



Staff Report

Report To: Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer

From: **Don Giberson, Director of Infrastructure & Development**
Shawn Young, Manager of Environmental Services

Date: August 10 2020

Report: ESD.20.27

Subject: Curbside Green Bin Program

Recommendations:

That South Huron Council receives the report from D. Giberson, Director of Infrastructure and Development and Shawn Young, Manager of Environmental Services Re: Curbside Green Bin Program

Purpose:

For information

Background and Analysis:

Curbside green bin (or organics) program has been considered by many municipalities as part of their waste reduction program. Several large municipalities in our region have investigated curb side organic programs and decided not to implement due to affordability issues. The biggest challenges are the cost of delivering the program and the availability of processing facilities for compostable material collected by a green bin program.

City of Stratford recently decided to implement a curbside organics program as the Province had been indicating that cities with over 20,000 population would be expected to implement a program by 2022. However, the expectation for a municipality of our size, is back yard composters for

residential properties. The Province is still in the consultative phase and nothing definitive has been announced. Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the deadline for other waste diversion initiatives have been extended and further delays are expected regarding organic programs.

It should be noted that a curbside organic program also includes compostable yard waste material such as plant material, leaves and grass clippings. South Huron already has a seasonal curbside yard/bagged leaves waste pick up program and a bagged leaves/yard waste drop off area at the South Huron Landfill Site, available year round at no cost.

Staff have consulted with Bluewater Recycling Association and they have advised that they currently do not collect any source separated organics for any municipalities at this time. They cite the primary reason is cost and lack of processing capacity in the market place. There is the initial startup costs, primarily associated with adding another bin for each residential property. There are also increased collection costs associated with the additional travel time to an organic waste facility outside our municipality.

The most challenging issue for BRA is an organic waste processing facility. There are no local sites available to accept compostable materials and facilities within a reasonable driving distance, have limited capacity and varying rates. If compostable materials were trucked to Guelph or London for processing, it would be at a very high cost. The alternative for BRA would be to build its' own organics processing facility. However, building a facility based on their current service area (even with all municipalities participating) would be cost prohibitive. In addition, approval for composting facilities are extremely challenging, time consuming, and very expensive to obtain.

Staff and BRA have checked and confirm that there are no known grant programs for a curb side organics program.

Operational Considerations:

No options were considered, as this report is for information only.

South Huron's Strategic Plan:

The recommendations and actions outlined in this report are reflective of the following strategic objectives:

- ✓ Administrative Efficiency and Fiscal Responsibility
- ✓ Increased Communications and Municipal Leadership

- ✓ Transparent, Accountable and Collaborative Governance
- ✓ Dedicated Economic Development Effort

Financial Impact:

There are no financial implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

Legal Impact:

There are no legal implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

Staffing Impact:

There are no staffing implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

Policies/Legislation:

1. Environmental Protection Act
2. Ontario Regulation 101/94 – Recycling and Composting of Municipal Waste.
3. Ontario Regulation 347 – General Waste Management

Consultation:

Bluewater Recycling Association

Related Documents:

None

Respectfully submitted,

Don Giberson, Director of Infrastructure & Development

AND

Shawn Young, Manager of Environmental Services

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2020-08-10 (Curbside Green Bin Program).docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Aug 6, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Sandy Becker - Jul 30, 2020 - 10:05 AM

Rebekah Msuya-Collison - Aug 4, 2020 - 12:12 PM

Dan Best - Aug 6, 2020 - 8:38 AM