

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS***SUBJECT: RECYCLING IN THE MULTI-FAMILY SECTOR**RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council request the GVRD to consider a regional approach to increase recycling participation in the multi-family sector.
2. **THAT** a copy of the report be forwarded to the GVRD.

REPORT

The Environment Committee, at its Open meeting held on 2006 November 14, received and adopted the *attached* report regarding recycling in multi-family buildings that are not on the City's waste and recycling collection service. The Committee advised that there are opportunities to improve recycling participation in multi-family buildings that are served by private waste haulers.

As part of the Zero Waste Challenge work program by the GVRD, the Committee advised that it would be appropriate to include a review of recycling participation and additional improvements in the multi-family sector with the view to move further ahead with the waste reduction and diversion objective.

Therefore the Committee requested that Council ask the GVRD to undertake a regional review of multi-family recycling to identify a possible regional approach to further enhance recycling in this sector.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Dan Johnston
ChairCouncillor Pietro Calendino
Vice ChairCouncillor Lee Rankin
Member

:COPY – CITY MANAGER DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2006 October 27

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE: 36600-06

SUBJECT: RECYCLING IN THE MULTI-FAMILY SECTOR

PURPOSE: To provide the Committee with a discussion paper on increasing recycling participation in the multi-family sector.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Committee recommend that Council:
 - a. request the GVRD to consider a regional approach to increase recycling participation in the multi-family sector; and
 - b. forward a copy of this report to the GVRD

REPORT**1.0 Background**

At its meeting of 2006 October 10, the Environment Committee requested staff to prepare a report on recycling opportunities in multi-family buildings that are not on the City's waste and recycling collection service. This report is to provide the Committee with a recommended approach to address the issue.

2.0 Current Situation**2.1 City of Burnaby**

The City's integrated solid waste and recycling program is one of the most comprehensive waste management models in the Greater Vancouver region. The Burnaby program provides a multi-sector based service to approximately 38,000 single/two family households, 23,000 multi-family units and over 500 commercial/institutional/civic facilities.

The program includes single family, multi-family and commercial curbside waste, recycling and compost collection services, a central recycling depot and a central yard waste depot.

For the single family residential sector, the City's waste and recycling collection service is available to all households. For multi-family and commercial facilities, the building owner/manager has the option to sign up for the City service or to contract with a private waste and recycling provider. The City only provides curbside recycling service to residents and businesses served by the City's waste collection program.

Presently, approximately 23,000 multi-family units in Burnaby are served by the City's recycling collection program. For Burnaby businesses and other multi-family residents who opt for waste management services with a private company, recycling service may not be available depending on the conditions of the service contract and service affordability. However, the City's Recycling Depot on Still Creek Avenue is available to all Burnaby residents for their recycling needs. Although no data is available on the percentage of multi-family buildings served by private haulers that participate in recycling, it is generally observed that the participation rate is lower than those facilities served by the City's system. The City has received letters from residents in multi-family buildings complaining of the lack of recycling service from their waste collection provider and requesting the City to take greater measures in mandating recycling in the multi-family sector.

2.1 GVRD

In the early 1990's, the GVRD with participation of its member municipalities developed a Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) to address long term waste management needs and to reduce waste disposal at the landfills and the incinerator. Since the approval of the SWMP by the region and the Province, the GVRD has introduced disposal bans on office paper and cardboard to encourage more recycling. More recently, at its meeting of 2006 September 29, the GVRD Board approved a work plan with the objective of identifying the Zero Waste Challenge goals, strategies and actions. The 1995 SWMP is also the subject of a review and update in the future.

3.0 Discussion

In the past 15 years, the GVRD and its member municipalities have made significant progress towards waste reduction and diversion. The success in meeting the 50% waste reduction goal as outlined in the 1995 GVRD's SWMP may partially be attributed to the promotion and public acceptance of recycling in the local communities.

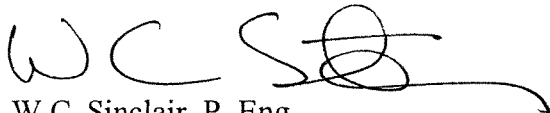
It is recognized that the Greater Vancouver region will continue to experience a healthy growth rate and new comers to the region must be made aware of the regional waste reduction initiative. While the City of Burnaby enjoys a high participation rate (90%+) in recycling in the multi-family sector served by the City program, there are opportunities to

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From: Director Engineering
Re: Recycling in the Multi-Family Sector
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improve recycling participation in multi-family buildings that are served by private waste haulers.

As part of the Zero Waste Challenge work program by the GVRD, it may be appropriate to include a review of recycling participation and additional improvements in the multi-family sector with the view to move further ahead with the waste reduction and diversion objective.

Therefore, it is recommended that the GVRD be requested to undertake a regional review of multi-family recycling and to identify a possible regional approach to further enhance recycling in this sector.



W.C. Sinclair, P. Eng.
Director Engineering

Copied to: City Manager