

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE CEDAR ROOM, 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, BC

PRESENT:

(Voting Members)	Chair	J. Sutherland
	Members	S. Selzer
		N. Brenchley
		P. Robson
		S. Van Poppelen
		M. Ernst

ALSO PRESENT:

(Non-Voting)	Manager, Solid Waste Services	M. Sole
	Solid Waste Programs Coordinator	A. Patrao
	Recorder	R. Newland
	Stantec	V. Bartlett
	Director, Electoral Area A	L. Lee
	Director, Electoral Area E	D. McMahon

REGRETS:

Director, Town of Gibsons	S. White
Vice Chair	D. Reeve
Members	A. Joe
	E. Machado
	J. Walton

CALL TO ORDER 1:01 p.m.

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES The minutes of the April 17, 2024, Solid Waste Management Plan Public and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) meeting were accepted as circulated.

REPORTS

Future Disposal Options

Marc Sole, Manager, Solid Waste Services, Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD), provided a brief verbal update on Future Disposal Options, that will form the details of Strategy 10 of the Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan), more updates to come in Q1 of 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS

Memo: Main Plan Components of The Sunshine Coast Regional District's Solid Waste Management Plan

Veronica Bartlett, Senior Environmental Planner, Stantec, provided a presentation on the main components of the Solid Waste Management Plan, which included the following:

- Introductions and recap of the planning process.
- Overview of preferred strategies.
 - There is a five-year effectiveness review required by the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and it covers all plan commitments. The memo points to some specific strategies that the SCRCD may want to look at more closely.
- Group Discussions on strategies, actions and priorities.
 - General Discussion/Comments.
 - Education is a common theme, and suggestions were made that the SCRCD analyze the effectiveness of education methods.
 - Consider moving beyond education to enforcement tools for commercial loads.
 - Support education around sorting recyclables to help reduce contamination for businesses and residents.
 - More collaboration with member municipalities towards common objectives considered important.
 - Specify in the Plan importance of collaboration.
 - Work towards consistent messaging/signage for the region.
 - Sharing educational materials.
 - Reducing waste and increasing advocacy for provincial and federal support.
 - More staffing needs also a common theme.
 - More staff at SCRCD facilities to inspect commercial loads.
 - Consider cost effectiveness of work being done in house instead of contracted work.
 - Food waste bins were discussed.
 - Promote best practices for keeping bins clean and free from contamination by considering smaller bins for certain applications, collaborating on education, and reducing wildlife conflict.

- Acknowledgement that, with regards to user fees, it can be difficult to find the right balance between cost for users versus cost of the service.
- Strategy 2: Improve Circular Economy and Recycling Opportunities for Local Businesses
 - 2A: Support suitable business organizations to pursue circular innovation through education.
 - Key focus should be waste reduction and on garbage that is from commercial sources.
 - 2B: Revisit procurement policies to better include circular economy aspects and encourage alignment across regional municipalities.
 - Policies should include that solicited tenders should have responsible waste management requirements.
- Strategy 4: Improve Recycling and Organics Diversion Opportunities for Residents
 - PTAC supports exploring diversion opportunities such as bulky item pick ups or expanded collection events.
- Strategy 5: Improve Compliance and Regulatory Requirements to Enhance Diversion
 - PTAC noted importance of getting businesses on board for source separation and options discussed included increased enforcement.
 - SCRD staff explained rationale for including third-party review of other regulatory options.
- Strategy 6: Encourage CDR Waste Prevention and Diversion
 - PTAC noted that some construction sites don't have a lot of room for separating and options for future diversion should be investigated.
- Strategy 7: Encourage Tourist, Seasonal Resident and Event Waste Reduction and Diversion
 - PTAC noted that best practices should be shared and provided to everyone. This consistency would also make it easy for the hauler.
 - Marinas should also be considered here as part of tourism waste.
 - PTAC noted an opportunity to require event organizers to source separate recyclables and compostable organics when using SCRD facilities and best practices shared with member municipalities.
- Strategy 8: Improve Wildlife Management Related to Waste Management
 - 8A: Collaborate with relevant parties to support existing educational campaigns.
 - PTAC would also like support with reducing wildlife attractants from commercial/businesses.
 - 8B: Revise the *SCRD Waste Collection Bylaw No. 431* to integrate requirements relating to wildlife attractants in curbside collection.
 - PTAC supported reducing negative wildlife interactions.
- Strategy 10: Secure Short- and Long-Term Disposal Options for the Region
 - Intentionally left blank as details will come in the new year.
- Strategy 11: Prevent and Address Littering, Illegal dumping, and Marine

Debris

- Brief explanation/clarification of the Good Samaritan Program was given by Andrea Patrao, Solid Waste Operations Coordinator.
- Veronica Bartlett clarified these were additions/enhancements to existing programs and that 11C and 11D may be able to be combined.
- The group agreed that more support/incentives for prevention and clean up is needed, including financial incentives for non-profits to help address illegal dumping.
- A suggestion was made to explore collection days where residents can bring in more items for free or at low tipping fees, bundled with education and reuse. Staff explained that such initiatives are often counterproductive to reducing waste and can have spillover effects, such as hoarding waste and unsightly properties. Furthermore, increased taxation would be required to offset reduced revenue from an event like this.
- The group noted the need to advocate to the province for increased Conservation Officer capacity to deal with illegally dumped materials and abandoned boats to support the Regional District.
- Strategy 12: Improve Invasive Species Management
 - PTAC agreed more work/support needed for invasives.
- Strategy 14: Ensure Cost - Effective Waste Management and Long-Term Cost Recovery
 - PTAC very supportive with agreement all around.
- Next Steps
 - Rachel Newland, Infrastructure Services Assistant, offered PTAC members the option to email any additional or clarifying feedback.
 - Some PTAC members provided input which was then forwarded to Stantec.
 - Veronica briefly went over the next steps which included the following:
 - Future Disposal Options (Q1 2025)
 - Finalize Draft SWMP with all preferred strategies, actions, and costs (Q2 2025)
 - Public Engagement (Fall 2025)
 - By the end of 2025:
 - Board approval
 - Submit to MOE

NEXT MEETING 2025 (TBD)

ADJOURNMENT 4:02 p.m.