

Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Collection Pilot in Multi-Unit Buildings

Date:	April 20, 2009
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services
Wards:	3, 5, 6, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 28, 33, 38
Reference Number:	p:/2009/swms/May/008PW

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Public Works and Infrastructure Committee members with an overview of the details of the Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Collection Pilot in Multi-Unit Buildings. Eighteen (18) building locations have been selected from across the City to participate in the pilot in 2009.

Financial Impact

Waste Diversion Ontario industry funded waste diversion programs for MHSW and WEEE have been approved by the Provincial Minister of the Environment. Under these programs, affected industry stewards are financially and operationally responsible for recycling the materials, therefore paying a significant portion of the cost to municipalities to collect and process the material.

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) is the Industry Funding Organization that oversees the stewardship program for WEEE. Starting April 1, 2009 the City of Toronto, and other Ontario municipalities, will receive funding from OES for phase 1 materials. Approximately 80% of WEEE currently collected by the City is covered within Phase 1. Funding for the remaining Phase 2 materials will begin in spring 2010.

Under this stewardship program, the City does not pay for processing costs to manage the materials covered under the program. In addition, the City will receive \$165 per tonne to cover the cost of collecting, sorting and preparing the material for transport. It is anticipated that approximately 135 tonnes of WEEE will be collected as part of this pilot.

For the WEEE portion of the pilot, collection costs are estimated to be \$32,000 and processing costs are estimated to be \$19,000 (based on collecting 135 tonnes of WEEE), resulting in a gross cost to the City of \$51,000. Industry responsibility and funding will offset this amount by \$33,000, resulting in a net cost to the City of \$18,000, which has been incorporated within the approved 2009 Solid Waste Management Services Operating Budget (as outlined in Table 1).

Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste

Stewardship Ontario is the Industry Funding Organization that oversees the stewardship program for MHSW. As of July 1, 2008, Toronto began receiving 100% funding from Stewardship Ontario for post-collection costs of phase 1 materials. Approximately 50% of the total MHSW stream is covered within Phase 1. It is anticipated that approximately 86,000 kg of MHSW will be collected as part of this pilot.

For the MHSW portion of the pilot, collection costs are estimated to be \$49,000 and processing costs are estimated to be \$76,000 (based on collecting 86,000 kg of MHSW), resulting in a net cost to the City of \$125,000. Industry responsibility and funding will offset this amount by \$38,000, resulting in a net cost to the City of \$87,000 which has been incorporated within the approved 2009 Solid Waste Management Services Operating Budget (as outlined in Table 1).

Table 1: Cost estimate for Pilot (all values are based on estimates)

	Collection Costs	Processing Costs	Industry Responsibility/Funding	Net Cost incorporated in 2009 Solid Waste Management Services Operating Budget
WEEE	\$32,000	\$19,000	(\$33,000)	\$18,000
MHSW	\$49,000	\$76,000	(\$38,000)	\$87,000
Total	\$81,000	\$95,000	(\$71,000)	\$105,000

As mentioned above, the cost of the pilot project for 2009 has been approved as part of the 2009 Operating Budget for Solid Waste Management Services.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of June 19, 20 and 22, 2007, City Council adopted the recommendations in Executive Committee staff report (May 14, 2007) EX9.1 entitled “Proposed Initiatives and Financing Model to Get to 70% Solid Waste Diversion by 2010”, as amended. The staff report and the City Council Decision Document can be viewed at:

- Staff Report:
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-3799.pdf>
- City Council Decision Document (relevant pages 2 through 10):
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cc/decisions/2007-06-19-cc10-dd.pdf>

At its meeting of December 1, 2 and 3, 2008, City Council amended Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Staff Report (October 29, 2008) PW20.1, entitled “Proposed Measures to Reduce In-Store Packaging Waste and Litter, Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste and Plastic Water Bottles” by adding Motion 20, which states:

Savings which accrue to the City of Toronto as a result of the Waste Diversion Ontario funding of Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste be reinvested in enhanced recovery programs for those materials such as regular scheduled collection days for apartments and increased Toxic Taxis for single family residences and options for a waste diversion collection plan for batteries (e.g., household batteries) and all light bulbs (including compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs) with a request that the General Manager of Solid Waste Management Services submit a report to the April 8, 2009 meeting of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

The staff report and the City Council Decision Document can be viewed at:

- Staff Report:
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-17097.pdf>
- City Council Decision Document (relevant pages 90 through 96):
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/cc/decisions/2008-12-01-cc27-dd.pdf>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Traditionally, the solid waste diversion rate for multi-unit residential buildings has been significantly lower than the diversion rate for single residential homes. Recovery programs for all waste streams for multi-unit residences need to be enhanced if the City is to reach its 70% diversion from landfill goal.

COMMENTS

Solid Waste Management Services is conducting a pilot to examine ways to increase the diversion of MHSW and varied electronic items from multi-residential buildings. Household Hazardous Waste items will be collected by the “HazMobile” and will include the collection of paint, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, chemicals, old medications, thermometers, propane tanks/cylinders, etc. Electronic items will be collected by the “ElectroVan” and will include the collection of computers, monitors and printers, fax machines, televisions, DVD/VCR players, and cell phones.

Eighteen (18) building locations have been selected to participate in the pilot, including apartments, condominiums, co-operatives and community housing buildings of various sizes. The buildings were selected from across the City in high density neighbourhoods that are not located near the City’s Solid Waste Drop-Off Depots. Pilot building locations are represented in each Community Council area as well as each Solid Waste Collection District (as detailed in Appendix A).

As part of this pilot, three (3) different scenarios will be tested, including stand alone buildings, building complexes, and street events that service multiple buildings in a small community. Since the street events will collect from multiple buildings managed by different property managers, these events will occur on City-owned property such as a nearby street or school parking lot. The events held at stand alone buildings and building complexes will occur on the building’s property, in the waste collection area or the visitor parking lot, and will service the residents in their respective building(s).

Each building location will host three (3) separate 2-hour collection events on Saturdays over an eight (8) month period, beginning in April 2009 and continuing until November 2009. Each building’s events will occur approximately 2-3 months apart to allow residents to stockpile items for collection. City staff will operate each event by receiving and transporting the items for recycling or proper disposal.

Building residents will be notified of the pilot and collection event details through delivery of a door-to-door flyer and posters to be displayed in building common areas (e.g., recycling room, mailroom, elevator, lobby, etc.). The door-to-door flyer will outline the list of specific items accepted in this pilot. As an added incentive, at some buildings, the City will offer an AIR MILES Bonus Card worth 10 AIR MILES reward miles to residents that drop off household hazardous waste or electronic items during their collection event. In order to test the impact of the AIR MILES Bonus Card on diversion rates, and for comparison purposes, some buildings will act as a control group and will not receive the AIR MILES incentive.

The pilot began with a media launch on April 22, 2009 at an apartment building located at 3000 Dufferin Street. The collection events for the pilot building locations began on April 25, 2009 and will continue until November 2009.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENT

Appendix A – MHSW & WEEE Pilot in Multi-Unit Buildings