

CITY OF WHITEHORSE
SPECIAL Council Meeting #2014-25

DATE: Monday, November 3, 2014
TIME: 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Dan Curtis
Deputy Mayor Betty Irwin
Reserve Deputy Mayor Mike Gladish

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA: Adoption

PROCLAMATION:

MINUTES:

DELEGATIONS:

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORTS:

NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS Budget Amendment – Recycling Program Design

BUSINESS:

BYLAWS:

ADJOURNMENT:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: City Council
FROM: Administration
DATE: November 3, 2014
RE: Budget Amendment - Recycling Program Design

ISSUE

Initiate recycling program design.

REFERENCE

- City-wide Recycling Collection and Processing Study by Morrison Hershfield

HISTORY

A study has recently been completed on the costs and potential of a residential recycling collection service in Whitehorse. This study estimated a cost of \$15/household/month for weekly collection. This cost covers both the collection and processing of recyclable materials. This study is available on the City of Whitehorse website.

A residential recycling collection service would be a user-pay model that would ensure a revenue source to the recycling processors for the materials that are collected. It would also provide a convenient method for residents to divert more waste.

Prior to full-scale implementation of a collection service, a number of decisions have to be made. The City needs to determine:

- what materials will be accepted;
- how the service will be procured;
- cost refinement;
- level of service;
- capital and operational requirements; and
- impact of involvement of other Yukon communities.

Program design for a recycling collection service would answer these questions and develop a plan for implementation. Upon completion of program design, anticipated in late March 2015, the City will have a turn-key plan that is ready to be implemented.

Since the announcement from Raven Recycling of the closure of their public drop-off for non-refundables, Mayor and Council and administration have heard from many members of the public concerned about the future of recycling in Yukon. Whitehorse residents are strong supporters of waste diversion efforts and are keen to do their part to increase recycling.

The City has worked with Morrison Hershfield on a number of reports, including Landfill Full Cost Accounting Assessment(2012), Construction and Demolition Beneficial Use and Diversion(2013), and the Recycling Processing and Collection Study(2014). Staff for

Morrison Hershfield also wrote the City's Solid Waste Management Plan in 2013, which is a comprehensive operations plan for the waste management facility. The firm has a detailed and in-depth understanding of waste management in Whitehorse and Yukon.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the capital budget amendment request and proceed with program design in 2014, and approve contract award to Morrison Hershfield.
2. Approve the capital budget amendment request and not approve contract award to Morrison Hershfield.
3. Do not approve budget amendment request and wait until the 2015 capital budget to decide on recycling program design.
4. Continue funding recycling via diversion credits.

ANALYSIS

The City of Whitehorse has been supporting waste diversion efforts for many years. The 2013 Solid Waste Action Plan outlined a plan for getting to 50% diversion by 2015. Recognizing that the existing system for funding recycling in the territory is not sustainable, administration researched other options for funding and supporting recycling. The most viable option is a residential recycling collection service that would fund both the collection and processing of recyclable materials.

With the results of the recent study demonstrating the viability of a recycling collection service in Whitehorse, and the strong public support of recycling, administration proposes initiating program design for a recycling collection service immediately.

Awarding the contract directly to Morrison Hershfield would speed up the process and help ensure the project is completed as quickly as possible. With the considerable experience that Morrison Hershfield has in the Whitehorse waste management system, administration has complete confidence in the quality of their work. Morrison Hershfield has a local office in Whitehorse and will utilize local staff in this project.

The first step in the proposed work is a survey to residences of Whitehorse. With Council approval, residents will be invited to participate in that survey shortly.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the 2014 – 2018 Capital Budget be amended in the amount of \$100,000.00 to provide for the commencement of the Recycling Program Design project #600c00115 funded from the General Reserve;

AND

THAT Council approve sole sourcing the contract for Recycling Program Design to Morrison Hershfield.