



Addendum to the Regional Council Agenda

Regional Council Chambers
Regional Headquarters Building
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

9:30 AM

Note: Additional agenda items are shown in bold

1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgement
2. Roll Call
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Adoption of Minutes
 - 4.1 Regional Council meeting – December 16, 2020
 - 4.2 Committee of the Whole meeting – January 13, 2021
5. Presentations
 - 5.1 Dr. Robert Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health re: COVID-19 Vaccination Planning
 - 5.2 Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services and Christine Roarke, HDR Consultant, re: Long-Term Waste Management Plan Development (2021-WR-1)
6. Delegations

There are no delegations
7. Reports related to Delegations/Presentations

There are no reports related to Delegations/Presentations

8. Communications

CC 01 Correspondence from Geoff Bowlby, Director General, Census Management Office, Statistics Canada / Government of Canada re: 2021 Census of Population to take place in May 2021

CC 02 Correspondence from Wendy Bracken, Durham Resident re: Long-Term Waste Management Plan 2020 Consultation, Vision and Objectives (2021-WR-1)

Pages 4 - 7

Recommendation: Refer to consideration of Item 1 of the 1st Report of the Works Committee (2021-WR-1)

CC 03 Correspondence from Kerry Meydam, Courtice Resident re: Long-Term Waste Management Plan 2020 Consultation, Vision and Objectives (2021-WR-1)

Page 8

Recommendation: Refer to consideration of Item 1 of the 1st Report of the Works Committee (2021-WR-1)

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Finance and Administration Committee

9.2 Works Committee

9.3 Committee of the Whole

10. Notice of Motions

10.1 COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Stream Joint Project Partnership

10.2 Support for the Recommended Projects Being Considered Under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Stream

11. Unfinished Business

There is no unfinished business

12. Other Business

12.1 Confidential Memorandum from Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer – matter subject to information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any them, as it relates to the Upper York Sewage Solution

- 12.2 Confidential Memorandum from Jason Hunt, Regional Solicitor
– matter subject to the receiving of advice that is subject to
solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for
that purpose, as it relates to the Beaverton Supportive Housing
Project

13. Announcements

14. By-laws

- 01-2021 Being a by-law to authorize the execution of the transfer
payment agreement for the Investing in Canada
Infrastructure Program (ICIP): Public Transit Stream
between her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province
of Ontario represented by the Minister of Transportation
for the Province of Ontario and the Regional
Municipality of Durham.

This by-law implements the recommendations
contained in Item #3 of the 1st Report of the Finance &
Administration Committee presented to Regional
Council on January 27, 2021

15. Confirming By-law

- 02-2021 Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Regional
Council at their meeting held on January 27, 2021

16. Adjournment

Notice regarding collection, use and disclosure of personal information:

Written information (either paper or electronic) that you send to Durham Regional Council or Committees, including home address, phone numbers and email addresses, will become part of the public record. This also includes oral submissions at meetings. If you have any questions about the collection of information, please contact the Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services.

January 25th, 2021

Dear Regional Council Members,

I am writing to you regarding *Report #2021-WR-1 Long-Term Waste Management Plan 2020 Consultation, Vision and Objectives* on the Council Agenda this Wednesday, January 27th.

I am writing to ask you to act on a recommendation the Energy-From-Waste Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC) made to the Works Committee regarding the guiding principles in the Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP).

I urge you to act on the WMAC recommendation: “That a sixth guiding principle be added to set as a priority the reduction of toxic load on the environment.”

Background

The Energy-From-Waste Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC) held a special meeting on November 18, 2019 dedicated to the work of commenting on the LTWMP.

The EFW-WMAC recommended to the Works Committee that two additional guiding principles be added to the LTWMP. The minutes of that meeting state:

Moved by W. Bracken, Seconded by K. Meydam,
That the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory
Committee recommends to the Works Committee for
approval:

That the Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) guiding
principles be amended as follows:

- A) That an additional guiding principle be added as the first principle that states that the priority of the plan is to improve reduction and reuse; and
- B) That a sixth guiding principle be added to set as a priority the reduction of toxic load on the environment.

CARRIED

The motion carried unanimously.

While the LTWMP outline includes a guiding principle to address climate change which identifies the reduction of greenhouse gases as a priority, it fails to include a guiding principle to address the other obvious major environmental concern of waste management - toxic pollution – and fails to identify reduction of toxic load on the environment as a priority.

Furthermore, in the section “What We Heard” from “Regional Advisory Committees” on pages 3 and 4 of Attachment #1 to Report #2021-WR-1, staff neglected to even mention the WMAC recommendation regarding toxic load on the environment nor did staff advise of their decision to not act on it.

Regional Councillors should have been made aware of the WMAC recommendation. It is concerning that relevant input from the WMAC Committee was omitted from the Report. **What is the point of a citizen Waste Management Advisory Committee if most Regional Councillors are not aware of their recommendations?** Simply including the WMAC minutes in the Works Committee agenda, which not all Councillors review, has been insufficient.

A Memorandum dated January 4th, 2021 from Works Staff to the Works Committee of January 6th acknowledged correspondence dated December 17, 2020 that the "... Council of the Municipality of Clarington encourages the Regional Public Works Committee to ensure that full consideration is given to motions brought forward by the EFW-WMAC."

The Works staff memorandum included a table which referenced the WMAC recommendation for a guiding principle to address reduction of toxic load to the environment. The relevant section is pasted here:

Motion	Action Taken
<p>That the Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) guiding principles be amended as follows:</p> <p>A. That an additional guiding principle be added as the first principle that states that the priority of the plan is to improve reduction and reuse; and</p> <p>B. That a sixth guiding principle be added to set as a priority the reduction of toxic load on the environment.</p>	<p>Guiding principles amended to include reduction and reuse.</p> <p>The term 'toxic load' refers to the accumulation of toxins and chemicals in our bodies and is therefore beyond the scope of the LTWMP. (see note below)</p>

The 'note below' staff referred to in the table above is the last paragraph of their January 4th memo and is pasted here:

Clarification on how this would be translated into an objective, target or action plan was not provided. Further investigation by staff indicated that the term 'toxic load' refers to the accumulation of toxins and chemicals in our bodies. This recommendation would be beyond the scope of the Long-Term Waste Management Plan (and the expertise of Works staff).

The staff rationale for not acting on the recommendation is that "*The term 'toxic load' refers to the accumulation of toxins and chemicals in our bodies and is therefore beyond the scope of the LTWMP*".

The WMAC recommendation clearly refers to "***reduction of toxic load on the environment***". This is not a novel concept. Toxic loading on the environment is commonly understood to refer to toxins accumulating in the environment and should be common knowledge to those in waste management. Toxic load to the environment is a major concern of all polluting activities – it is evaluated in environmental assessments and tracked by governments around the world

(examples: Ontario's *Toxic Reductions Program*, Canada's *Chemicals Management Plan*, *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*). Toxic load on the environment is measurable, and reduction of toxic load on the environment is actionable.

The staff interpretation of toxic load is extremely narrow and limited to toxic load *on the body* (also known as body burden) which was not mentioned at all at the meeting. The focus on toxic body burden is a red herring. I reviewed the tape and at every point it was clear in the words spoken and in the context of the conversation that the recommendation referred to toxic load *on the environment*. The staff interpretation does not accurately represent the WMAC recommendation. The WMAC recommendation has been misconstrued.

The staff 'note below' states that Works staff engaged in "further investigation" regarding the term "toxic load". The literal meaning of toxic loading on the environment was not a point of discussion at the meeting and was not questioned by members. If staff needed clarification on the meaning, they could have asked WMAC members or emailed the Committee. I was the mover of that motion and I was not contacted nor was the Committee, yet staff went ahead and decided not to act on our recommendation.

The staff 'note below' also states that "*Clarification on how this would be translated into an objective, target or action plan was not provided.*" This statement is inaccurate, since, with regards to how it would translate into an objective, at the meeting I explicitly referenced the objectives and stated that adding the new guiding principle on reduction of toxic load on the environment, was completely consistent with Objective e which is *already in the LTWMP outline*. Objective e states:

e. Protect or improve water, land, and air quality in Durham Region.

It is also noteworthy that section 5.14 of Report #2021-WR-1 documents Objective e had an approval rating of 98% in the public survey. This objective had the highest approval of all the objectives surveyed.

Adding the new guiding principle on reducing toxic load on the environment would strengthen the LTWMP and provide the overarching framework to support the subsequent specific Objective e, just as the guiding principle on climate change provides the overarching framework to support the subsequent specific Objective d. ("d. Support the Region's greenhouse gas reduction and climate change mitigation efforts").

To recognize only climate change as an environmental and sustainability concern in the guiding principles and to miss the other major concern of toxic loading on the environment is a serious oversight and problem. The guiding principles are foundational and act as guard rails for evaluation of future waste management decisions. It is critical to get this right.

With regards to how adding the WMAC guiding principle would be translated into a target or action plan, since toxic reduction, like greenhouse gas reduction, is measurable and actionable (through mitigation, monitoring, decision making, etc.), targets and action plans are not only possible, but necessary to protect citizens, environment, and the planet from this form of environmental degradation.

In conclusion, I urge you to act on WMAC recommendation B: ***“That a sixth guiding principle be added to set as a priority the reduction of toxic load on the environment.”***

Thank you for your consideration of this important foundational matter of this 20-year Long-Term Waste Management Plan.

Sincerely,

Wendy Bracken

January 26th, 2021

Dear Regional Council,

Re: Report #2021-WR-1 Long-Term Waste Management Plan 2020 Consultation, Vision and Objectives

I am writing to ask you to include both recommendations made on November 18, 2020 by WMAC at our special meeting on the Long Term Waste Management Plan.

At the conclusion of a very long discussion on Guiding Principles, the following motion was made:

*Moved by W. Bracken, Seconded by K. Meydam,
That the Energy From Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee recommends
to the Works Committee for Approval:*

*That the Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) Guiding Principles be amended
as follows:*

- A. That an additional guiding principle be added as the first principle that states that the priority of the plan is to improve reduction and reuse; and*
- B. That a sixth guiding principle be added to set as a priority the reduction of toxic load on the environment.*

CARRIED

This motion was carried unanimously.

However, it appears that Mr. Anello and/or his staff made a decision not to include recommendation B. in their staff report and recommendation to Works or to Council. They appear to believe that “toxic load” has nothing to do with waste management or the environment, only a human toxic load which doesn’t apply to the LTWMP. It was explained to those at the meeting what a toxic load to the environment means but they apparently chose to believe a different definition. “Toxic Load” to the environment is used very frequently by environmentalists, scientists and environmental and zero waste groups and associations to describe accumulating toxins in the environment, including in the air, water and land.

Please amend the staff recommendation to include the original EFW-WMAC recommendation which did carry unanimously. It is an important part of guiding principles which is completely consistent with the other Guiding Principles and the Vision and Objectives.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Kerry Meydam
Courtice