

STAFF REPORT: ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO: Infrastructure and Recreation Committee
MEETING DATE: November 8, 2011
REPORT NO.: EPW.11.098
SUBJECT: Change in Landfill Hours of Operation
PREPARED BY: Jeffery Fletcher, Manager of Solid Waste and Environmental Initiatives

A. Recommendation

THAT Council receive report EPW.11.098, "Change in Landfill Hours of Operation",

AND THAT Council recommends that landfill hours of operation change to the following effective January 5th, 2012:

- Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (year round); and
- Saturday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm (April – November).

B. Background

In 2011 the Infrastructure and Recreation Committee conducted a service review of Engineering and Public Works including the Solid Waste Divisions programs. Through part of that review it was identified that considerable savings could be found by simply changing a day of operation at the Solid Waste Disposal Site (Site).

Currently the Site is open to the public on Tuesdays and Fridays (year round) and Saturdays (April – November). Curbside waste is tipped at the Site on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Cancelling Friday as an operational day and combining a public operational day with a curbside waste tipping day on a Thursday will find significant financial efficiencies. By eliminating the Friday opening, Site compaction operations can be reduced by one day a week.

Staff has examined this option with operational staff and believes that there will be no obvious or significant disruptions to private contractors that use the Site as it relates to this change in operational days. Operational staff also views the change in work week as a benefit to their personal work routine.

In addition, by reducing the number of compaction and cover days annually the Site will see a reduction in the amount of cover being used which can translate into saved landfill space. Considering the financial and operational benefits associated with this change Staff are recommending that beginning in 2012 the Site be open to the public on Tuesday, Thursday (year round) and Saturday (April – November).

Staff will need to seek approval from the Ministry of Environment's District Manager to change the hours of operation. However, gaining this sort of amendment to operations is not anticipated to be a barrier. Approval for this type of operational change is granted forthwith.

Although this change is a 2012 budget enhancement report Staff is seeking pre-approval from Committee and Council on this change now to facilitate the preparation of public communications related to the change and, coordinate the timing of the change with the release of the annual waste guide.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

This action is aligned with strategic action 6.6 which is to implement processes for continuous improvement, working towards the goal of providing a strong, well managed municipal government.

D. Environmental Impacts

Combining internal operations and public delivery of waste will reduce compaction contractor machine time, saving fuel and reducing CO₂. The potential reduction in equivalent carbon dioxide emissions is 10 tonne per year.

E. Financial Impact

The existing contact involves an hourly rate of \$184.02. Reducing the compaction work by 3 hours per week for a full year could reduce the annual landfill budget by \$28,700.

F. In Consultation With

The Landfill Operations Staff

G. Attached

None.

Respectfully submitted

Jeffery Fletcher

Jeffery Fletcher
Manager of Solid Waste and Environmental Initiatives
Engineering & Public Works
Office: 519-599-3131 Ext.238
Fax: 519-599-3664
jfletcher@thebluemountains.ca

Reg Russwurm

Reg Russwurm
Director, Engineering and Public Works