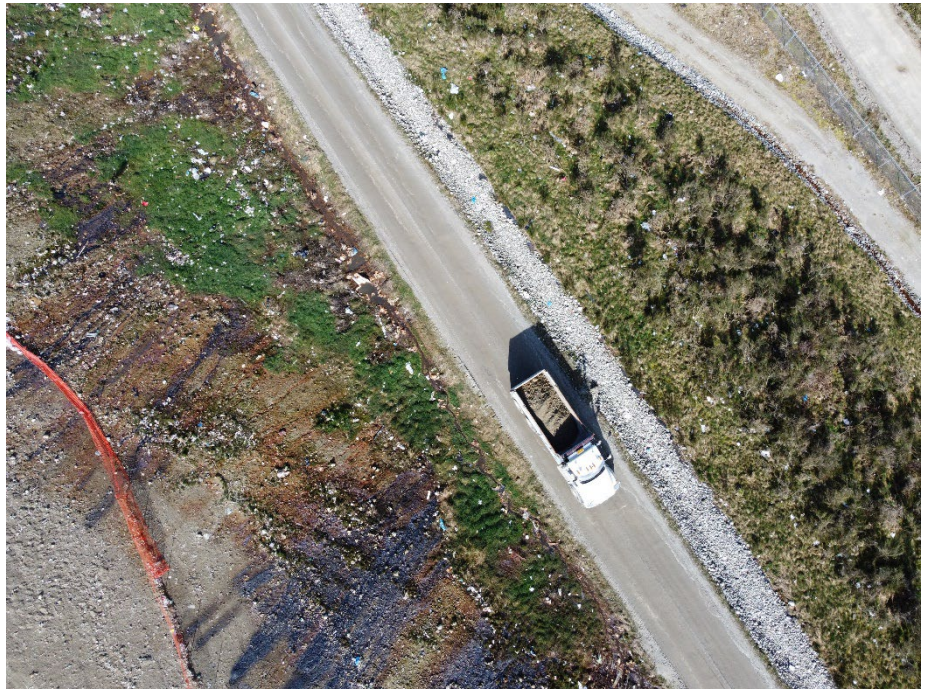
PTAC Long Term Disposal Options and Draft Plan Engagement

November 4, 2025

Meeting Agenda

Goal: Update PTAC on Plan Update Progress

- Engagement on Draft Plan
- What's Been Done to Date
- Long Term Disposal Options
- Next Steps



Engagement

- Need to take the draft plan to the community!
- We will be **informing** on long-term disposal as there is really only one option based on how much time we have left.
- We will be **engaging** with the public, industry and businesses on the draft plan and all it's pieces.
- The goal: Hear from the community what are the priorities from the plan, new ideas, what isn't supported.

Engagement – what we're thinking

Holiday Blitzen December

- Be at Christmas fairs and farmers markets to talk holiday recycling and strategies associated with the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Other ideas

- Postcard mail out to all residents
- Posters at SCRD locations
- Newspaper ads
- Facebook posts
- Online survey
- Online webpage
- Online event
- Emails to community associations, other interested parties
- Presentations offered to local governments (ToG, DoS, sNGD)

How would you want to be engaged?

We want to connect with the community and we would like to know:

- Have you experienced engagement that worked well for you in the past?
- What doesn't work well for engagement?

How would you want to be engaged?

We want to connect with the community and we would like to know:

- Who do we need to make sure we connect with?
- Suggestions on how to connect with them?

QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK

PTAC's Progress

PTAC has helped to develop the guiding principles and the proposed strategies

Guiding Principles

1. Focus on the first 3 Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle)
2. Prevent organics and recyclables from going in the garbage
3. Maximize beneficial use of waste materials, such as turning food waste into compost
4. Explore options that promote cost-effective waste management
5. Develop collaborative partnerships with interested parties to achieve waste diversion targets
6. Support polluter-pay approaches for fees instead of tax increases
7. Minimize environmental impacts through reducing GHG emissions from the landfill and promoting proper disposal
8. Engage with the community about waste reduction through education and outreach
9. Maintain an equitable playing field for waste disposal across the region

PTAC's Progress

Proposed Strategies

Reduction, Reuse, Repair

Recycling and Diversion

1. Provide More Waste Reduction, Reuse, and Repair Opportunities
2. Improve Circular Economy and Recycling Opportunities for Local Businesses
3. Lobby for Better and More Provincial Product Stewardship Programs
4. Improve Recycling and Organics Diversion for Residents
5. Improve Compliance and Regulatory Requirements to Enhance Diversion
6. Encourage Construction Demolition and Renovation Waste Prevention and Diversion
7. Encourage Tourist, Seasonal Resident and Event Waste Reduction and Diversion
8. Improve Wildlife Management related to Waste Management

PTAC's Progress

Proposed Strategies

Energy Recovery

- 9 Assess Potential for Recovery of Energy from Residual Waste

Residual Waste Management

- 10 Secure Short- and Long-term Disposal Options for the Region
- 11 Prevent and Address Littering, Illegal Dumping and Marine Debris
- 12 Improve Invasive Species Management
- 13 Improve Debris Waste Management

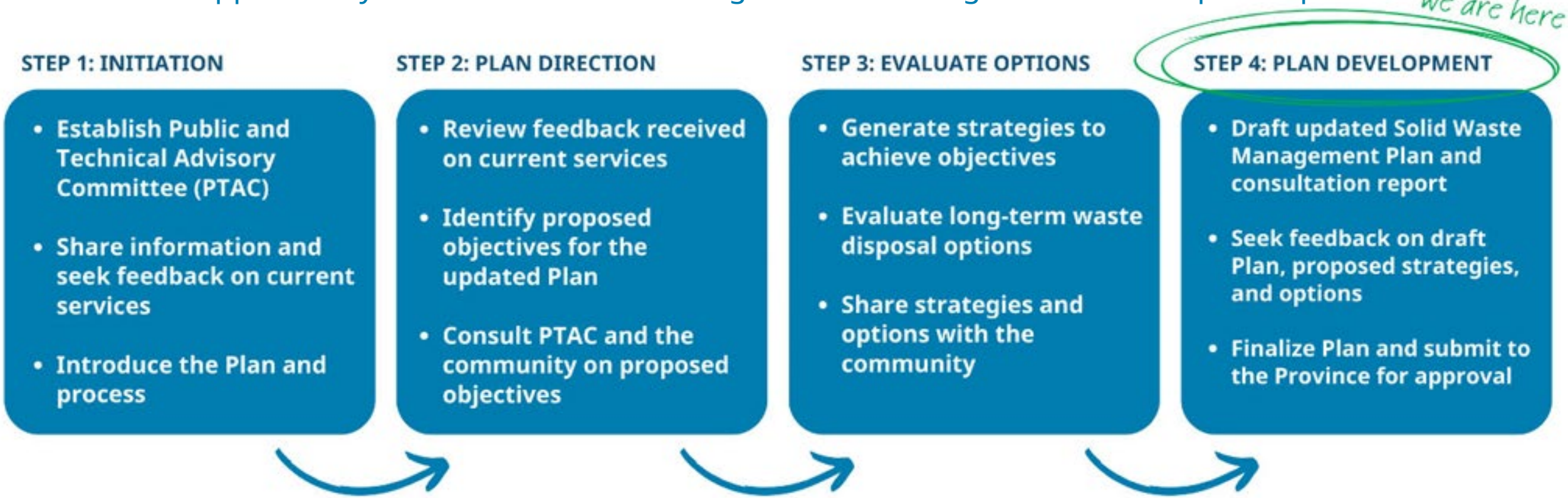
Cost Recovery

- 14 Ensure Cost-Effective Waste Management and Long-Term Cost Recovery

Plan Update Progress

A long-term disposal option must be included in the SWMP before we can engage the community and finalize the plan.

SWMP approved by the Province enables long-term borrowing for included capital expenditures.



Long-term Disposal Options – Efforts to date

2020-2022

2020-2022: Initial study on siting a new landfill:

Phase 1: Desktop study to confirm if there is an area that could meet strict provincial criteria for new landfills: 4 potential sites, all in Halfmoon Bay.

Phase 2: Site investigation: 3 sites, with questionable technical feasibility.

2020-2021: Initial study on Waste-to-Energy

SCRD alone has insufficient volume to make this a feasible option.

2020-2021: Initial study on Waste Export

Feasible option with transfer station at Hillside Industrial Park.

2021: Amended Solid Waste Management Plan to include Waste Export.

Back-up plan if no long-term disposal option confirmed by the time landfill reaches capacity. Included extensive community engagement.

Long-term Disposal Options – Efforts to date

2022-2025

2022-2024: Second opinion on siting new landfill

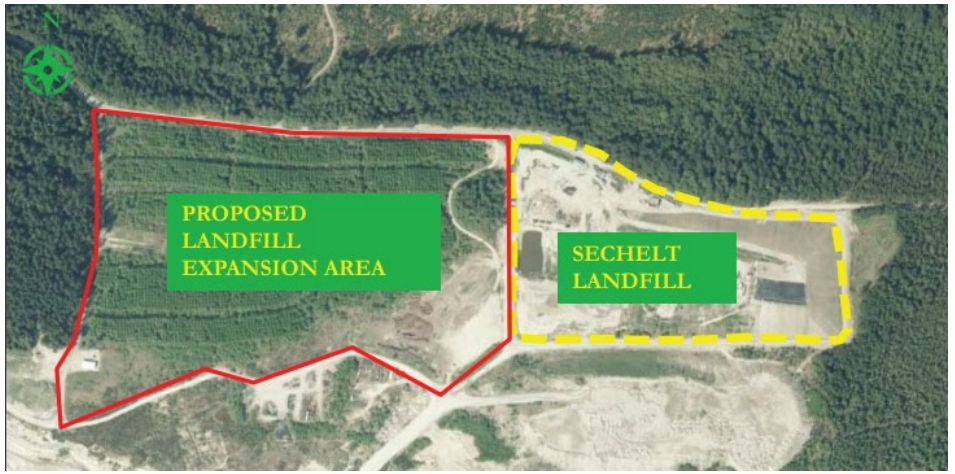
Confirmation that three sites in Halfmoon Bay should not be considered as feasible options at this time.

2022-2024: Feasibility of lateral expansion of Sechelt Landfill:

Technically feasible but not supported by landowner (shíshálh Nation).

2023-2025: Contact Water Pond Relocation Project:

Completed in 2025 and resulted in at least 5 more years of landfill life.



Unplanned Waste Export

Plan B: Worst Case Scenario

2021 SWMP Amendment

Enabled waste export off coast should the Sechelt Landfill reach capacity before a suitable replacement is in place.

Unplanned Waste Export Considerations:

- Sechelt Landfill does not have commercial tipping area (currently sent to landfill active face).
- SCRD sites cannot accommodate drop-off bins larger than 40-yards.
- No compaction/densification capabilities.

All commercial trucks to Pender Harbour Transfer Station

Expensive transport costs + more trucks required

Implications:

- High costs: +$700 per tonne.
- Significant GHG emissions increase.

Long-Term Disposal Feasibility Results

- Sperling Hansen Associates was contracted to provide a feasibility studies and a business case on vertical expansion and waste export.
- Intergovernmental Meeting on Oct 2.
- All presentations are available on the https://letstalk.scrd.ca/trash page.

Results:

- Both options are technically feasible.
- Both require 5 years to develop, assuming no delays occur during decision making, design + permitting, and construction.

Long-term Disposal Options: Waste Export

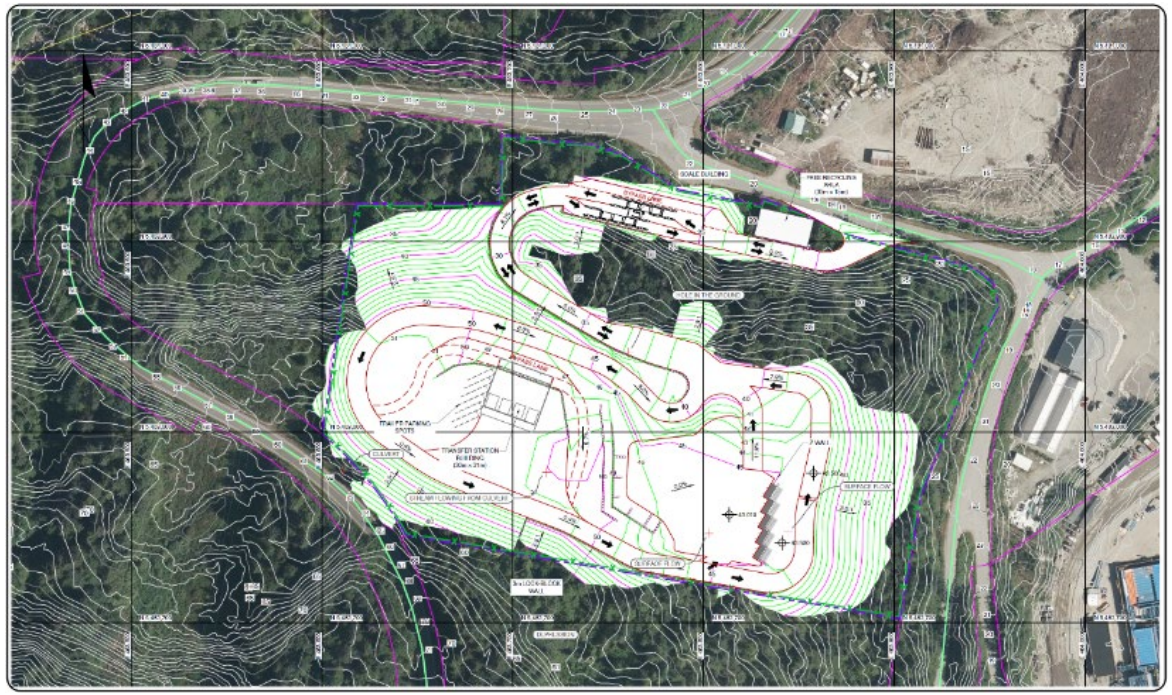
Not Recommended

Waste Export Transfer Station (WETS)

- Location: Hillside Industrial Park
  - Siting and land acquisition TBD.
- Major changes required to waste system on Coast.
  - All large commercial traffic to WETS.
  - Sechelt Transfer Station.
- Study assumes barging and trucking to Cache Creek.
  - Transportation systems and final disposal location TBD.

Risks

- Increased permitting requirements to construct.
- Less financial control over transport and disposal costs.
- Transportation disruptions (on Coast waste storage TBD).
- Increased GHG emissions.

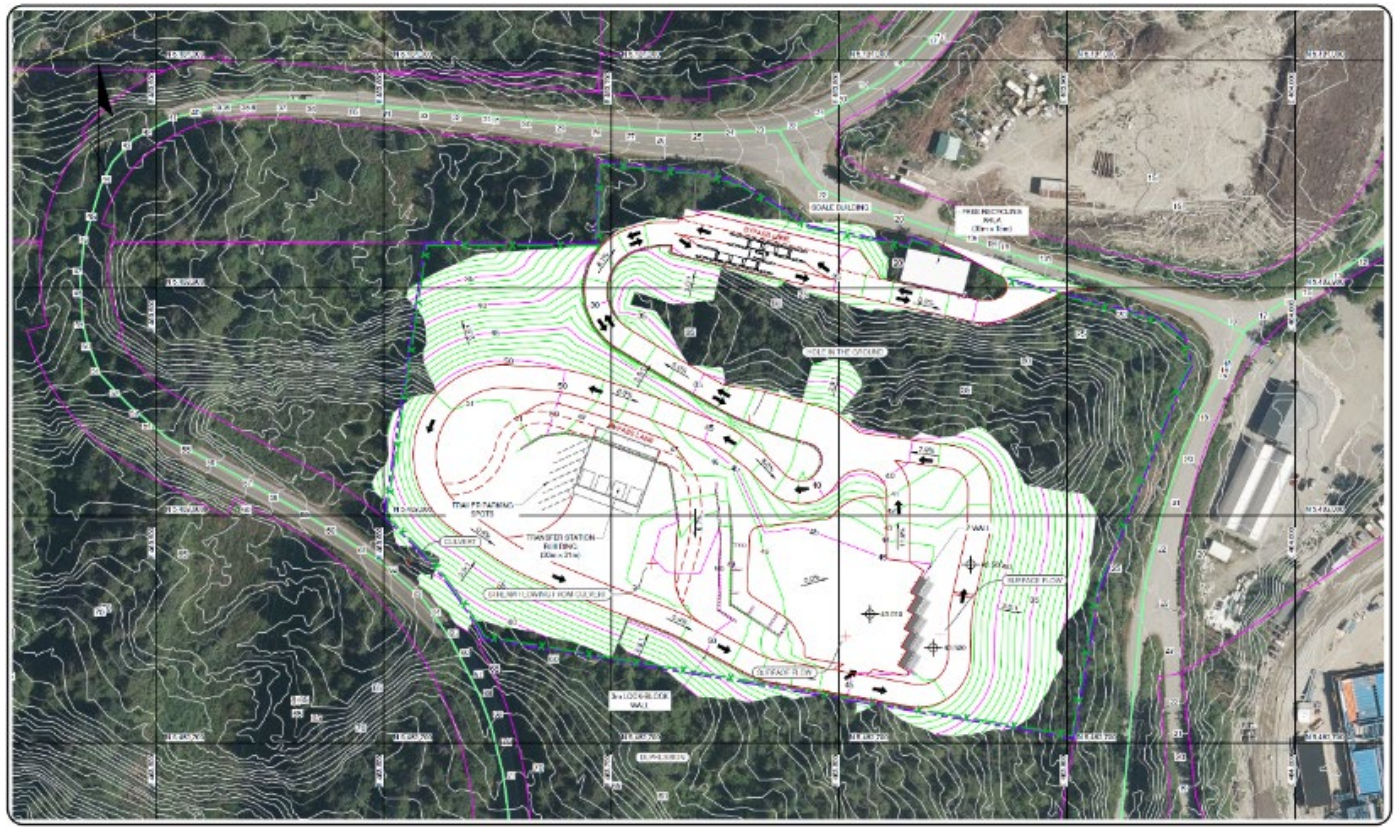


Costs

- $21.1M capital cost, excluding land purchase
- $588.76/tonne lifecycle cost.

Long-term Disposal Options: Waste Export

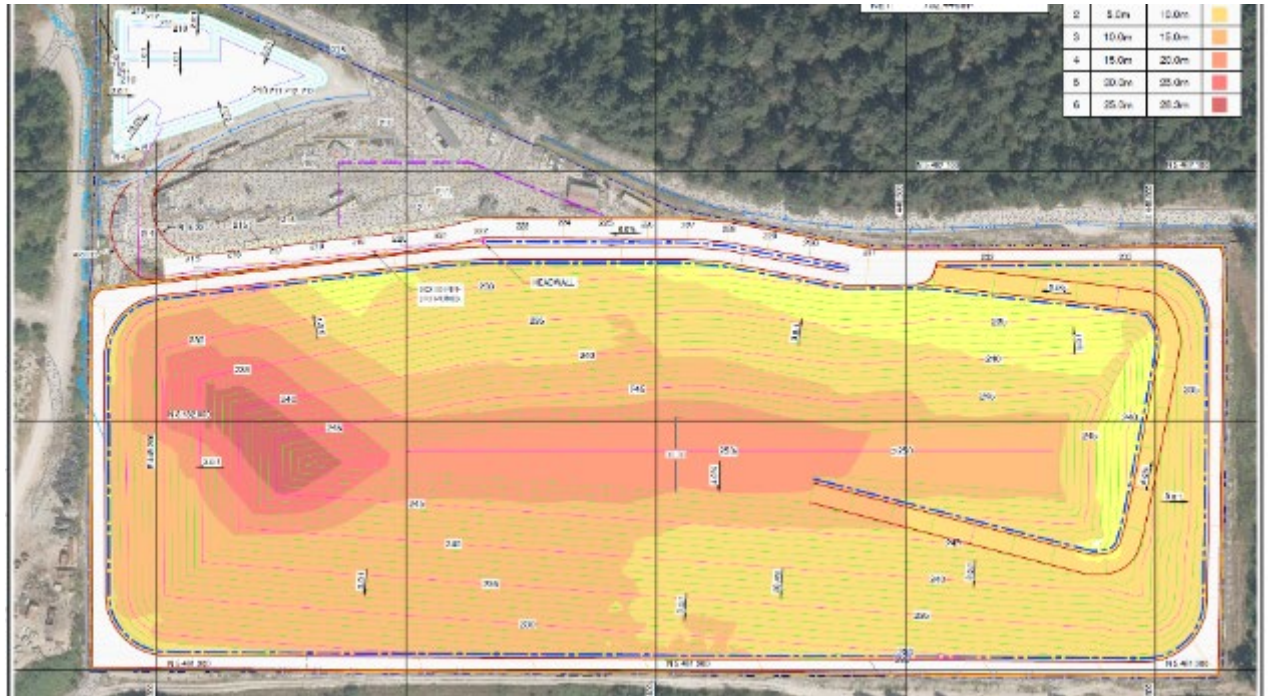
Not Recommended



Long-term Disposal Options: Vertical Expansion

Recommended

- Location: Sechelt Landfill; no changes to current system.
- 10m mechanically stabilized earth wall within property.
- Waste placed on top of existing material, including closed, lined, east side of site.
- 30 years of landfill life at current fill rate.
- Provides time to further explore disposal options before site reaches capacity after 2060.



Risks

- Uncertainty in aggregate sourcing costs
- Greater financial control over disposal costs.
- Less risks due to transportation disruptions.
- Less GHG emissions.

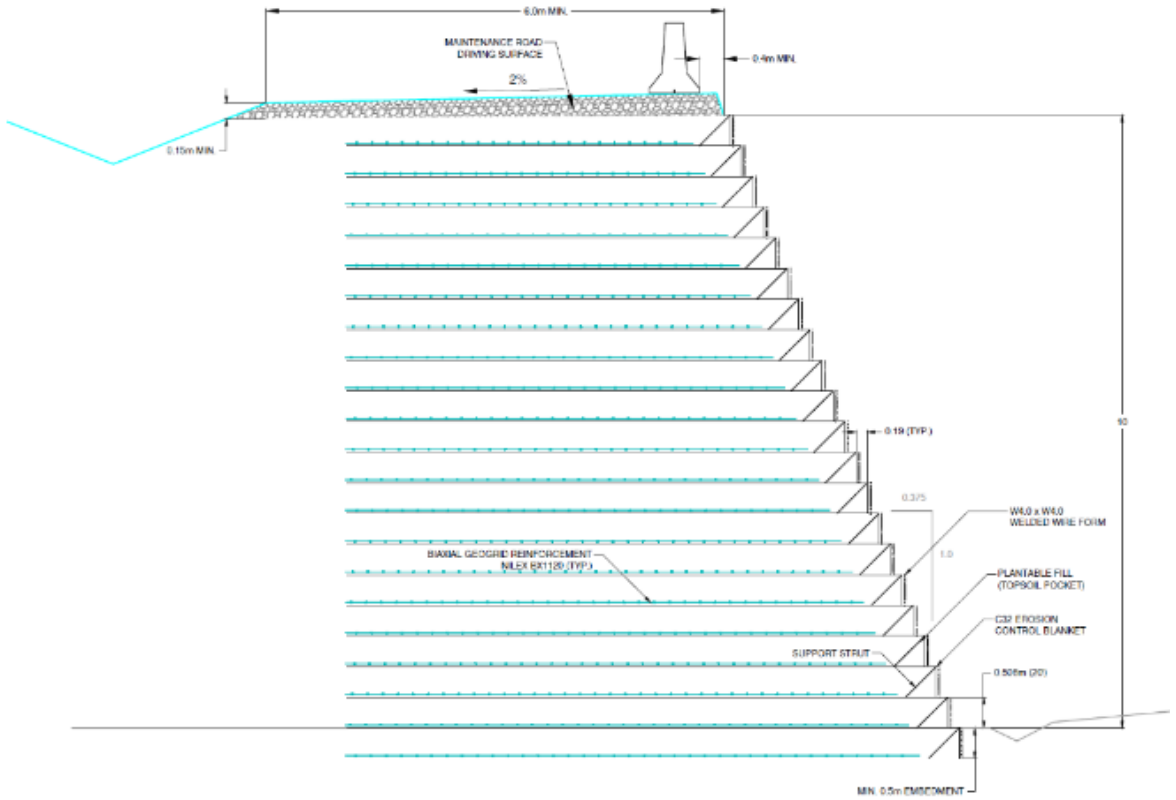
Costs

- $33.1M capital cost.
- $438.79/tonne lifecycle cost.

Long-term Disposal Options: Vertical Expansion

Recommended

- 10m mechanically stabilized earth wall within property.
- 6m wide berm with maintenance road.
- Access ramp on North edge for truck and maintenance.



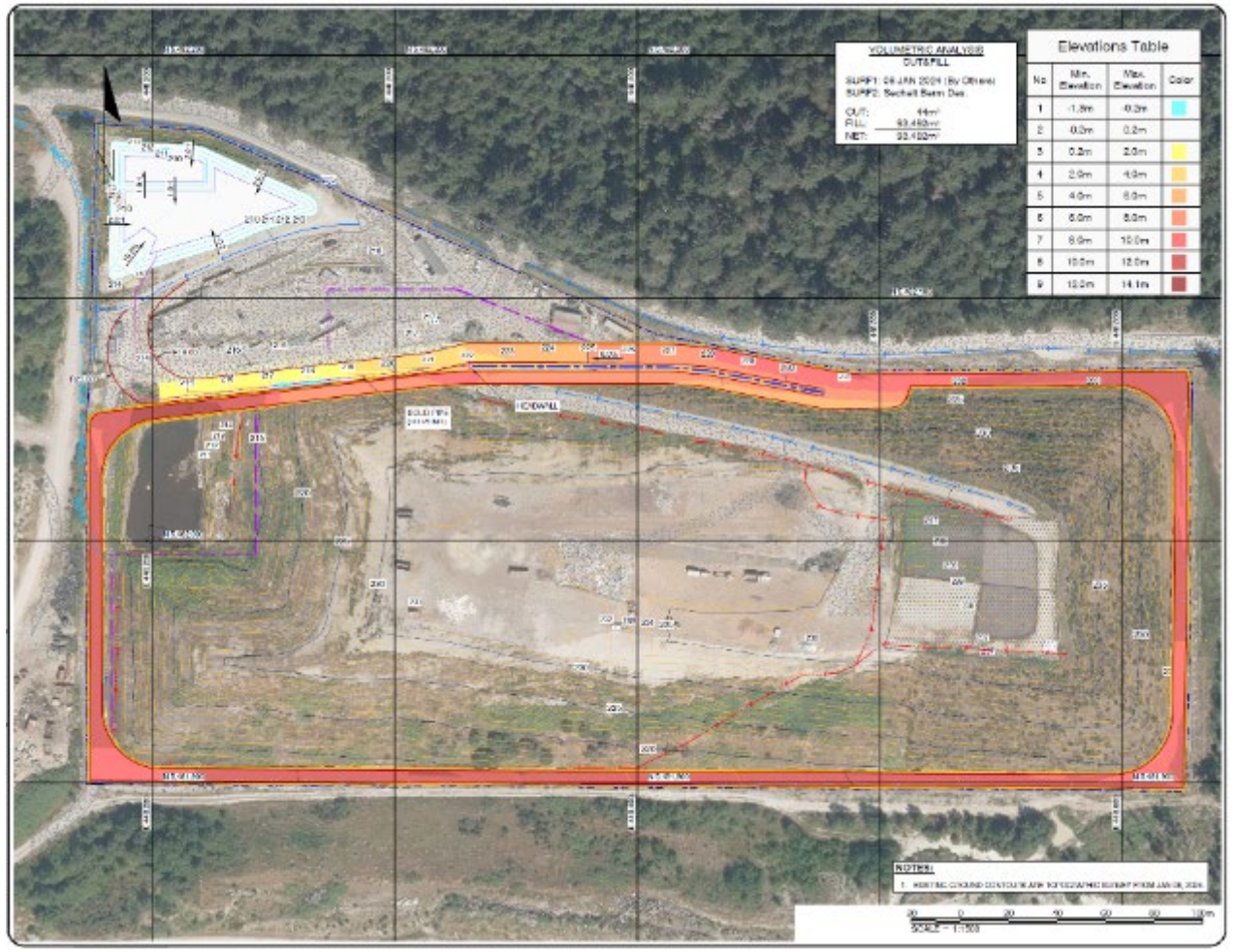
Long-term Disposal Options: Vertical Expansion

Recommended

- Potential airspace capacity of 752,446 m³.
- 30 years of landfill life at current fill rates.

Waste Shredder:

- Increases compaction, reduces airspace.
- Compacted densities: up to 1,000 kg/m³.
- Current landfill densities: 767 – 1,063 kg/m³.
- $1 million/year operating cost.
- Only 4 additional years of landfill life after 2030.



Long-term Disposal Options: Cost Comparison

Waste Management Option	Lifecycle Cost
Current System	$326.52/tonne
Vertical Expansion	$438.79/tonne
Waste Export Transfer Station	$588.76/tonne
Waste Export (unplanned)	+$700/tonne

Recommended Disposal Option: Vertical Expansion due to less risks, lower operating costs than Waste Export, plus lower GHG emissions.

Decision now enables engagement with the community and progress onto design phase. Design phase to provide further technical assessments before decision point on borrowing + construction in 2028.

SWMP Next Steps

- The Board's 2023-2027 SCRD Strategic Plan lists completing the update of the SWMP and confirming a long-term disposal option as main goals.
- October 23 COW decision to incorporate vertical expansion into draft SWMP. To be confirmed at November 13 Board Meeting.
- Draft SWMP Engagement.

QUESTIONS

FEEDBACK

NEXT