



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

OFFICE OF ENGINEERING & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

MISSION STATEMENT: *Committed to delivering cost-effective and efficient services for the residents of the Town of Amherstburg with a view to improve and enhance their quality of life.*

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Author's Phone: 519 736-3664 ext. 2320	Date to Council: September 25, 2023
Author's E-mail: agiofu@amherstburg.ca	Resolution #: 20230626-007

To: Mayor and Members of Town Council

Subject: Regional Waste Management County By-law

1. **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that:

1. Council **SUPPORT** the Corporation of the County of Essex By-Law 2023-40, being a by-law to transfer all power of the lower tier municipalities of the County of Essex with respect to the collection of waste and the delivery of such waste in the County of Essex, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 189 and 190 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended.

2. **BACKGROUND:**

A detailed summary of the regional waste management initiative and progress made to date was provided to Council at the June 26, 2023 Council meeting. A copy of that report is attached for Council's reference. At that time, following a presentation from County and Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) staff, Council endorsed the concept of a regional approach to waste management by way of resolution #20230626-007:

1. Council *RECEIVE* the presentation from the County of Essex and Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority regarding the concept of a regional approach to waste management;
2. Council *ENDORSE* the concept of a regional approach to waste management for further exploration; and
3. Council *DIRECT* Administration to report back at a future Council meeting with further information on a regional waste management program,

including the required legal and logistical steps required to upload the waste management service as well as cost and service implications.

3. DISCUSSION:

County of Essex and EWSWA staff have since made similar presentations to all local municipalities. All but two of the local municipalities passed a similar resolution in support of exploring the Regional Waste Initiative further.

As identified in June 26, 2023 Council report, the next step towards a regional waste management solution is for County Council to pass a by-law that is eventually supported by a) a majority of the local municipalities and b) those lower tier municipalities that pass a resolution in support would have to comprise a majority of all electors in the County.

On August 16, 2023, County Administration brought forward the proposed regionalization of waste collection to County Council for consideration. The County By-law was passed with 10 votes for and 4 votes against. A copy of the County Council report and By-law is attached to this report. The passing of the County By-law formally initiates the process of uploading the service from the lower tier municipalities to the County of Essex. The County has asked each Municipality to vote on the County By-Law by the end of September.

A Regional Waste Working Group was formed to discuss the logistics and service levels of the regional waste management approach. The group is comprised of representatives from local municipal staff and has met twice to date. If the County By-law is supported by a majority of the local Municipalities and a majority of all electors, the following is proposed, as presented to County Council:

- The County would assume all existing waste contracts and associated costs at a pre-determined date (suggested to be January 1, 2024);
- EWSWA would manage all existing waste contracts and coordinate combined procurement at a date/time that is advantageous based on existing contract expiration and compliance requirements;
- Service levels would remain as established in existing contracts until such time it is feasible and financially appropriate to move to standardized service levels;
- Municipal working group meetings will continue to establish the standardized service levels and associated Request for Tender for collection services;
- EWSWA would develop an education campaign to raise awareness of organics collection and explain the need to implement waste management best practices. Education would continue through 2024 in anticipation of regional standardized service roll out in 2025; and
- Hybrid funding model option developed by the County.

The County would have the authority for waste service but will be seeking input and recommendations from the Regional Waste Working group. Current discussions have resulted in the following service level recommendations:

- Bi-weekly garbage collection for all residents (reduced from weekly);
- Weekly organics collection for all residents (new service);

- Maintain bulk/large item collection;
- Bi-weekly leaf/yard waste collection for urban residents (no change); and
- Monthly white goods collection (no change).

Any service that a local Municipality wishes to obtain in excess of the established regionalized standard could be billed to that Municipality on a full cost recovery basis. However, the goal of the regional program is to minimize exceptions to the standard service levels to increase the consistency of customer service across the region and contract savings.

4. RISK ANALYSIS:

There is a perceived risk that, if the proposed County By-law is supported, the power to collect waste will be uploaded to the County and the Town could have no further say in the collection of waste, both with respect to costs and level of service as they are still unknowns at this time. However, the process to date has been very collaborative through the Regional Waste Working Group and it is Administrations view that the Town will continue to be a key contributor to any future decisions moving forward.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

There are no financial implications at this time, however the County is considering a hybrid funding model due to the differing views on how local municipalities should contribute to the cost of the regional service. The hybrid funding model is outlined in the County Council report and will be brought forward to Council for consideration at a later date, if the County By-law is supported by the majority of the local municipalities and by the majority of electors in the County.

6. CONSULTATIONS:

Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority
The Corporation of the County of Essex
Regional Waste Working Group

7. CONCLUSION:

Administration recommends Council support County of Essex By-Law 2023-40 for a regional waste management service.



Antonietta Giofu
Director of Infrastructure Services

DEPARTMENTS/OTHERS CONSULTED:

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NOTIFICATION :				
Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Regional Waste Management County By-Law.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2023-40 Regional Waste Management Initiative By-law_CERTIFIED_UA.pdf- Regional Waste Staff Report Package COE.pdf- 2023 06 26 Food, Organics and Biosolids Waste Management Update and Regional Waste Management Proposal.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 13, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Tracy Prince

**No Signature - Task assigned to Valerie Critchley was completed by assistant
Melissa Osborne**

Valerie Critchley



Kevin Fox