the-environment reusable sanitary products, such as on high quality organic washable/re-usable sanitary napkins now available in the marketplace could be provided as well as better reusable environmentally friendly cloth diaper options.
- What about discussing alternatives like separate dirty organics collection and keeping the source separated organics for clean compost or digestate? Some municipalities are having success with such options.
- With regards to Objective 2 and Target 4 in the LTWMP which deals with climate change, I support green house gas reduction and true climate change mitigation efforts, but to be able to assess if initiatives deliver them there must be a proper and full assessment of climate impact which includes life cycle analysis assessments. The Region does not take into account the life cycle analysis of the items burned in the incinerator in its climate impact analysis and it should.
- We cannot burn our way to a low carbon future. Plans to expand the incinerator to burn more garbage, should be rejected. Burning waste is not an environmentally sound solution – it puts toxins into the air we breathe and into the land through toxic ash, and emits large quantities of greenhouse gases.
- Page 54 of the LTWMP refers to exploring incinerator ash utilization practices. Ash from the incinerator has toxic residues and should not be used for road bed and other “utilization” projects.
- The EA documents done for the incinerator showed 139,000 tpy of t/CO₂e when 140,000 tonnes of garbage were burned, yet the GHG Emissions Summary Data on page 52 gives the emissions as 55,800 t/CO₂e. Why are these figures different and has correct information been given?
- With respect to costs, while guideline a) speaks of delivering cost effective waste strategies, again there was absolutely no discussion of costs at the most recent Town Hall nor were the costs of projects provided nor summarized in the virtual open house. How can the public determine if the Region is being cost effective? Recent MBN data shows that Durham has very high costs relative to other reporting jurisdictions, but it was not included. The public

and decision makers must have clear, easy to read, fact-based comparative information with supporting documents provided.

- Finally, the Waste Plan does not provide alternatives that could be considered. Alternatives to expanding the incinerator should be discussed.

**In summary, I reiterate my previous comments that:
Low Tech, Low Cost Initiative Should Be Maximized First**

Low tech, low cost initiatives should be maximized first. These include the following:

- Clear bag policy should be revisited as other municipalities employing clear bags are having success with reduction.
- Increase bylaw enforcement of recycling and green bin use at the curb.
- Create building requirements for multi-residential buildings which enables organics collection and recycling, so all Durham residents are able participate in source separation.
- Setting clear Reduction Targets.
- Publish our Region's per capita waste totals once a year in local papers. This could be very engaging for residents and start new conversations at the individual household level and municipality level and could spark a productive media campaign. There are Durham residents who are doing amazing jobs closing in on zero waste and have excellent tips to share to inspire others. Believe in your citizens. People like to do better, to set goals and measure their improvements. Set Regional per capita goals and include publishing per capita statistics by municipality.
- Lead by example. Make all Regional activities zero waste events. Be transparent about where regional waste is going.
- Provide engaging education on the benefits of composting and mulching.
- Provide unbiased and complete education on the negative environmental impacts of disposal for both incineration/ash landfill and landfill.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments on the LTWMP.



Oct. 25, 2021 Sent Via Email to: WastePlan@durham.ca

Comments - Sept. 9, 2021 Draft Durham Long Term Waste Management Plan

General Comments

Durham overuses the word “innovative” – it’s childish and subjective. What’s more important than innovation in isolation is how effective and relevant an option or solution would be

Durham’s reputation around innovation and sustainability took a big hit when Waste staff flogged their incinerator to Council and the public. It’s a major polluter and had multiple exceedances, it’s the single biggest source of corporate GHG emissions and there is absolutely nothing innovative about burning garbage – done for eons.

Nor is there anything innovative about staff’s proposed Dirty MRF – aka Mixed Waste Presort (which seems destined to function more as a pre-treatment for their incinerator) to remove the wet materials (organics) and the non-combustibles so as to increase electricity production and Ontario ratepayer subsidized electricity revenues. Several such facilities have closed. Staff have yet to explain how the dirty MRF might increase diversion or even meet targets.

Rather than build on Durham’s significant success with the green bin roll out region wide to single family homes, staff were distracted by the incinerator which consumed budgets and staff resources. Staff failed to concentrate on increasing organic capture rates and expanding the green bin to multi-residential homes and considering additional green bin materials.

Yes, there would be challenges with some existing multi-residential buildings where there could be collection truck access issues but these could be overcome, with focused efforts and meaningful consultation and collaboration with residents, staff could have continued to focus on clean, uncontaminated source separated organics.

Other municipalities continue to have sustained incremental successes by employing effective and far less expensive options like clear garbage bags, which reinforces source separation and reduce their residuals by getting out the recyclables and organics from disposal stream.

Others continue to focus on source separated organics to be processed at their existing or proposed Anaerobic Digesters

Durham staff seem to prefer developing expensive infrastructure that they develop without meaningful consultation with the public, as opposed to many effective and less expensive options (e.g. clear bags) to address the many challenges we face on the waste front

To make their organics “plan” even more dubious, Durham staff plan to truck both garbage AND green bin organics to a south-easterly site in Clarington, from all 8 municipalities. Staff already lamented that there were challenges getting garbage from Brock Township to the incinerator in Clarington. Now green bin materials from across the Region will be trucked there too.

Durham staff said plan to process two streams of organics at their AD – dirty organics from their dirty MRF and clean source separated organics from the green bin – very inefficient and expensive it’s as yet unknown whether digestate/residuals from their dirty MRF would meet Ontario guidelines.

Staff also opined that they might expand materials in the green bin to include pet waste and sanitary products (these materials currently in garbage) without also considering that this would mean fewer of those same organics for their dirty MRF to harvest from garbage.

Durham staff further mused that they might consider allowing the use of plastic bag as liners in the green bin – if you allow the use of plastic bags, you are encouraging use of plastic bags- , which means creating unnecessary plastic residue that would require disposal.

Over the past couple of terms in particular, staff have expended little effort to help educate councillors, especially first term councillors, so they could understand the fundamentals and staff have actually withheld pertinent MWP/AD business case reports from councillors at the time they were requesting phase or project approval.

The waste department has to stop their unseemly bragging about questionable activities (e.g. curbside battery collection that requires plastic bags to be collected, thus creating more garbage and landfill mining where much material is simply sent to landfills outside Durham).

Furthermore, staff have not met EA Condition 10 of the DYEC EA Approval, which requires them to break down waste metrics by lower tier municipality. They last did this for 2017 and though it has been brought up multiple times, yet staff refuse to provide this essential data to residents and local councils. An informed community is far better positioned to adopt best practices than those who kept in the dark.

GHG EMISSIONS AND TARGETS

Durham has repeated stumbled with no credible GHG emissions calculations or reductions plan. Instead of dealing with the elephant in the room i.e. their incinerator, instead, Durham had to revise their base year to 2019. Many entities serious about emissions reductions use 2005 as their base year, or in some cases earlier (1990s).

With your burner, which began commercial operations in January 2016 (not 2017 as stated in draft LTWMP)), the DYEC’s GHG emissions decimated any chances of achieving past targets and staff proposed expansions will make it hard to meet future

targets. Durham's been cautioned multiple times they can't burn their way to a low carbon future but staff are dug in. Durham's doubling down with a proposed throughput increase and a physical expansion of their burner, call into question how serious Durham is about real reductions.

CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION

Durham Waste staff are clearly not prepared to consult with the public in anything but a controlled and/or scripted forum. Durham needs help from independent qualified professionals in both communications and waste. Stop hiring the same firms because it's guaranteed disappointment though there is occasionally unintended comic relief provided.

Contrary to the Durham Budget Town Hall, where the faces of multiple Durham staff participants were visible, Waste staff opted for audio only for their short one-hour Town Hall event. That is both unprofessional and silly. Our tax dollars pay your salaries and have a right to know who's responsible for what. Also, where was the Works Commissioner that night?

There appears to be an over-reliance or staff preference for the Waste APP. Waste staff sing its praises however, given Durham's long standing and ongoing IT problems even around very basic issues such as email notification to subscribers, I refuse to download a Durham created (either created internally or externally) created APP on my phone if Durham can't manage basic subscription /notification data bases.

In Spring 2021, though I monitor multiple Durham waste projects/initiatives and registered to receive notifications about the LTWMP, the dirty MRF/AD, the DYEC and other waste matters, I was NOT notified about the Spring 2021 online survey nor that phase of the consultation. Instead I came upon the survey accidentally and when I inquired by email to Waste staff, indicating I had not been notified, instead of being provided with the chance to at least complete the survey, the survey was promptly removed. So much for the Waste staff being committed to consultation.

Your APP subscribers are a small portion of Durham's population. Durham must make sustained efforts to ensure that staff use multiple public outreach methods including print media and ensure that their notification systems function so that people signed up get notifications AND are advised as soon as problems are identified. I identified problems in May 2021 that were not addressed until very recently and about which the general public was not informed. Ask Lindsay Waller for details.

I know at least two others who also subscribe to receive similar notifications including the LTWMP, who also weren't informed about the Spring 2021 survey or consultation either. How many email subscribers to the LTWMP pages, were in the same position?

LACK OF DETAIL IN WASTE METRICS PROVIDED, OFTEN VERY LATE IN YEAR

There is no clear explanation as to why 2018 chosen as a base year going forward – there should be.

Durham staff already have 2020 waste data (even if some RRPA data may not finalized) and should have made the 2020 Annual Report available at the same time as the draft LTWMP. This data used to be available in April or May in past years, now we have to wait until October of November.

Durham staff have not been meeting EA Condition 10 re breaking out waste metrics to show lower tier municipal data. This an EA requirement and that information is needed by local residents and councils to see how their local municipality is doing (also compared to others) AND to better prepare lower tier regional politicians to participate at Durham committees they sit on and when making decisions at Council. This deficiency has been pointed out multiple times with no staff response provided to date, though one promised at the 2020 EFW AC meeting. This ignoring of such requests erodes staff's credibility.

Thank goodness the gussied up RRPA diversion numbers will cease with the transition to EPR. When you see the waste generation numbers by category the numbers don't add up and it's clear Durham's garbage at 54% is more than % materials diverted.

Why should Region get any credits for initiatives they have no role in e.g. credits for grass clippings – really? Grass clippings are not accepted in yard waste which is the only decision the Region makes. Residents decide independently whether to leave clippings on their lawns or add them to garden beds or whatever.

Credit for back yard composting?? Staff have no idea how many residences have composters, if these were purchased from municipalities at potentially subsidized price or privately, and what tonnage is collected in home composters.

RRPA credits for ash and “mass reduction due to combustion process??? Without a coherent explanation it's impossible to know how that is calculated or what it involves. Burning achieves volume reduction. Mass cannot be created or destroyed.

Also it's completely unfair and misleading as only Durham and York pursued an incinerator. Such credits skew the numbers and any comparisons or claims to Durham being “leaders” are a fallacy and fantasy. Thank goodness diversion is expected to become less relevant over time, which should bring such endless and unseemly bragging to a halt in 2024.

STAFF FINALLY INCORPORATED REDUCTION AND REUSE INTO GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND RECOGNIZED THESE TO BE PUBLIC PRIORITIES

Citizens and EFW WMAC members advised Durham Waste staff to finally recognize Reduction and Reuse as priorities—in the face of unbelievable resistance - which I witnessed to changes to their original Guiding Principles, at several WMAC meetings in 2020. While it's better late than never and these are finally in the draft LTWMP, both of these Rs still lacking in Durham's Strategic Plan, which should be updated sooner than later to remedy this significant oversight and omission.

“Rethink” is a gimmicky Works Committee suggested catch phrase, but Durham should not be putting forward too many more “R” words, lest things get ridiculous and inconsistent with upper tier policies.

NON BLUE BOX DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Durham does not collect Styrofoam for recycling though it IS recyclable.

Durham terminated C & D and mattress recycling pilots.

Durham provides very limited Re-use Days opportunities annually, mostly on a Saturday. I won't give up a Saturday to drive to a drop off event when I can go to other municipalities that have convenient and well organized depots that accept a range of materials for non blue box recycling like textiles and Styrofoam. E.g. Markham depots are open to public multiple days of the week, all of which I could combine with other errands to make the trip worthwhile and efficient use of time and fuel.

Durham should expand the range of recyclables they accept at WMFs to include these materials as just two examples.

Markham has been recycling polystyrene since 1999 – see attached May 2020 memo and cost analysis. In 2018 Durham staff wouldn't recommend spending \$10k on a densifier. Other munis get grants to help fund polystyrene recycling e.g. Brockton.

Durham curbside battery collection program seems to be more about show and bragging rights as opposed to net environmental benefit as it requires residents to put batteries in a plastic baggie, with label affixed, thus generating additional waste unnecessarily. Residents would do better to combine with trips and return to retail or at WMFs. Durham staff could offer battery drop off at various regional and municipal facilities and collect appreciable quantities in fewer locations, with NO plastic baggie or sticker required.

TARGETS AND TIMELINES

All these objectives require coherent and sufficiently detailed implementation plans and policies/by-law updates to support.

Durham uses terminology of the “Circular Economy” to justify pet staff projects such as using incinerator bottom ash for road building, and partnerships with private companies where the Works Commissioner was hard pressed to explain what the benefits to the Region might be.

Ditto for Using Waste as a Resource. Stop with the buzzwords and be clear when communicating concepts to others that Durham staff seem to interpret selectively and also differently from credible Zero Waste advocates.

Region will have to ensure that staff and politicians are prepared to lead by example.

Objective 1 – post the data online regularly, ensure your notification systems work and employ various means to engage with residents including print media advertising. Skip the propaganda - just give us the facts.

Objective 2 – provide examples, data from other successful programs/policies elsewhere.

No more staff videos please – Gary Williams (who is he?) “interviewing” the Works Commissioner about MWP and AD - Episode 6.

193 views • Feb 8, 2021 • Host Gary Williams sits down with Commissioner of Works Susan Siopis <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=cvSxCJJak-l&t=228s>

Objective 2 Reduce the Quantity of Waste we Create

Target 2 B 1 is long overdue. Durham should measure and report break down for all categories per capita by municipality as well.

Targets 2 B 3 & 4 – Region’s messaging has to also be consistent with upper tier governments.

Objective 3 Most of actions require more detail.

3 A 1 – why include “primarily in line 2?”

3 A 2 relaunch of green bin – means what exactly?

3 A 4 should also include all regional facilities and regional agencies e.g. Police, Paramedics etc.

Target 3 D – content, supporting data and rationale in the letters likely to be more important than merely the number of advocacy efforts.

Objective 4 GHG targets – see earlier comments. To date Region hasn’t developed waste policies consistent with GHG reduction.

Objective 5 – Protect or improve water, land and air quality in Durham. After Durham staff's stiff resistance to related advice by EFW WMAC and staff interpretation and response in Report #2021-INFO-20 Date: February 19, 2021 **Subject:** Management of Toxics in the Environment, data driven plans and policies will be essential.

Submitted by [REDACTED]

Enclosure: Markham May 12. 2020 Memo



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Brenda Librecz, Commissioner, Community & Fire Services, Phoebe Fu, Director, Environmental Services
Prepared by: Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste & Environmental Management
Date: May 12, 2020
Re: Memorandum to General Committee May 19th 2020 - Styrofoam Recycling Cost Analysis

RECOMMENDATION:

The purpose of the memo is to respond to General Committee’s question regarding the business case related to the Styrofoam Recycling Program that was part of the Single Use Plastic Reduction Strategy.

- 1. That the Memorandum – Styrofoam Recycling Program Cost Analysis (Single Use Plastics Program) be received.

BACKGROUND:

- Since 1999, Markham’s four Recycling Depots have accepted clean Styrofoam from residents. Styrofoam is recyclable but not accepted by York Region’s curbside Blue Box program. If Styrofoam is set-out at the curb, it is collected as part of the garbage stream.
• There is a North American market for Styrofoam to be recycled into building materials provided that the material can be adequately reduced in volume to render transportation cost effective.
• In 2011, Markham received grant from product producers (Continuous Improvement Fund – CIF) to purchase a Styrofoam densifier. It is located in a shed at 8100 Warden Avenue
• The costs to purchase and install the densifier are outlined below:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Original Project Funding (Total Cost to purchase & install equipment: \$91,090 (A); CIF Funding: (\$56,090); City Funding: \$35,000) and Actual Expenditures (Installation/Inspection/Purchase: \$85,910 (B); Funds Remaining: \$5,180 (A-B); Revised City Funding: \$29,820).

STYROFOAM COLLECTION AND PROCESSING COSTS:

There are two ways Markham residents can dispose of styrofoam: leave it at the curb to be collected by Miller Waste as garbage, or drop clean styrofoam off at a one of Markham’s Recycling Depots. Markham’s Recycling Depots receive approximately 27 tonnes of Styrofoam annually.

Further, Northumberland County and York Region do not own or operate densifiers. Therefore, they pay the City to process their clean Styrofoam.

The City's overall Styrofoam program costs \$100K annually, utilizing The Recycle People (third party contractor) for the transport, processing and marketing of the material. The various revenue sources offset the program's costs by \$97.3K resulting in an annual net cost to the City of \$2,700.

Table below summarizes the cost related to Styrofoam between the two methods:

	Method 1: Garbage	Method 2: Markham Depot / Densifier
Collection	As Markham's waste collection is paid on a per household basis, there is no impact on collection costs At the time of starting this initiative, Markham was paying for their waste by the tonnes versus per household. Hence there was cost saving by having it dropped off at the depots.	Resident drops clean Styrofoam at Markham's Recycling Depot, therefore there are no collection costs
Transport & Disposal	York Region pays the costs to transport and dispose of garbage at a cost of \$100/tonne This would equate to \$2,710 of cost annually if the current 27 tonnes of Styrofoam that is currently recycled were to end up in the garbage stream	The City's current Styrofoam recycling program is operating at a net cost of \$2,700 per year.

A minor increase in volume is projected at the Recycling Depots as a result of the proposed ban on curbside packaging Styrofoam. This will have minimal cost impact to the City's operating costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:

Styrofoam is 5% plastic and 95% air. These qualities make it an excellent packing material for industry as it reduces transport costs and is easily molded to protect shipped products.

Since there is a recycling market for Styrofoam, taking the leadership in collecting it at the City's Recycling Depots and then advancing it to recycling markets has a high environmental value.

The City undertook the densification of Styrofoam to significantly reduce the transport costs of shipping it to recycling markets. The densifier compacts Styrofoam at a 20:1 ratio. Prior to the acquisition of the densifier, the City was sending approximately 100 full trailer loads of loose Styrofoam to markets per year. **By densifying Styrofoam, Markham reduced the number of annual transport loads by 95% while shipping the same volume of material.** This results in lower costs, reduced greenhouse emissions, and advances the recycling of Styrofoam into productive uses. The program is cost effective and highly beneficial to the environment.

By recycling Styrofoam and banning packaging Styrofoam from the waste stream, Markham is significantly reducing the volume of Styrofoam going to landfill or ending up as litter in parks and streams.

CONCLUSION

Markham residents have been recycling Styrofoam at the depots since 1999. With minimal costs to the City, Markham's Styrofoam recycling program has contributed to the City's high diversion rate of 82% and has helped position Markham as a world class leader in the 3R's. By investing in the densification process, Markham has been able to recycle Styrofoam into a useful product and also helped support both York Region and Northumberland County's Styrofoam recycling programs.

October 25, 2021



RE: DURHAM REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN - SUGGESTION

In the **Durham Region Waste Management Plan** there are five **Guiding Principles** in developing the plan and it's initiatives. I have an idea that covers three of them and can be expanded to another.

- #1 Emphasize rethink, reduce, and reuse as the first step in reducing waste
- #2 Deliver cost effective waste management services to rapid growing population
- #4 Apply innovative approaches to Region waste streams in a circular economy

I PROPOSE:

The Region would partner with private enterprise to create the ability for the public to drop off useful or valuable items that are destined to be sent to the landfill. These would include almost anything that could still be used by someone. Items that are broken could be repaired and cleaned up. All items would be fully functional and displayed in a retail setting that would have an ever changing stock. Some items may hold so much value we would purchase it outright or offer consignment in the store.

BENEFITS:

Reducing the waste stream by eliminating items that can still be used or repaired.

Employing skilled workers that would refurbish items and distribute them to the public.

Use new technologies for sales and distribution

Recycle many different types of materials.

Lead the GTA in this new business model and demonstrate its advantages.

HOW:

Create a building that people can drive into with trailers or large trucks. Materials will be acquired from the customer and sorted. Consumer goods will be sent to a Refurbishment Department to be cleaned and repaired. This department would contain 3D printers to create parts used in their repair. Construction materials will be classified and sorted. Recycled materials will be sorted and sold. In the same building will be a retail showroom where items will be displayed and sold. Prices in the retail space would be kept low and reasonable to generate lots of customer engagement.

WHERE:

We would locate the building in a general area close to a Regional Waste facility. The idea being that people could stop on their way with items of value to sell or donate. This would reduce the weight of their waste thereby reducing their cost. Could identify spaces available in large shopping centres to convey the idea that after the new item is used it can be brought to the upcycling facility to be used again. If we make it easy and fun I believe people will want to bring their old items.

PARTNERS:

Companies and businesses that help people discard items could be targeted for inclusion into the program. Bin companies, construction companies, demolition companies, downsizing and organization businesses, real estate agents, moving companies, etc.

IT'S BEING DONE:

People love to find a good deal and we see lots of traffic in existing businesses that offer a similar concept. Great examples of this include Value Village, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Plato's Closet, Telize, and other consignment stores. Flea Markets and Pawn Shops are also distributing used goods to paying customers.

My idea came to me organically when I realized how many useful items are just simply thrown out. I discovered through some research that Sweden is already employing this concept and the whole country has reduced their waste output by collecting around 90% of it and recycling, composting, and upcycling it. They are so productive at reducing waste that other countries have paid them very well to take their garbage. I would love to think Durham Region could be a leader of this method in Ontario.

www.retuna.se

COMMUNITY:

Clubs and organizations would be invited to participate. Business networks would be established to create the circle economy. Education in all aspects of the process would be offered. Create programs and opportunities for all segments of the population. We all make the mess, so we can all be a part of the solution.

EPA RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Environmental Protection Agency has listed 100 Examples and Resources for Transforming Waste Streams in Communities on its website. My idea covers a couple of them but is specifically listed as #60 Reuse Business Network, #70 Repair/Reuse Workshop, #90 Reuse Center for Sale of Used Goods, and #91 Reuse Depot / Goods Bank. Each one comes with links to case studies and examples.

<https://www.epa.gov/transforming-waste-tool/examples-and-resources-transforming-waste-streams-communities-1-50#1>

CONCLUSION

I believe that combining creative recovery efforts with programs and facilities already being implemented, we can have a positive impact on reducing the waste we generate and dispose of while creating jobs and economic opportunities.



October 29, 2021

Angela Porteous
Supervisor of Waste Services
Works Department – Waste Management
Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3

Email: WastePlan@Durham.ca

Dear Ms. Porteous:

**Re: 2021-2040 Long-term Waste Management Plan
Phase Two Consultation
File: PLN 33.23**

The Region of Durham's Long-Term Waste Management Plan – Draft (September 9, 2021) has been reviewed by the Municipality and we offer the following comments in conjunction with our previous comments provided during the Local Area Municipalities Consultation Session held on May 28, 2020 and May 19, 2021.

Background

The Region of Durham (Region) is developing a new Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) to guide Regional waste management services over the next 20 years. The objectives of the previous Region of Durham Long Term Waste Management Strategy Plan: 2000 to 2020 (December 1999) have largely been met. A significant component of implementation of the previous LTWMP was the establishment of the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) in Clarington's Energy Park. The new LTWMP seeks to respond to a range of current issues which influence planning and provision of municipal waste management services, including a rapidly growing and increasingly diverse population, regulatory changes, and climate change.

The focus of the new LTWMP is on maximizing the diversion of materials from waste and recovering waste as resources to optimize its existing and planned disposal and processing infrastructure and minimize the need for disposal. Regional Council endorsed the guiding principles, vision, and objectives for the LTWMP on January 27, 2021. Public consultation on the draft actions and targets proposed in the LTWMP was held from September 21 to October 25, 2021.

The draft LTWMP contains measurable targets and accompanying actions for the short term (2021-2026), mid-term (2027-2033) and the long term (2034-2040), and has been designed to be reviewed and updated every five years to ensure alignment with corporate direction and associated legislation. Implementation of the LTWMP is anticipated to begin in 2022, subject to Regional Council approval.

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Draft Targets and Actions

The LTWMP proposes 11 targets coupled with 53 actions to meet these targets. In general, the Municipality strongly supports the LTWMP's emphasis on waste minimization and diversion from disposal, fostering increased understanding and awareness of and access to waste diversion programs, and enhanced environmental protection. This focus is in alignment with Clarington Council's Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 goal to “advance waste reduction initiatives by promoting the four Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.” As the host community for the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC), Clarington is directly affected by the performance of the facility and the potential impacts of future expansion. Within five years of commencing commercial operations and 10 years ahead of original forecasts, the Region is seeking approval to increase processing capacity at the DYEC. With strong growth forecasted to continue in Durham Region, strong action and a commitment by the Region to avoid for as long as possible the next, more significant, DYEC expansion is needed. The development of an updated LTWMP by the Region supports the commitment made by the Region in the DYEC Host Community Agreement to the continuous implementation of a comprehensive waste management strategy.

With respect to the draft targets and actions proposed in the LTWMP, we offer the following comments:

Target 1A, to increase public engagement on the 5Rs through partnerships, increased accessibility, and different media, is supported by the Municipality. To achieve this target, understanding of the common inquiries Local Area Municipalities hear from the public is important. Common inquiries received by the Municipality relate to the following:

- Special pick up for mattresses, appliances, and other large household items that don't fit in the garbage;
- How to purchase blue and green bins;
- How to dispose of yard waste, trees that have been cut down, used fill, batteries and more;
- Complaints about recycling not being picked up, garbage accumulated at local bus shelters, and residents using public garbage receptacles for their own household waste;
- Who is responsible for waste collection in the Municipality (multiple calls daily);
- Locations of waste drop-off facility locations.

The Municipality also commonly receives calls from residents who first reached out to the Region but did not find the wait times acceptable or were awaiting a reply and were contacting the Municipality for assistance in the meantime.

The Municipality would like to discuss the establishment of a shared database with Durham Region to access their messaging and infographics regarding waste management services for consistency of messaging. Enhanced communications and awareness of responsibilities for waste management services will be increasingly

important as Durham Region transitions to an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) System for blue box collection. Local Area Municipalities request to be engaged and consulted with as part of communication planning for this transition. To this end, a separate **Action 3C2** focused on public engagement and education for planned and future EPR program transitions is set out in the draft LTWMP. It is anticipated that having some waste management services provided by the Region while others are provided by Producers will be confusing for many. The Municipality is fully supportive of this action.

More specifically relating to **Action 1A6** and **Action 1A7**, content should ideally be “ready to serve” and easily sharable. This information should be differentiated and geared for children/families and adults so it can be used with the appropriate target audience. It is recommended that the Region develop video and social media that community groups can share on the Region’s behalf. Offer opportunity for focus groups or scheduled events for more affected organizations, identifying groups who may have education and/or environmental initiatives as part of their mandate. For example:

- Public libraries, who may be able to host an event such as a virtual tour;
- Cadets or Navy League;
- Horticultural and Garden Clubs, 4H, Agricultural Societies;
- Girl Guides and Boy Scouts;
- Clarington 55+ Active Adults and Bowmanville Older Adults Association; and
- Local Hall Boards.

It is recommended that materials be shared with Clarington’s Diversity Advisory Committee for input on ways to reach various communities or additional considerations to ensure efforts have the greatest reach/engagement. In addition, it is recommended that public education campaigns be coordinated around related recognition events (e.g. Earth Day, community clean-up days) so the public and our community partners (who are sharing communications on our behalf) can make the connection.

Action 2B1 proposes that annual generation rates of garbage be measured to track progress in reducing garbage disposed. However, it is not clear whether this information will be made publicly available each year. Annual public reporting for this action is strongly encouraged.

Action 2B4 proposes collaboration with the Local Area Municipalities on common messaging and an approach to textile diversion and the reduction of single-use plastics/items. The following past actions by the Municipality on these items should be noted:

- Over the years, the Municipality has faced challenges with the proliferation of clothing and small household item donation bins throughout Clarington. Donation bins have commonly been used as de facto dumping grounds by the public leading to property standards concerns and enforcement costs. In addition, concerns regarding safety and aesthetics have also been raised. These challenges have resulted in the clean-up and removal of donation bins

throughout Clarington, except for those located on properties which contain a permitted and operating collection/sorting/retail facility (i.e. Salvation Army store). Presently, neither of Clarington's two zoning by-laws identify donation bins as a permitted use within any zone. Other Municipal by-law also impose restrictions on the placement of donation bins on both private and Municipal property. Local Municipalities should support and promote clothing and household donations to the thrift store retailers operating in their area. This not only addresses the priority of waste diversion but has the added benefit of creating local jobs and markets for these affordable items. More rural parts of our Municipalities can continue to be supported by those charities that offer on-call collection from their door step.

- On October 7, 2019, Clarington Council banned the use of all single-use plastics in Clarington's Municipal Administrative Centre, effective November 30, 2021. In accordance with Council's direction staff has also continued to work on the development of programs to effectively eliminate the use of single-use plastics in other Municipal facilities, where there exists an environmentally responsible alternative, and is moving forward with other forms of waste reduction for municipal buildings that are in line with Council's Strategic Priority for Environmental Sustainability. In August 2021, a fully accessible 4Rs pilot project was launched at two Municipal recreation facilities. A three-stream waste system, including bins with educational signage and tactile mats in front of each bin for accessibility now provides for the separation of garbage, blue box recyclables and organic waste. The colour-coded signage provides a QR Code link to the Region's Know Before You Throw webpage to assist users. All Municipal buildings are the responsibility of our Community Services Department, who should be engaged in any future discussions on establishing common approaches and consistent waste programming for Municipal facilities.

Action 3A1 captures the initiative already underway by the Region to develop a mixed waste pre-sort and anaerobic digestion facility. While Clarington Council supports the related objective to increase diversion of waste from disposal and support the circular economy, Clarington Council has declared itself as an unwilling host for the facility (Clarington Resolution #GG-244-20, approved July 6-7, 2020).

Action 3A5 and **Action 3B3** both relate to increasing diversion and improving servicing for denser forms of development, which we appreciate are becoming increasingly complex. It is not clear whether Action 3B3 is referring to both existing and new medium and higher density developments. We recommend action focused on addressing existing challenges with medium and high density housing forms that do not receive Regional waste collection services currently, to transition these built forms to full waste servicing. Specifically relating to new developments, we recommend Action 3A5 be broadened to capture other forms of more complex and dense developments / built forms, including mixed-use and other medium and high density housing forms.

To this end, the Municipality is prepared to:

- Promote the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste, with particular attention to medium and higher density housing forms, which meets applicable provincial standards and has given consideration to the Region's waste collection design and servicing requirements; and
- Enhance municipal policies to further support waste diversion and servicing for new developments.

While **Action 3B1** and **Action 3B2** speak to updates that will be needed to the Region's waste by-law, it should also be noted that any consideration of local by-laws to support waste reduction and diversion, local by-law enforcement, and/or proposals for the municipal assumption of responsibility of program and/or services requires full consultation with Local Area Municipalities and the concurrence of municipal Councils.

Action 3C4 involves the Region exploring additional opportunities to reuse or recycle materials not covered under the regulations for Hazardous and Special Products. The Municipality requests that Clarington Emergency and Fire Services be consulted on any proposed changes to household hazardous wastes accepted at the Clarington Household Special Waste Depot in order to ensure that appropriate fire safety measures are in place and EFS staff are adequately trained to respond in the event of an emergency.

Action 3C7 relates to the evaluation of continued blue box services to small businesses (i.e. BIAs) deemed ineligible for servicing under the new EPR program. Staff understand that a report on potential options will be before Regional Council in November 2021. The Municipality requests that the Region notify our local BIAs and other small businesses currently receiving blue box collection services of this pending options report and consult with them on the options being considered. The Municipality can provide appropriate contacts for our local BIAs, if needed.

Target 4A is intended to implement the LTWMP objective to support the Region's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and climate change mitigation efforts. The Municipality provides the following comments with respect to the proposed development of initiatives to offset or reduce GHG emissions from solid waste that contribute to the Region's Corporate GHG emissions:

- A strategy to sequester and/or offset carbon emissions should be included in this plan as a solution to the GHGs emitted from the DYEC;
- A portion of the waste burned at the DYEC originates from outside Durham Region. Only Durham Region's waste is included in Regional Corporate GHG emissions calculations. This assumes that all other municipalities are taking responsibility for the GHG emissions associated with their waste. The Region should include all GHG emissions from the DYEC as corporate GHG emissions calculations to take responsibility for the impact of the facility, which is under its control.

- Currently, scope 3 emissions are not included in the Region's corporate annual GHG inventory reporting. The Region has influence over key Scope 3 emissions categories including contracted waste haulage services. The Region should include this in their GHG emissions reporting.
- While the Region is not required to calculate GHG emissions from historical landfills, the Region could take actions to track and reduce GHG emissions and pollution associated with historical landfills.
- Within **Action 4A1** and **Action 4A8**, it is unclear what is meant by 'alternative fuels'. If the reference is to low-carbon fuel sources, it is suggested that this term be used for added clarity and demonstration of the objective of GHG reduction.
- **Action 4A4**, exploring the possibility of using waste heat generated at DYEC and surrounding facilities for district heating should be expanded to include all potential sites of waste heat production and consumption in the areas in and around the Energy Park.
- Regarding **Action 4A5**, any carbon emissions management plan should include all carbon emissions associated with Regional waste facilities and operations that are under the Region's control, including scope 3 emissions from waste haulage, waste transportation, and staff's transportation.
- It is unclear whether the measurement proposed for **Target 4A** includes annual reporting of waste facility and waste haulage/ transportation related GHG emissions. It is encouraged that this value form part of reporting on the LTWMP.

Objective 5 sets out 2 targets and 7 actions to protect or improve water, land and air quality in Durham Region. While **Target 5A** speaks in general terms to the Region's waste management facilities, there is no direct mention or actions focused on the DYEC. The Host Community Agreement between the Region and the Municipality for the DYEC (item 3) commits the Region to ensuring that the DYEC incorporates and utilizes modern, state of the art, emissions control technologies; uses maximum achievable control technology for emissions control and monitoring systems; and that 24/7 monitoring systems for appropriate parameters are used, where technically possible. In support of this commitment, the Municipality requests that an additional on-going action be added to the LTWMP to review emissions control and monitoring systems at the DYEC and other existing and future Regional waste processing facilities, and to identify, evaluate and implement where feasible and practicable opportunities for improvement based on operational experience, emerging best practices and technological advancements.

On November 2-3, 2020, Clarington Council approved Resolution #C-449-20, which included *that Municipal Staff be requested to work with MECP and industry (e.g. [St. Marys Cement], DYEC) to set up a real-time air quality monitoring network within the Municipality.* In collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, work is underway to update past reporting on the air quality for Clarington and in particular the south Courtice area. We appreciate the support the Region has provided to share information and data and would like to continue to collaborate with the Region,

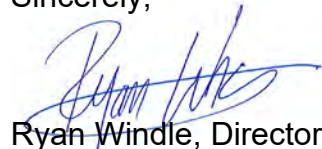
MECP, and other local industries to review and share information about local airshed matters. We request the Region add a further action under Objective 5 committing to collaborate with the Municipality and other local stakeholders on the implementation of a real-term monitoring network in the short-term and to contribute to the monitoring, improvement and reporting on the cumulative impact of the DYEC and other industrial emitters in proximity to the DYEC on an on-going basis.

It is not clear how **Target 5B** to increase accessibility of waste management programs and services, directly contributes to the overarching objective to protect or improve water, land and air quality in Durham Region.

In closing,

We appreciate the opportunity to be engaged throughout the development of an updated LTWMP for Durham Region and for the consideration of our feedback. If you have any questions on the comments provided herein, please contact Faye Langmaid, Manager of Special Projects (905-623-3379 ext. 2407 or flangmaid@clarington.net) or Amy Burke, Senior Planner (905-623-3379 ext. 2423 or aburke@clarington.net).

Sincerely,



Ryan Windle, Director
Planning and Development Services
Municipality of Clarington

cc: Mayor and Members of Council
Andy Allison, CAO
Department Heads
Faye Langmaid, Manager of Special Projects
Amy Burke, Senior Planner