**REPORT**

**CITY OF HAMILTON**

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

*Waste Management Division*

**Report to:** Chair and Members Public Works Committee  
**Submitted by:** Scott Stewart, C.E.T.  
General Manager  
Public Works Department

**Date:** January 14, 2008  
**Prepared by:** Pat Parker  
Extension 3916

**SUBJECT:** Solid Waste Management Master Plan Diversion Options and Waste Management Division 2008 Budget Submission  
(PW08014) - (City Wide)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

(a) That enhanced enforcement of the Solid Waste Management By-law 05-190 as outlined in Recommendation (e) of report PW07151 be deferred to a future budget process.

(b) That the complement, as presented, for 2008 Planning and Economic Development Department Budget submission be reduced by 0.5 FTE to reflect the deferral of Recommendation (e) of report PW07151, and as confirmed in recommendation (a) above.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The report Status of Solid Waste Management Master Plan, Options for Increasing Diversion and Landfill Capacity (PW07151) was approved by Council at its meeting of November 28, 2007. The report recommendations, as amended, have no net impacts on the 2008 Waste Management Budget and will be incorporated when the final budget is loaded.

Recommendation (e) of the report recommended that enforcement of the Solid Waste Management By-law 05-190 and addition of 0.5 full time equivalent (FTE) enforcement staff be referred to the 2008 budget process.
The Solid Waste Management Master Plan Steering Committee passed a motion at its December 11, 2007 meeting that recommendation (e):

“That enhanced enforcement of the Solid Waste Management By-law 05-190 be undertaken, including the addition of one half (.5) full-time employee (FTE) to the Municipal By-law Enforcement staffing in 2008 at no net cost, and further, that this be referred to the 2008 Budget Process.”

be deferred pending staff reporting back on waste diversion performance based on the voluntary and education approaches that were approved in the other recommendations of Report PW07151.

The recommendations arising from Report PW07151, as amended, have no net impacts on the 2008 Waste Management Division or the Planning and Economic Development Department budgets. The changes will be incorporated when the final budget is loaded.

**BACKGROUND:**

The information and recommendations contained within this report have City wide implications.

The report Status of Solid Waste Management Master Plan, Options for Increasing Diversion and Landfill Capacity (PW07151) was approved by Council at its meeting of November 28, 2007. The options set out in the report together are expected to increase waste diversion by 15%. The recommendations, as amended, are:

(a) That the Solid Waste Management Master Plan (SWMMP) Recommendation 3, “The City of Hamilton must set an aggressive objective of 65% waste diversion by the end of 2008, based on 2000 waste generation rates.” be amended to “The City must strive to meet an aggressive objective of 65% waste diversion by the end of 2011, based on 2006 waste diversion rates.”;

(b) That the implementation of the multi-residential diversion program be accelerated in 2008 for completion in 2009 as outlined in this report PW07151;

(c) That a one (1) container limit on garbage be established for implementation on March 31, 2008 together with:

(i) three (3) grace weeks following Victoria Day, Thanksgiving and New Years when residents could set out up to three (3) containers of garbage;

(ii) a transition period between March 31, 2008 and March 28, 2009 during which enforcement will focus on education and customer service;

(iii) a special consideration process for medical circumstances and families with three (3) or more children under the age of five (5) years;

(iv) an allowance in the event that should residents require set outs beyond the weekly one (1) container limit, that an additional one (1) clear plastic bag be permitted to be set out for the period of March 30, 2009 to April 5, 2010, providing that it does not contain Unacceptable Garbage as defined in Solid Waste Management By-law 05-190;
all in conjunction with the 2008-09 Waste Collection Calendar;

d) That the two (2) temporary Customer Service Co-ordinator positions, funded through the Waste Management operating budget since April 2006 continue as temporary positions for an eighteen (18) month term, and staff report back on the future need for the positions prior to the end of the new term;

(e) That enhanced enforcement of the Solid Waste Management By-law 05-190 be undertaken, including the addition of one half (.5) full-time employee (FTE) to the Municipal By-law Enforcement staffing in 2008 at no net cost, and further, that this be referred to the 2008 Budget Process;

(f) That, effective March 31, 2008, appropriate compostable bags be accepted in the City’s Green Cart program;

(g) That staff continues to explore options to reduce waste and to increase diversion in 2009 and 2010 to achieve the 65% diversion target;

(h) That Waste Management Project ID 5120890100 Annual User Pay Implementation in the amount of $835,000 be removed from the 2008 Tax Capital Budget request;

(i) That staff be directed to meet with the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee respecting their ability to comply with the one-container limit for garbage.

**ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:**

The Solid Waste Management Master Plan Steering Committee has requested that the by-law enforcement component of the Diversion Options outlined in report PW07151 be deferred for the 2008 Budget Process. This option is estimated to increase waste diversion by approximately 2%, however, the Committee requested that staff initially pursue customer service and outreach as a means of achieving diversion and report back on the need to implement additional by-law enforcement based on waste diversion performance.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

The recommendations in this report flow from the direction from Council on Report Pw07151 on November 28, 2007, the goal of which is no net impact on the 2008 budget. The purpose of this report is to clarify the budget impacts.

Future budget processes can consider diversion performance and options for enhanced enforcement as required.

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The approved changes have no net impact on the 2008 Waste Management Division Budget. The gross costs for all of the options is $1,339,500 as outlined in Table 2 of Report PW07151 and these are offset by an equivalent amount in recycling revenues and disposal savings. This amount will be adjusted to reflect the deferral of the by-law enforcement costs.
The approved changes will reduce the Planning and Economic Development complement by 0.5 FTE with no net impact on the 2008 Budget.

**POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:**

Public Works Strategic Plan

The deferral of the enhanced enforcement does not impact on the provision of services that residents can rely on, while maintaining fiscal responsibility and minimizing impacts to the environment.

Solid Waste Management Master Plan (SWMMP)

The recommendation to defer enhanced enforcement in favour of education and customer service does not compromise SWMMP recommendation 8 that states “The City of Hamilton should adopt flexible enforcement systems that become progressively rigorous as waste diversion systems come into operation, recognizing the socio-economic and cultural diversity of the City.”

**RELEVANT CONSULTATION:**

The Solid Waste Management Master Plan Steering Committee and Financial Services staff was consulted in the preparation of this report and are in support of the recommendations.

**CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:**

By evaluating the “Triple Bottom Line”, (community, environment, economic implications) we can make choices that create value across all three bottom lines, moving us closer to our vision for a sustainable community, and Provincial interests.

Community Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
Community outreach and customer service focuses on waste diversion are accepted in the community

Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
The continued diversion of waste contributes to a greener City.

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
Deferral of the enhanced enforcement reflects fiscal responsibility.

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines? ☑ Yes ☐ No
There is value to the community, the environment and the City’s financial position in the recommendation.

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants? ☐ Yes ☑ No
Current staffing levels will be maintained until further evaluation is completed.