City of Hamilton

MINUTES: Waste Reduction Task Force
Wednesday, March 15th, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
Room 110, Hamilton City Hall

Present: Joanne Bortolotto  David Hart Dyke  Dorienne Cushman
Mary Lou Dickson  Michael Caruso  Joel Begin
Linda Hughes  Peter Hutton  Ron Joice
Angela Pastorius  Laurie Nielsen  Brooke Ryan
Linda Hughes  Peter Hutton  Ron Joice
Regrets: Rena Marie Cornelius  Dana Woods

Also Present: Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Craig Murdoch, Manager of Waste Disposal, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Emil Prpic, Supervisor of Waste Processing, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Adam Watson, Policy Analyst, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Steve Plaice, Jacques Whitford Limited
John Hawker, Public
Carl Van Rooyen, Public
Gord Cameron, Public

1. Approval of the Minutes from February 15th, 2006

The Task Force received a copy of the minutes from the February 15th, 2006 meeting. The minutes were amended as to item 4a Waste Diversion Facilities Update to clarify that the retrofit discussed was for the MRF.

The minutes were approved as amended.
(Moved by Dorienne Cushman, seconded by Peter Hutton)

A motion was put forth that the agenda be amended to include discussion on alternative meeting rooms for Task Force meetings during the City Hall renovations commencing in late 2006. (Moved by Dorienne Cushman, seconded by Ron Joice) The motion passed unanimously.

2. Administrative Items

a) Sub-Committee Discussion

Task Force members were reminded about signing up for a sub-committee.

Attempts to contact the unsuccessful Task Force applicants to invite them to participate on sub-committees have not been fruitful.

Discussion took place on what the new sub-committees would be. It was decided there would be three sub-committees:

- Business & Government
- Education
- Multi-Residential, Institutional & Commercial Waste

Staff inquired into the proposed focus of the Multi-Residential, Institutional & Commercial Waste Subcommittee. It was indicated that the focus would be on how to improve penetration into those areas and to improve green cart participation and recycling. Staff indicated that there is currently a
study being undertaken on this topic, which will be complete in May. It was suggested that this sub-committee delay its activities until these findings are released.

Discussion continued on sub-committee membership and it was decided that each sub-committee would be named and members would indicate by a show of hands, which sub-committee they would like to join. The results were as follows:

- Multi-Residential, Institutional & Commercial Waste - Peter Hutton and Ron Joice
- Business & Government - Dorienne Cushman, Laurie Nielsen and Mary Lou Dickson
- Education - Angela Pastorius, Joel Begin and Linda Hughes

b) Alternate Meeting Locations Discussion

Staff described the upcoming changes due to City Hall renovations and indicated that the last meeting of the Task Force at City Hall will be September 2006.

Discussion took place on possible alternative meeting locations and whether a central location was important to Task Force members. It was decided that a central location is to be pursued and some options including the Art Gallery, Library and Board of Education facilities were discussed. Staff will look into securing a suitable meeting space for October.

3. Standing Committee Items

a) Sub-Committee Update

Education Sub-Committee

The Task Force was advised that the Spectator Newspaper in Education campaign will roll out on Earth Day.

Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee (GLCC)

Brooke Ryan gave a summary of the issues discussed at the February 28th meeting of the GLCC, and included landfill monitoring, control of gulls at the site, leachate levels and the siting of an energy-from-waste facility.

4. Solid Waste Management Master Plan Initiatives

a) Waste Diversion Facilities Update (CCF, MRF, CRC’s)

Waste Management Disposal staff provided an update on the construction of the Central Composting Facility, indicating it was 90% complete to date. An update on the MRF redesign and construction progress on the CRC’s was also provided.

Emil Prpic, Supervisor of Waste Processing, was officially introduced to the Task Force by Craig Murdoch, Manager of Waste Disposal.

Discussion took place on the recent elimination of the construction waste bins at the Mountain CRC due to budget cuts. Staff explained that this program was selected for removal due to the small amount of construction waste being disposed and the low number of residents who dispose of this type of waste.

Discussion took place on the current signage at the Mountain CRC and the need for additional signs to be installed at Kilbride Street and the Upper Ottawa and Rymal Road intersection. Staff indicated that the signs are presently being upgraded in the area and staff will look into placing one closer to the Upper Ottawa/Kilbride intersection.

The disposal costs for C&D waste are the same at CRCs and transfer stations, except for a small difference between commercial and residential users.

Staff will provide some numbers on diversion at the CRCs for the next Task Force meeting.
b) Green Cart Program
Staff indicated that the Green Cart Program update will be integrated into agenda item #5 "Green Cart Smart Presentation”.

c) WastePlan
Staff provided an update on WastePlan, including a description of the recent public consultation that has taken place. Discussion took place on the March WastePlan presentation and staff indicated that all Task Force members were invited to attend. An inquiry was made into which Task Force members planned on attending the meeting. Five members indicated they would attend.

5. Green Cart Smart Presentation
Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, introduced two of the Green Team Outreach Officers who presented the Green Cart story - which is an education tool used to promote the program.

Pat Parker presented the Green Cart Smart presentation, and also outlined the effect of the program on some of Waste Management’s other programs and policies (i.e. bag limits, waste by-law).

Staff advised the Green Cart program is being delivered to residences that receive curbside waste collection service.

Staff confirmed that the lining of the sample paper liner bag is made of eucalyptus.

Rod Muir from the Sierra Club of Canada, presented to the Task Force on aspects of the Green Cart program and the high school program the Sierra Club is initiating. Discussion took place on various aspects of this program. A question was raised as to why the program will not place students in malls. Staff responded that due to insurance issues activities have to be located in City owned facilities.

Task Force members put forth various suggestions for methods to increase the public presence of this program, including presentations at Councillor’s community meetings and advertising the locations of the student presentation booths in advance.

A member suggested that a window display in Jackson Square be prepared to promote the Green Cart Program.

Staff advised that the contamination of plastics in the demonstration areas was bad at first but has been under control in the past year.

Discussion took place on the procedure to be used for dealing with contamination in the Green Carts. Staff responded that a period of leniency will take place, followed by more strict enforcement by stickering and refusing to collect the contaminated carts.

Rod Muir was thanked for giving his presentation.

6. AMO Proposal for a Provincial Integrated Waste Management Strategy
Discussion took place on what the Task Force membership would like to submit regarding the AMO document. Staff provided a background on the AMO paper and how it came to be put together by the member municipalities.

A member raised a question about whether the Minister of Environment had already received the document and whether there is a need for the Task Force to comment on it. Concerns were raised about the recommendations, specifically the use of EFW using mixed waste, tire waste, and the limitations of the report regarding the potential role of the private sector.

A member commented that the paper was more provincially focused and not as Hamilton based as they had previously thought.
Further discussion took place related to the AMO paper, including:

- The role of the Province in waste management
- The hierarchy of waste disposal presented in the document

It was suggested that the Task Force review the paper and pick out what is within their mandate and what they support, then to communicate amongst the membership on what the Task Force’s submission would be.

A question was raised about the timeframe for the Task Force to comment on this paper. Staff indicated that it was not known at this time.

7. **Staff Updates on Other Waste Issues**

a) **Budget**

Staff provided an update on the budget process, stating that it commenced on March 8th, and that on March 27th the Waste Management budget is to be presented to the Committee of the Whole.

8. **Other Business**

No items were raised for discussion.

9. **Public Discussion**

An inquiry was made into the multi-residential diversion waste diversion strategy and whether commercial/institutional waste will also be included. Staff responded that this sector’s waste will not be dealt with until the residential waste stream has been addressed and that the amount of commercial properties served by the City is relatively low.

A member of the public asked about the WastePlan workshop scheduled for the following week. It was indicated that the WastePlan workshop was an invite-only event.

A member of the public asked about where privately collected waste is disposed. Staff indicated that this waste was sent to private landfills in Southern Ontario and Michigan.

A comment was made that multi-residential properties are mostly serviced by private companies. Staff corrected this, stating that most multi-residential properties are serviced by the City, and described the recent campaign that brought most buildings back onto City collection services.

An inquiry was made into the small scale businesses which are served by the City and their role in the Green Cart program. Staff indicated that they will have to abide by the same rules as the residential sector in relation to the collection of garbage, recyclables and organics at the curbside.

A request was made for clarification on the existing waste rules in the City. Staff directed them to consult the by-law and provided them direction on how to view this document through the Waste Management website.

A question was raised on when the results will be available on the blue box campaign study/public opinion survey and a request was made that a discussion be held on the results of the campaign at a future meeting. Staff indicated that the same public opinion survey will be carried out on the Green Cart program later this year.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19th, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Hamilton City Hall, Room 110.

Moved by Mike Caruso and seconded by Laurie Nielsen that the meeting be adjourned.
Copies to: All present
Regrets
SWMMP Waste Reduction Task Force Binder Distribution List
Scott Stewart, General Manager, Public Works Department
Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee c/o Craig Murdoch, Waste Management Division
City Clerks Division, c/o Lisa Barroso