Present:
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Russ Powers
Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Acting Director of Environmental Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Colin Vidler, Acting Manager of Waste Collection, Operations and Waste Management Division
Angela Storey, Acting Manager of Policy and Programs, Operations and Waste Management Division
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Business and Support Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Anne Winning, Supervisor of Policy and Planning, Operations and Waste Management Division
Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force
Rūta Morkunas, Policy Analyst, Operations and Waste Management Division

Regrets:
Councillor Chad Collins
Pat Parker, Acting Director of Support Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Blair Smith, Acting Director of Operations, Operations and Waste Management Division

1. Adoption of Agenda
Beth Goodger suggested that Item 7.1, Public Works Restructuring be addressed at the beginning of the meeting given the new staff in attendance at the meeting.

The agenda was adopted as revised.

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Ferguson:

*That the agenda be approved.*

CARRIED

7.1 Public Works Restructuring
Beth Goodger introduced new staff members present for the meeting as a result of the recent restructuring announced by Public Works General Manager, Gerry Davis. The SWMMP Steering Committee will continue to be supported by the newly established Operations and Waste Management Division. Craig Murdoch is currently the Acting Director of Environmental Services which includes all off road operations such as Waste Processing and Disposal, Forestry and Horticulture, and Parks and Cemeteries. Colin Vidler is currently the Acting Manager of Waste Collection. Colin is replacing Blair Smith, who is the Acting Director of Operations, which includes all on road operations such as Roads and Winter Control, and Waste Collection. Angela Storey is Acting Manager of Policy and Programs and Jennifer DiDomenico is Manager of Business and Support Services currently filling in for Pat Parker who is Acting Director of Support Services which includes Customer Service, Community Outreach, Business Services, and Policy and Program Development. Jennifer will continue finalizing the Red Hill Creek Project and move on to new activities.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on September 9, 2009
Moved by Councillor Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Powers:

*The minutes be approved as presented.*

CARRIED

3. **Business arising from the minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. **Diversion Program Updates**

4.1 **Multi-Residential Diversion Implementation**

Staff reported that the organics roll out to Phase 3 Multi-Residential (MR) buildings is on schedule. (Phase 3 buildings typically receive bin garbage collection service.) 271 of the 418 Phase 3 buildings are now receiving organics service. In total 86% of all buildings (867 of 1084) and 68% of all units (representing about 35,000 of the 53,000 units) in the City have received the organics program. Four Phase 3 buildings have refused service thus far. Reasons may include under construction / renovation, landlord turnover (new staff), physical constraints, etc. Staff reported that 271 Phase 1 and 2 buildings were surveyed in July and August and 180 or 66% of these buildings are participating in the organics program. Participation is defined as setting green carts out for collection at least once every two weeks.

Committee enquired as to why the diversion rate has not increased noticeably. Staff responded that there is a lag time from when buildings receive carts and also that the largest buildings are being added at the end of the roll-out. Given this, staff is happy with how things are progressing and explained that it was important to be diligent and work with building occupants to increase diversion rates. It is not just a matter of delivering the equipment and leaving it at the building.

4.2 **Diversion Options**

Staff presented “Status of SWMMP, Options for Increasing Diversion and Landfill Capacity – Follow Up Report on Additional Diversion Options to Reach 65% Waste Diversion” which generated much discussion. Eleven short term options for increasing diversion rates were presented and discussed, including:

1. Enhanced By-Law Enforcement
2. Recycling of Street Sweepings
3. Drywall Diversion at CRCs
4. Disposable Diaper Reduction
5. Commercial Diversion
6. Mattress Diversion at CRCs
7. Corporate Green Cart Diversion
8. Additional Outreach and Education
9. Festival and Special Event Diversion
10. Curbside Reuse Events
11. Clear Bags

Five short term options (2010-2011) are being recommended for consideration by the SWMMP Steering Committee and Public Works Committee based on cost and ease of implementation. These include:

1. Enhanced By-Law Enforcement
   - Committee commented that they would not like to see additional staffing requests since the City is approaching a tough budget year. Staff was reminded that no new staff could be added and if this was to proceed this would need to be done within the existing complement.
2. Recycling of Street Sweepings
   - Committee commented that this was a good option to move forward as quickly as possible given the diversion potential and ability to implement with the new Operations and Waste Management Division. Staff was asked to consider doing the recycling in-house although the committee advised that there may be additional regulatory requirements should the City be considered a manufacturer.
3. Drywall Diversion
Committee suggested that staff also investigate a new company being established in Glanbrook as a local recycling option for this material.

4. Commercial Diversion

- Committee inquired as to whether or not commercial properties include retirement and nursing homes. Some have expressed an interest in participating in diversion programs since many of the occupants move from a household where they participate in recycling and organics collection. Residential care facilities and lodging homes are eligible for recycling and organics collection where available. Long term care facilities and licensed residential care facilities would be ineligible.

5. Disposable Diaper Reduction

- Committee asked if staff had looked at including it in the composting program. Staff responded that diaper plastic will not break down in Hamilton's aerobic composting system. As well, perception of diapers being an acceptable compost material is a deterrent for the sale of compost to end market processors and therefore most end markets will not accept it.

The other options, as well as longer term options, will be referred to the Solid Waste Management Master Plan review that will be undertaken in 2010. The review will also look at the City's 65% diversion target and timeframe for achieving it.

The presentation will be delivered to the Waste Reduction Task Force on October 21. The staff report will be going to the Public Works Committee in November. Committee suggested to staff that the presentation to Public Works' Committee focus solely on the recommended options and also include some information relating to the recycling commodity prices.

Moved by Councillor Powers, Seconded by Councillor Ferguson:

That the presentation be received.

CARRIED

5. Federal/Provincial Legislation and Regulations Update

There was nothing to report on this item.

6. Waste Reduction Task Force Update

The September 19, 2009 minutes were received and tabled.

7. Operations Update

- Public Works Restructuring

This item was addressed at the beginning of the meeting.

- Disposal Activities

Street signage to the entrance of the Dundas CRC has been moved closer to the road. Within the site itself a four by eight foot sign provides a legend to residents that colour codes waste types and the corresponding drop off bin or area.

As directed by Council to increase fees by 2% for the 2010 Budget Process, disposal fees will be recommended to increase by approximately 2% January 1, 2010. The minimum fee for the first 100 kg of garbage would rise from $8.00 to $8.25. Disposal fees in excess of the minimum fee and commercial fees would also increase by 2%, from $112.50 per tonne to $114.75 per tonne. The estimated increase in revenue is $98,000.00 per year.

In light of the contract for the transfer stations being transitioned to BFI Canada from Waste Management Corporation of Canada (WM) on January 1, 2010, WM is offering bonuses to their employees to stay until the end of the contract. CRC Security staff is not affected by the contract change.

Committee inquired as to where our electronic items go. Staff responded that all electronics are processed in Hamilton, not off-shore.
7.3. Collections Activities

The work location for 60 collection employees is moving to the Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) property at 1579 Burlington Street East on November 1, 2009. They will be housed on the west side of the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) building. DARTS is moving into the area vacated by Waste Management staff at 330 Wentworth – this represents Phase I of the Public Works’ Yard Rationalization Study approved by Council earlier this year.

The Green Cart distribution trailer is now in service at the Transfer Station (TS). This trailer rotates on a daily basis, i.e., Dundas TS on Tuesday, Kenora TS on Wednesday, Mountain TS, etc. and is open to the public between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. so that residents may pick up or exchange a green cart. Committee requested an updated schedule be forwarded to them since the schedule has been modified.

Budgeted blue box recycling tonnage for 2009 was 52,000 tonnes and estimated to generate approximately $6.2 million in revenue. The actual received to September 2009 is 33,000 tonnes for revenue of $2.2 million. Projected revenue to the end of 2009 is $3.0 million for a budget shortfall of $3.2 million. The budgeted basket of goods rate for 2009 was projected to be $147.00 per tonne, but is currently $85.00 per tonne. It is not predicted that prices will rise further before the end of the year.

8. Outstanding Action Items

8.1 Motion to remove item a) Larger Blue Boxes for Curbside Recycling Collection from the Outstanding Action Items

Moved by Councillor Ferguson, Seconded by Councillor Powers:

That the Outstanding Action Item a) Larger Blue Boxes for Curbside Recycling Collection be removed from the Outstanding Action Items.

CARRIED

9. Other Business

The City of Hamilton is a leader in Waste Management as evidenced by rewards received at the recent Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) conference in Long Beach. The Division earned a gold award for the landfill gas utilization system, a silver award for the education room at the CCF, and a bronze for the new film grabbing system at the MRF.

Committee mentioned that it has been brought to their attention that some larger apartment building owners are concerned about having to pay waste management fees as part of the property tax bill when they use private waste collection. Staff responded that it is a common practice in most communities that multi-residential buildings still pay for public waste collection programs (through property tax) whether or not they use the service.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 11 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in meeting room 320A of the Hamilton Civic Centre.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Motion by Councillor Powers, Seconded by Councillor Ferguson:

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED
Distribution List:

SWMMP Steering Committee Members
Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Acting Director of Support Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Acting Director of Environmental Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Blair Smith, Acting Director of Operations, Operations and Waste Management Division