



**Waste Diversion Task Force 2010  
Thistletown Multi-Service Centre  
March 5, 2001  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Notes**

**Participants:**

H. Matthews	Taylor
S. Pavam	B. Racovaz
Joanna Twitchen	Helen Kidd
Carlo Barei	Naomi
Joe	Carito
Letman	Shirley Chomp
John Anga	

Meeting took place during a heavy snowstorm and approximately 15 people attended.

**Councillors:**

Suzan Hall

**Staff:**

Angelos Bacopoulos  
Lawson Oates  
Robert Davis  
William To

After as staff presentation, participants were invited to ask questions and provide comments. The following represents a summary of those questions, comments and responses.

Questions / Comments / Suggestions	Response
<b>Programs</b>	
How does the Guelph facility work?	LO: City of Guelph has a wet-dry plant based on pubic pre-sorting the wet and dry waste in different bags. At a centralized facility, the wet waste goes through aerobic composting and recyclables are remove from the dry waste. This process started during the early 90's and it is very expensive. They are working on an enhance system call Greuph II.
John Anga (JA): Passed around cartoon that promoted the idea of using convicts to sort garbage.	
<b>Organics</b>	
JA: We should have a garborator in every kitchen or should have mandatory backyard composting to dispose of organics.	

<b>Reuse</b>	
JA: Garbage trucks crush the garbage and destroying it. How about having a used item facility? Why not have second hand shops?	AB: We are considering a swapshop and we will take that to council. White goods that household put out for City pick up are being taken away before our crew arrive (40% of the time)
<b>Reduction/Packaging</b>	
JT: In the presentation you talked about returnable bottles, you need to encourage to reduce packaging.	
JT: Need products that are worthwhile keeping (i.e. durable).	
What about Halifax and Vancouver. Why can't we have deposit return system? This would help reduce litter	AB - The Ontario Government does not seem to be interested in putting in a deposit return system. Ontario is the only province without a deposit return system. The former City of North York has tried to pass a by-law to requiring a deposit system but the Ontario Government stopped it.
JA: You have got start at the source. There are tonnes of waste both in packaging and in the way they are building products that have a short life span.	
in Germany the green dot system requires waste that has to go back to the manufacturer.	AB: It has been a very costly and controversial program.
<b>Recycling</b>	
There is a complex with 50 to 60 families close to this place. There is no recycling and they used to go to the fire halls to drop off waste.	AB - Only about 85% of apartments have recycling program. We have a new waste by-law that will force them to recycle if they want free waste pick-up. Hopefully the by-law will be passed over the next few days.
Woman in audience - In years past, people would go to recycling depots- why can't we put depots close to where people shop?	AB - The Ontario Government needs to enforce waste recycling in businesses.
I am a contractor. There is no way to get rid of wood outside of the waste stream.	AB: We are working with Megacity Recycling (Weston Rd and Finch Ave) to see about setting up bins to collect wood and/or banning wood from transfer stations.
What about Plastic bags. packaging. Can it be recycled?	AB: Packaging is under provincial/federal jurisdiction.  Plastic bags - we can't find a market for plastic bags. We are constantly looking for new market so that more materials can be collected by the blue box (e.g. we have recently included empty paint cans, empty spray can, polycoat, etc).

<p>I was speaking with a person from BFI. Does the city have a plant that sorts waste like BFI.</p>	<p>AB: we have two plants that sort waste – one at Dufferin and one in the Portland. We earn 10 to 12 million in recycling revenue. Councillor - we need to advertise that people need to recycle more to increase revenues. We also need to encourage people to reduce their use of plastic bags from stores by bringing their own bag to shop.</p>
<p><b>Other Technologies</b></p>	
<p>JT: Very disappointed because council is focussing on diversion (i.e. shipping away the garbage) rather than using technology to eliminate waste. You show a higher cost for waste diversion.</p>	<p>AB: We needed an integrated approach to waste management. We have a three phase system. First- find disposal capacity to replace Keele Valley. We went through that process. Second - look at existing proven technologies to divert waste. Lawson and I are looking at a new plant. Three- new and emerging technologies like Subbor. Focussing on waste disposal was a painful exercise (the Adam Mine experience) but that helped council to focus on diversion programs.</p>
<p>JT: Some companies have the technology to divert waste at a cost less expensive than \$190 tonne. The Subbor process only requires the use of existing facilities, thus we don't need to build new plant.</p>	<p>I get one or two new waste management technologies every week. Nobody has a up and running plant and has a proven track record for municipal solid waste. Once someone like Subbor proves they can operate in an environmentally and fiscally sound manner we will look at them closely. Focussing on waste disposal was a painful exercise but that helped council to focus on diversion programs.</p>
<p>JT: Federal funding maybe available since the Subbor process would help reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	
<p>Person - I understand that Subbor plant is working well.</p>	<p>AB - My counterpart in Guelph (General Manager of SWM) is reporting that the plant is not fully operational. I understand that they are having difficulty processing the waste.</p>
<p>John Anga (JA) - Joanna covered most of my points.I was impressed by Subbor and wondered why the city not taking its waste to the Subbor plant. There appears to be a conspiracy by the union to avoid new ideas.</p>	
<p>A discussion took place about the willingness of the city to look after other technologies</p>	
<p>JA: When did research discover that Subbor was not the only plant with the same technology. Why build new plants when we have a work venture program with partners.</p>	<p>AB: looking at private sector and public sector options.</p>

<p>JA: What about the by-product - methane gas (from organic or landfill). What about incineration (of MSW)?</p>	<p>AB: We welcomed incineration and two came forward. One withdrew because of public pressure and one did not meet the financial requirements of the city of Toronto.</p> <p>Some of the new technologies use high heat (6000C to 7000C, near surface temperature of the Sun) that break down the garbage into its core components.</p>
<p><b>Household Hazardous Waste</b></p>	
<p>what about hazardous waste depots?</p>	<p>AB: There are 6 HHW depots open year round. The toxic taxi will takes hazardous waste also there is the councillor environment days where you can get rid of HHW, tires, computer equipment, and get composters and water kits Councillor Hall: there is also a place to take computers.</p>
<p><b>Education</b></p>	
<p>Man from audience- Brought kids tonight because they belong to a club called "Green Raiders".</p>	<p>AB: I have kids in school and I support them to become more environmentally aware.</p>

How did you learn about this meeting?

Community Newspapers – 5, Flyers – 1, internet – 1, Toronto Star - 0