MINUTES
SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #11-07
Tuesday, December 11th, 2007
Hamilton City Centre, 320 RH
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Present:
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
Councillor Russ Powers
Beth Goodger, Director of Waste Management, Waste Management Division
Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collection, Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Waste Management Division
Emil Prpic, Supervisor of Waste Processing, Waste Management Division
Colleen Clark, Policy Analyst, Waste Management Division
Peter Hutton, Waste Reduction Task Force Member

Regrets:
Councillor Chad Collins
Craig Murdoch, Manager of Waste Disposal, Waste Management Division

1. Adoption of Agenda
The Agenda was adopted as presented (moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Ferguson). CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting from November 14th, 2007
The minutes were adopted as presented (moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Ferguson). CARRIED

3. Diversion Option Report Follow-up
Beth Goodger led a discussion on the follow-up to the Diversion Option Report PW07151 that went to Council on November 28th, 2007. Council passed a one (1) bag limit to be phased in by 2010. A number of follow-up activities will be taken as a result of the report and staff will be reporting back at future meetings on progress.

The Committee stated that the report got residents thinking and talking about the issue which might mean more compliance. Councillor Powers stated that he and Councillor Pasuta attended a call-in show on Cable 14 and answered a number of calls regarding the report. Beth Goodger congratulated Council on working through the debate and coming up with a resolution. Staff reported that they will be working on the details of communicating the plan in the calendar and will bring it back to the Committee at an upcoming meeting. Staff reported that Sue Coverdale has set up a rural sub-committee with Waste staff to attend to hear the concerns and look for solutions.

Discussion took place on the 0.5 FTE by-law enforcement position which was requested in the report. Blair Smith informed the Committee that the 0.5 FTE was to assist in the roll-out of the multi-residential diversion component. The Committee suggested that staff initially work with the buildings that want to be involved first and report back on the need for enforcement. Waste Management staff will work with Parking and By-Law Services regarding enforcement requirements. Peter Hutton stated that the Waste Reduction Task Force (WRTF) will want to know how the ramping up in enforcement will take place. Based on discussion, the Committee was in agreement that the staffing request for enforcement be deferred and that staff report back on the progress and need for additional enforcement.
Motion: That the request for 0.5 FTE by-law position be deferred until the 2009 Budget Process (moved by Councillor Ferguson, seconded by Councillor Powers). CARRIED

Outreach and education activities were discussed and staff advised that public opinion surveys and focus groups were recently completed that will provide further insight into current initiatives. Staff will report back to the Committee on the results when they are available. Pat Parker advised that staff is working on writing a policy regarding exemptions from the container limit and will report back to the Committee at a future meeting. Staff will be providing the Committee a full update on compostable bags at the January meeting.

4. Multi-Residential Green Cart Update

The roll-out is continuing, however progress is currently slower due to the holiday season.

5. Transfer Station & Disposal Review Update

Beth Goodger gave a presentation on the Transfer Station and Disposal Review that has been initiated. The purpose of the review is to ensure that transfer station, community recycling centre, landfill and leaf and yard waste operations continue in January 2010 when the existing contracts expire at the end of 2009. Best practices and potential improvements will be considered as part of the Review. The Review will consider the possibility of providing the operations internally rather than the current contracted approach. Staff teams have been established to undertake the Review using a process similar to the Recycling Program Review. The objective is to obtain Council approval of a preferred approach by November 2008, in order to allow sufficient time to mobilize resources required for the operations. Beth Goodger asked for input from the Committee on how best to update Council on the Review. Councillor Powers suggested a report be brought through the Public Works Committee and that staff have a dialogue with Councillors to get their input on Community Recycling Centre operations. Staff will prepare an Information Report for a Public Works Committee in 2008 and follow-up with Councillors. Beth Goodger reported that staff made a presentation on Community Recycling Centre operations at the November 2007 Waste Reduction Task Force meeting and the input from the committee on existing operations was requested.

Councillor Ferguson inquired about the transition plan for the recycling contractor change-over that will occur at the end of March 2007 and how service continuity will be maintained. Staff will be updating Council through an Information Update and will provide an update to the Committee at the January 2008 meeting.

6. Glanbrook Landfill Operations Update

The engines for the co-gen plant arrived November 14th and are being installed. They are scheduled to start up in August of 2008. Councillor Powers inquired about the air purifiers. Staff reported that they have not heard back from residents who received the units.

7. Waste Reduction Task Force Update

Peter Hutton reported that the last meeting of the Task Force was primarily spent discussing the Container Limit report. Peter Hutton informed the Committee there may be the potential of five (5) new members on the Task Force as they are going through a recruitment process. Peter Hutton stated that waste reduction is important to the WRTF and noted that to date the City has been focusing its efforts on managing waste rather than reducing it. He expects the WRTF will want to discuss how to begin to address waste reduction and the potential role for the WRTF. Councillor Powers suggested that the Steering Committee meet with the WRTF and staff to further discuss this issue in February or March of 2008. Beth Goodger commented that the WRTF will also have a role to play in providing input and ideas on the additional 10% diversion activities that have yet to be determined to achieve the City's 65% diversion target and that waste reduction may form a component of this.
8. **2008 Meeting Schedule**

Colleen Clark asked members of the Committee if they would like to continue meeting on the second Wednesday of each month. Committee members stated that with the exception of January they would like to continue with this meeting time.

9. **Other Business**

Beth Goodger provided copies of the Waste Management Division multi-year workplan from 2007 through to 2020 as a follow-up to discussions at the December 3rd, 2007 Public Works Committee about upcoming activities for the Division. Updates will be provided to the Committee as the plan evolves. A copy of the workplan is attached as an Appendix to the minutes.

10. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be determined at a future date. The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.  

Motion moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson. CARRIED