

Toronto's Integrated Solid Waste Resource Management Process - TIRM



Disposal - City Council agrees to proceed to finalize agreements

Toronto City Council, at its meeting on August 1-3rd, decided to proceed to finalize agreements for Toronto's solid waste disposal needs with Republic Services (Canada) Ltd. for private sector waste received by the city, and with Rail Cycle North Ltd. for post-diversion municipal solid waste disposal needs. Both agreements will feature a "no put or pay" provision, (*Toronto only pays for the amount of waste disposed, not based on a specific annual tonnage*), which will allow the city to expand its recycling and composting activity and thereby reduce the amount of solid waste going to landfill. The GTA Regional Municipalities of Peel, York and Durham will consider the proposal and advise Toronto if they intend to contract with Rail Cycle North for their post-diversion solid waste disposal needs.

How and where will Toronto's waste be managed?

What's proposed:

Republic Services (Canada) Ltd. operates the Carlton Farms Landfill in Wayne County, Michigan. Waste will be transported by truck, 450 km to the site. Initially, from January 1, 2001 to January 1, 2003, the contract will manage 300,000 tonnes of solid waste per year. This will facilitate a December 31, 2002 closing of the Keele Valley Landfill Site. After which time, for up to 20 years, the contract with Republic will only pertain to private sector tonnages above 100,000 tonnes per year.

Rail Cycle North...

will operate the Adams Mine Landfill site, located near Kirkland Lake, Ontario. Waste will be transported by

train from the CN MacMillan Rail Yard, located in the City of Vaughan, to the Adams Mine Site, for a total distance of 600 km. One train will travel daily to the Adams Mine Landfill. The contract is scheduled to begin January 1, 2003, for a term of 20 years. The city is able to reduce the tonnages managed by Rail Cycle North through diversion and new and emerging technologies without financial penalty, as long as all the residual municipal solid waste from Toronto and Peel, York and Durham is being disposed of at the Adams Mine Landfill.

You asked us?

What if imports of waste are banned in the US?

Cross-border shipment of solid waste is permitted under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). We will continue to monitor legislation that could potentially restrict movement of solid waste across the border. We would expect a notice period should a restriction arise and then look at alternative arrangements.

How will the hydraulic containment "trap" proposed for the Adams Mine work?

The Adams Mine Landfill is a former open pit iron ore mine. The facility has been designed and approved as a hydraulic containment landfill to take advantage of the inward flow of groundwater gradients (inflow) and relatively high water table conditions at the site. The depth of the pit (200 m below the surrounding grade at its deepest point) and the higher groundwater levels surrounding the site facilitate maintenance of an inward groundwater flow to the pit, thereby preventing leachate from flowing outward and entering groundwater aquifers. For the project's duration, leachate will be collected from the bottom of the site via a rock and stone drainage layer and a network of collection piping, then pumped to the surface and treated in a dedicated on-site leachate treatment plant. A landfill gas collection and energy recovery system will be installed at the site.

Need any reports? More information?

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Please find our project information and reports to Committee and Council on the project web page at: <http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/involved/swm/swmmep.htm>

Key dates:

August 2 - October 2

Contract negotiations with Republic and Rail Cycle North

September 18- 21, 2000

GTA Regional Municipalities (Peel, York and Durham) advise Toronto if they intend to contract with Rail Cycle North

October 3- 5, 2000

Toronto City Council will review agreements with Republic and Rail Cycle North



This bulletin, the ninth in a two-year series, will keep you up to date on the City of Toronto's approach to planning for a long-term solution for solid waste management.

Here's what each qualifying Respondent proposes:**1.) Respondent: Groupe Conporec Inc. and Services Matrec****Proposal summary:**

- Propose to utilize the Scarborough Transfer Station to manage up to 130,000 tonnes/year of mixed waste (facility is licensed to manage 200,000 tonnes/year)
- Technology utilizes "bioreactors" that provide accelerated waste composting, eliminating the need to shred materials
- Process mixed waste* utilizing aerobic composting to produce compost (*mixed waste = all material set out as garbage, not including material currently recycled, composted or diverted from garbage by some other means)
- Organics are reduced, while non-organics remain whole for sorting and screening
- Processed organics undergo final stage indoor windrow composting

Diversion - Proposals:

Of the six diversion proposals received by the city on March 17, 2000, two – Groupe Conporec Inc. & Services Matrec, and Rail Cycle North Ltd. – met the mandatory evaluation criteria and will undergo further evaluation.

Mandatory evaluation criteria:

- Minimum 60% net diversion rate
- Technically proven capacity
- Commercial security

Four other proposals did not meet one or more of the above criteria, and on this basis, were declared informal and will not be considered further in the current Diversion Request For Proposals process.

What will happen to these four proposals?

The four diversion proposals found to be informal and therefore not qualified, will have an opportunity to participate in the New and Emerging Technologies category of TIRM. A call for proposals in this category is scheduled for early 2001.

2.) Respondent: Rail Cycle North Ltd.**Proposal summary:**

- Propose to utilize the Ebara in-vessel composting technology to manage source-separated organics (i.e. kitchen scraps) at the Scarborough Transfer Station, and/or at a site(s) owned by Miller Waste Systems, to manage yard waste organics (i.e. leaves and plant trimmings). Miller Waste Systems is the lead member of the Rail Cycle North consortium in the proven diversion category.
- Propose to process up to 50,000 tonnes/year at the Scarborough Transfer Station and/or up to 100,000 tonnes/year at other sites

Visit our web site to view the April 18, 2000 report on Diversion

CUPE wet/dry plan update

Based on the results of Phase One analysis of the CUPE waste management plan, staff recommended that consultants be engaged to develop a modified wet/dry system design, which could be compared to the system options arising from the TIRM Diversion Proposals. The results of this comparative analysis will be presented at the September 13th Works Committee meeting.

*(For a summary of CUPE's plan see adjoining column at right.
See web site for complete report.)*

Update available from May 3rd stakeholder information meeting...

On May 3, 2000 the city held a stakeholder information meeting on the Diversion Category. Stakeholders had the opportunity to ask questions and provide input. Participants asked important questions on various topics from quality of compost to user pay options. Meeting notes, including questions and answers, are available on our web site.

A summary of the CUPE management plan:

(excerpted from TIRM Dec. 1999 newsletter, Vol. 2, Bulletin 5)

An alternative approach to the TIRM Process was presented to Toronto's Works Committee by the Toronto Civic Employees Union (CUPE), Local 416, working in conjunction with the Toronto Environmental Alliance (TEA). Their proposed waste management plan incorporates a two-stream wet-dry recycling system based on public ownership and operation. Residents would separate their waste into wet and dry streams. The wet waste (e.g. organic kitchen waste) would be composted in an aerobic channel composting system and the dry waste would be processed through a material recovery facility.

What's up next in the Diversion Category?

September 13, 2000:

- Works Committee will consider staff recommendations for next steps regarding diversion proposals.
- Works Committee will review and consider a 3Rs Implementation Plan for the City of Toronto.



Please contact the Works Committee Administrator, Ms. Trudy Perrin, at 416-392-8027, if you would like to make a deputation.