



**Waste Diversion Task Force 2010  
Swansea Town Hall Community Centre  
March 1, 2001  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

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**Meeting Notes**

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**Participants:**

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| Cathy Draybysz   | John Webb      |
| Lisa Rainford    | Andrew Hampton |
| Lindda Sepp      | Ivana Hrabak   |
| Paul Kulchisky   | James Booth    |
| K.A. Cadham      | Mark Tholen    |
| Eileen Bannerlee |                |

Approximately 15 people attended the event

**Councillors:**

Councillor B. Disero  
Councillor D. Miller

**Staff:**

Lawson Oates  
Louis Portelli  
Mae Lee

Participants had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. A record of questions/comments and staff responses follows.

| Questions/Comments/Suggestions  | Response  |
|---|---|
| 1. What is the % of organics in garbage?                                | 35% - 40%   |
| 2. What is the split between yard waste and kitchen waste?              | 25% yard waste<br>75% kitchen waste   |
| 3. How much of the organic garbage is diverted? Why 14,000 tonnes only? | 40% mostly restaurant waste not diverted  |
| 4. Why did organic diversion fail e.g. Danforth Restaurant area?        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the pilot project term is too short, only 2 months</li><li>insufficient public/business education to buy into the program</li></ul> |
| 5. Will restaurants be mandated to recycle their organic waste?         | The City is looking at Halifax who has this program. Some U.S. cities have such programs too.   |

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|---|---|
| 6. Are you focusing on residential diversion only?  | Focus also on Agencies, Boards and Commissions too e.g. TTC   |
| 7. Do you charge City Departments for disposal?   | Only charge true market price   |
| 8. How much is the cost for garbage pick-up?  | \$40-\$65/tonne   |
| 9. Compare the cost of dumping in Ontario and in Michigan.  | \$12/tonne – cost to the City of Toronto<br>\$65/tonne – disposal charge at Transfer Stations<br>\$55/tonne – disposal charge at Landfill Site<br>\$55/tonne – cost to send garbage to Michigan |
| 10. Can the private sector open a landfill plant?   | Council decision to negotiate contract with 2 composting firms, Comporac and Miller   |
| 11. What is the average amount of garbage?  | 1 tonne/household/year or<br>2.3 bags/person/week for residential   |
| 12. What power does the City have in terms of product packaging?  | Province downloaded the deposit-return in the 80's to Municipalities. Packaging is the producers' responsibility.   |
| 13. Consumers should send the packaging back to manufacturers collectively. In Germany and Austria, businesses take the package before selling the products to consumers. |   |
| 14. How successful is the co-ordination with the Province with waste disposal?  | The City is talking to the GTSB (Greater Toronto Services Board) members to negotiate collectively with the Province.   |
| 15. What is the % of households that participate in the Blue Box Program?   | 80% for houses<br>9% for apartments/condos  |
| 16. Why did it take so long to accept more materials for recycling?   | The City is constantly looking for markets for these recyclables. There is a cost to sell recyclable materials to manufacturers.  |
| 17. What happens to the 6,000 tonnes of colour glass?   | The U.S. beer bottle company, who accepts the City's colour glass, is not buying anymore. The City is trying to find new markets.   |
| 18. What is the limit for curbside garbage pick-up?   | 6 bags/household/week   |
| 19. How many City Councillors will support the bag limit?   | Works Committee Councillors   |

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|---|--|
| 20. What is being done about contractors/gardener's grass clippings, those who cut grass for households/businesses? | They will dispose the grass clippings themselves, there is by-law enforcement on this.   |
| 21. Have you consider the use of garbage grinders or flushing into the toilet?                                      | The use of garbage grinders is illegal in Toronto, against the Sewer use by-law. Garbage grinders will cause problems in the Combined Sewers area, ie the Toronto community when there is heavy rainfall or snow melting season, the combined sewage of sanitary and storm water will overflow directly into the Lake. |
| 22. How about incineration of garbage?  | The City is looking at this plan. There are 3 locations for mixed waste, organic digester carbonation & incineration.  |
| 23. Have Blue/Green boxes on the streets. Monitor the OMG boxes.  |  |
| 24. Set fines for people not recycling. Reject garbage pick-up if residents not recycling.                          |  |
| 25. Force businesses to compost.  |  |
| 26. TV ads, school education programs for kids.   |  |

Participants were thanked for their participation. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.