



### **Presentation: Updates to Draft Solid Waste Management Plan**

Marc Sole, Manager, Solid Waste Services, Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD), provided a presentation of updates to the Draft Solid Waste Management Plan, which included the following:

- Updates on the Draft Solid Waste Management Plan were received and discussed by the Committee.
- Introductions and recap of plan update progress and Public and Technical Advisory Committee's (PTAC) efforts to date.
- Staff report discussed re: aim to prioritize strategies and actions in draft plan.
- Progress and development status of draft plan.
  - The SCRD Board approved Option 1 from the Committee of the Whole Report from January 22, 2026, *Draft Solid Waste Management Plan Options* at the February 12, 2026 Board Meeting, Resolution No. 030/26,

#### **Recommendation No. 1** *Draft Solid Waste Management Plan Options*

THAT the draft Solid Waste Management Plan be amended to prioritize strategies and actions focused on long-term disposal, and the four most cost-effective actions to increase waste diversion to further extend the life of the Sechelt Landfill, which include:

- Strategy 3: Lobby for better and more Provincial Product Stewardship Programs;
- Strategy 4: Improve recycling and organics diversion opportunities for residents;
- Strategy 5: Improve compliance and regulatory requirements to enhance diversion;
- Strategy 9: Residual waste management in the Region (vertical expansion);

AND THAT staff engage with the community on the amended draft Solid Waste Management Plan;

AND FURTHER THAT staff continue engagement with member municipalities, neighbouring local governments, and First Nations on the amended draft Solid Waste Management Plan.

- Financial considerations for updates to the plan:
  - Capital costs of vertical expansion will impact SCRD budget in coming years.
  - Staffing time for new projects can be adjusted to reduce initial ask by delaying new actions in the plan to the second half of plan timeline.
  - Extending landfill life through vertical expansion allows for annual closure fund contributions to be reduced from current amount.
- Focus of the draft plan is on diversion and enforcement for the first five years of the plan. Strategies 3, 4, and 5 have the highest potential for diversion and

extending the life of the Sechelt Landfill.

- The remaining strategies in the plan are proposed to be moved to the second half of the ten-year plan timeline.

PTAC discussion included:

- No objections to adjusting plan implementation timelines.
- Options to increase enforcement through policy changes (e.g. clear bags for garbage disposal) and monitoring options on site (e.g. cameras).
- Important to work with businesses to improve diversion.

Staff presented information to the Committee regarding the proposed engagement strategy:

The committee discussed the following:

- 2026 Public engagement will begin first week of March and run until April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Using all tools available, such as website and social media, information boards, signs, posters, online survey.
- Pop up table events, open houses, workshops with businesses and local organisations, postcard mailout similar to OCP update.
- PTAC offered suggestions to attend community events such as the Wedding Fair, target tourism and local destinations for education opportunities, and to reach out to real estate agents regarding appropriate waste management for new residents and those leaving the region to reduce waste generated.
- The committee stressed the importance of education regarding contamination of recycling and food waste.
- The committee expressed concerns regarding the increase in tipping fees leading to an increase in illegal dumping.
- The committee asked for clarification as to how changes to the draft SWMP may affect the consultant's budget and staff confirmed that the changes would not affect the project budget.

**NEXT MEETING** (TBD)

**ADJOURNMENT** 4:35 p.m.