

Sep 26, 2025

Infrastructure & Environment Committee (via email: iec@toronto.ca)

Dear IE Committee members,

RE: [IE24.7](#) Long term Residual Waste Management Work Plan, IEC [26Sep25](#) mtg

I am writing as an individual Toronto resident to show support to you today to *delay* a decision on waste to energy, & *amend* the item to recommend Council order that SWMS staff do the following* *instead*.

I echo concerns raised by the Toronto Environmental Alliance (TEA), & Environmental Defence Canada. The City's survey was inaccurate & misleading. I oppose "waste-to-energy" as an option for managing Toronto's residual waste. It:

- is an environmentally un-sound method for disposing of municipal waste; is too expensive & toxic a form of disposal or energy; destroys resources in direct opposition to zero waste & a circular economy; requires perpetual waste generation to justify the cost; creates toxic environments & is unjust - it doesn't belong in your or anyone's backyard - & there's significant room for more, better waste reduction & reuse in Toronto instead.

*1. Prioritize operating in alignment with Board of Health's Strategic Plan ([HL26.2](#)) including for example: (i.) "Strengthen health protection, disease prevention..." which includes "Prevent Cancer" ([HL17.1](#)) & ([HL23.2](#)); & (ii.) "Promote health & well-being across the lifespan" which includes "noise" reduction.

2. Prioritize *reducing* the number of trucks on the road to help reduce noise.

3. *Survey* all wildlife orgs to determine the quantity of wildlife impacted by vehicles/trucks.

4. Prioritize *reducing* pollution & *refraining* from adding to it. There is too much already.

5. Provide a *fulsome* report on the health & environmental impacts of "waste to energy".

6. *Identify* more, better alternatives than proceeding with thermal waste treatment.

7. *Follow* through on Council's aspirational zero waste goal & *commitments* to create a circular economy & take more action on the climate crisis.

8. *Incentivize, promote & support financially & with space*: decentralized reduce, reuse, repair, share & compost hubs in every neighbourhood; small local businesses & organizations involved in waste reduction & reuse; & maintenance staff, property managers & 3Rs Ambassadors at residential & multi-residential properties.

9. *Ban* organics & textiles from landfill & incineration.

10. *Recommend* Council create 25K permanently deeply affordable adequate supportive accessible housing units per year for each of the next 5 yrs to clear the housing waitlist backlog to fulfill the Right to Housing & allow all people in Toronto equitable access to meaningfully participate in Toronto's circular economy & zero waste goals.

Sincerely,

Ms. A. Pope, Toronto, ON M6J 0A8 (P.S. I give permission to share this publicly.)