

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: UPDATE - MULTI-FAMILY FOOD SCRAPS COLLECTION PILOT
PROJECT**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on 2011 March 08, received and adopted the attached report providing an update on the progress of the multi-family food scraps pilot project.

The pilot project includes six multi-family complexes ranging from medium density townhouses to high-rise towers with a mix of strata, rental and co-operative properties. Overall the addition of food scraps recycling service has been well received by the residents, and the pilot project has proceeded well without significant issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
Chair

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Vice Chair

Councillor A. Kang
Member

Copied to:	City Manager Director Engineering
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2011 March 03

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE: 36600 06

SUBJECT: UPDATE-MULTI-FAMILY FOOD SCRAPS COLLECTION PILOT PROJECT

PURPOSE: To provide the Committee with an update on the progress of the multi-family food scraps pilot project.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

At the Council meeting in 2010 October, Council received a report from the Environment Committee seeking authorization for staff to proceed with a multi-family food scraps collection pilot project. Upon receiving Council authorization, staff proceeded with the pilot project in 2010 December. The purpose of this interim report is to inform the Committee and Council on the progress of the pilot project.

2.0 MULTI-FAMILY FOOD SCRAPS PILOT PROJECT

In response to Metro Vancouver's Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan goal of 70% diversion by 2015, a multi-family food scraps pilot project was initiated in 2010 December to ensure the success of a future full-scale multi-family food scraps collection program in the City of Burnaby.

The pilot project includes six multi-family complexes ranging from medium density townhouses to high-rise towers with a mix of strata, rental and co-operative properties (see *Attachment 1*). The City has provided toters, weekly collection services, education and communication resources and staff support in the form of presentations to complexes. Participating multi-family homes have added food scraps and food-soiled paper to designated communal yard trimmings toters centrally located within the complexes. The weight of food scraps collected to date for the period between 2010 December and 2011 February is detailed in Table 1 below:

To: Environment Committee
From: Director Engineering
Re: Multi-Family Food Scraps Pilot Program Update
2011 March 03 Page 2

Table 1- Interim Results of Multi-Family Food Scraps Pilot Project

Complex Name	Number of Units	Property Type	Weight Collected (kg)	Weight/Unit (kg)
Halston Hills	90	Co-op mixed townhome/condo	659.52	7.33
Whitshire	31	Townhomes	850.94	27.45
Edmonds	51	Strata low-rise condo	462.66	9.07
Imperial	32	Rental low-rise apartment	124.28	3.88
Ledgestone #1	83	Strata mixed townhome/condo	384.65	4.63
The Belgravia	155	Strata tower	432.27	2.79

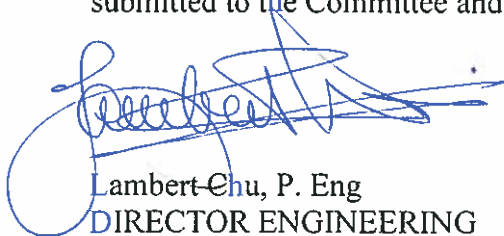
Other preliminary findings of the pilot include:

- the rate of participation and volume of food scraps from complexes has increased over time and several complexes required additional bins to adequately service the units;
- residents have shown a high level of interest in the project and this has been demonstrated by the large turnouts at onsite meetings;
- there has been less contamination observed in the food scraps bins than initially anticipated;
- at this time there have been no odour or pest complaints received from residents;
- language was found to be a potential barrier for participation and additional translation of the communication material has occurred as a strategy to minimize this barrier; and
- bear resistant carts initially provided to select complexes were found to be difficult for residents to open and have subsequently been replaced by standard totes.

Overall the addition of food scraps recycling service has been well received by the residents and the associated diverted food scraps tonnage reflects this.

3.0 CONCLUSION

To date, the multi-family food scraps pilot project has proceeded well without significant issues. A detailed report on the findings of the project and recommendation(s) on next steps will be submitted to the Committee and Council in June upon completion of the pilot project.



Lambert Chu, P. Eng
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

KC/DD/br

Attachment

Copied to: City Manager

Attachment 1: Multi-Family Complex Locations

