

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ZERO WASTE COMMITTEE**

MEETING

Thursday, January 9, 2025

1:00 pm

28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

Webstream available at <https://www.metrovancover.org>

A G E N D A

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. January 9, 2025 Meeting Agenda

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for January 9, 2025 as circulated.

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

pg. 5

1. November 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held November 7, 2024 as circulated.

C. DELEGATIONS

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. 2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan

pg. 9

Executive Summary

The terms of Reference for the Zero Waste Committee set out the committee responsibilities in the areas of solid waste management, advancing zero waste, and the circular economy in the region, which provides guidance and oversight on the implementation of the annual work plan. Work plan priorities for 2025 are listed below and each is supported by the endorsed 2025 Budget. Pursuant to the Terms of Reference, the meeting schedule proposes 10 meetings this year. Key areas of focus for 2025 include:

- Options analysis engagement phase of the solid waste management plan update, including technical studies
- Recycling depot development at the Langley and North Surrey recycling and waste centres
- Expansion of reuse opportunities at the recycling and waste centres, and community events
- District Energy System detailed design and construction initiation
- Award two new operating and maintenance service contracts for five recycling and waste centres

Recommendation

That the Zero Waste Committee:

- a) receive for information the Zero Waste Committee Terms of Reference and the 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”; and
- b) endorse the 2025 Work Plan, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”.

2. Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling

pg. 17

Executive Summary

Metro Vancouver collaborates with member jurisdictions on programs and initiatives to encourage waste reduction and recycling in multi-family buildings. The 2023 multi-family waste composition study results show a reduction in per capita disposal for most material categories and demonstrate that compostable organics remain the largest component of multi-family waste and a key opportunity for waste reduction in this sector. Metro Vancouver is seeking new ideas to further reduce waste in the multi-family sector as a key part of the solid waste management plan update.

Recommendation

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated December 16, 2024, titled “Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling”.

3. Regional Reuse, Repair, and Food Recovery Programs

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Executive Summary

Work is underway to scale up reuse and repair through the expansion of a variety of initiatives including increasing reuse collection at recycling and waste centres, supporting more member jurisdiction repair cafés, and growing the regional food recovery network. Metrics from these reuse and repair initiatives show that they are effective in encouraging the public to practice waste reduction. Participants in repair events and the food recovery network note the value of the programs not only in reducing waste, but also increasing access to free repairs and supporting increased demand for donated and low-cost food.

Recommendation

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated December 16, 2024, titled “Regional Reuse, Repair, and Food Recovery Programs”.

4. Manager’s Report

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Recommendation

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated December 18, 2024, titled “Manager’s Report”.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

G. OTHER BUSINESS

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Note: The Committee must state by resolution the basis under section 90 of the Community Charter on which the meeting is being closed. If a member wishes to add an item, the basis must be included below.

That the Zero Waste Committee close its meeting scheduled for January 9, 2025 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality.

I. ADJOURNMENT

That the Zero Waste Committee adjourn its meeting of January 9, 2025.

Membership:

Kirby-Yung, Sarah (C) – Vancouver
Hodge, Craig (VC) – Coquitlam
Calendino, Pietro – Burnaby
Darling, Steve – Port Coquitlam

Klassen, Mike – Vancouver
Locke, Brenda – Surrey
Muri, Lisa – North Vancouver
District

Wallace, Rosemary – Langley City
Weverink, Paul – Anmore
Wolfe, Michael – Richmond

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ZERO WASTE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Zero Waste Committee held at 1:02 pm on Thursday, November 7, 2024 in the 28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chair, Director Sarah Kirby-Yung, Vancouver
- Vice Chair, Director Craig Hodge, Coquitlam
- Director Pietro Calendino, Burnaby
- Councillor Steve Darling, Port Coquitlam
- Councillor Pete Fry, Vancouver (joined at 1:02 pm)
- Director Lisa Muri, North Vancouver District
- Councillor Rosemary Wallace, Langley
- Councillor Paul Weverink, Anmore

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by the *Procedure Bylaw*

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Director Steve Ferguson, Langley Township

OTHER PRESENT:

- Lori Bryan, Co-Chair, Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee

STAFF PRESENT:

- Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services
- Nikki Tilley, Legislative Services Supervisor, Board and Information Services

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. November 7, 2024 Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee:

- a) amend the agenda for the meeting scheduled for November 4, 2024 by varying the order of the agenda to consider Item H before Item B; and
- b) adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

The agenda was varied to consider item H next per the resolution in item A1.

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee close its meeting scheduled for November 7, 2024 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

- 90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality; and
 - (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

CARRIED

The Zero Waste Committee recessed the November 7, 2024 meeting at 1:03 pm.

The Zero Waste Committee reconvened the November 7, 2024 meeting at 1:45 pm with the same members in attendance.

Item B was before the committee.

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. October 3, 2024 Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held October 3, 2024 as circulated.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

No items presented.

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel Updated Terms of Reference

Report dated October 24, 2024 from Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee and GVS&DD Board with updated terms of reference for the Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the GVS&DD Board receive for information the updated Terms of Reference for the Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel as presented in Attachment 1 of the report dated October 24, 2024 titled, "Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel Updated Terms of Reference".

CARRIED

2. Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee 2024 Feedback Summary

Report dated October 30, 2024 from Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee with input from the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meetings in 2024, including discussions on the generator levy and competition.

The Co-Chairs of the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee, Lori Bryan and Director Craig Hodge, provided the Zero Waste Committee members with an overview of the Industry Advisory Committee's 2024 work plan noting committee's in depth discussions on the generator levy and competition, capacity, and final disposal plans.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated October 30, 2024, titled "Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee 2024 Feedback Summary".

CARRIED

3. Construction and Demolition Waste Reduction Forum

Report dated October 29, 2024 from Adriana Velázquez, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee with an update on a proposed Construction and Demolition Waste Reduction Forum being planned for the spring of 2025.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated October 29, 2024, titled "Construction and Demolition Waste Reduction Forum".

CARRIED

4. Manager's Report

Report dated October 31, 2024 from Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, providing the Zero Waste Committee with an updates on Zero Waste Services' activities, projects, and work plan.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated October 31, 2024, titled "Manager's Report".

CARRIED

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

No items presented.

G. OTHER BUSINESS

No items presented.

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

No item presented.

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Zero Waste Committee adjourn its meeting of November 7, 2024.

CARRIED

(Time: 1:54 pm)

Hadir Ali,
Legislative Services Coordinator

Sarah Kirby-Yung,
Chair

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To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services

Date: December 17, 2024 Meeting Date: January 9, 2025

Subject: **2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee:

- a) receive for information the Zero Waste Committee Terms of Reference and the 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”; and
 - b) endorse the 2025 Work Plan, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The terms of Reference for the Zero Waste Committee set out the committee responsibilities in the areas of solid waste management, advancing zero waste, and the circular economy in the region, which provides guidance and oversight on the implementation of the annual work plan. Work plan priorities for 2025 are listed below and each is supported by the endorsed 2025 Budget. Pursuant to the Terms of Reference, the meeting schedule proposes 10 meetings this year. Key areas of focus for 2025 include:

- Options analysis engagement phase of the solid waste management plan update, including technical studies
- Recycling depot development at the Langley and North Surrey recycling and waste centres
- Expansion of reuse opportunities at the recycling and waste centres, and community events
- District Energy System detailed design and construction initiation
- Award two new operating and maintenance service contracts for five recycling and waste centres

PURPOSE

To provide the Zero Waste Committee with the 2025 Work Plan, Terms of Reference, and the Annual Meeting Schedule.

BACKGROUND

Annually, following the Board’s Inaugural meeting in November, the Board Chair establishes the committee structure and the terms of reference for each committee for the new year. To support the committee in its work, this report brings forward the Zero Waste Committee’s Work Plan and the Annual Meeting Schedule for 2025.

2025 WORK PLAN

The Annual Work Plan for the Solid Waste Services function is based on the 2025 budget approved by the GVS&DD Board on November 1, 2024, which includes a list of key actions that were used to develop the Zero Waste Committee Work Plan presented in this report (Attachment1).

The Work Plan presented in this report is consistent with the Zero Waste Committee's Terms of Reference, *2022-2026 Board Strategic Plan*, and *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan*, and is being brought forward for the committee's information, review, and endorsement.

Key actions in the 2025 Work Plan for the Committee are described below and listed according to the Committee's responsibilities in its Terms of Reference.

Zero Waste and Circular Economy

- National Zero Waste Council work to support waste prevention and advance a circular economy, including the administration of the council
- Delivery of a zero waste conference
- Disposal Ban Program implementation monitoring
- Additional work to advance reduction and recycling of textiles, single-use items, seasonal waste, food waste, and illegal dumping
- Engagement on updating the solid waste management plan, including supporting the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee. Options analysis will be the



we are here
primary focus of 2025 solid waste management plan work.

Continuous improvement

- A source reduction incentive program for haulers and processors who demonstrate actions to encourage recycling and reduce contamination
- Processing of bottom ash combined with waste soil processing and soil beneficial use at the Coquitlam Landfill
- Expansion of reuse at recycling and waste centres

Recycling and waste centres

- Recycling depot development design, permitting, and procurement at North Surrey and Langley recycling and waste centres
- Facility upgrades and maintenance
- Award two new operating and maintenance service contracts for five recycling and waste centres and transition to new operators if required

Waste-to-Energy Facility and District Energy

- Maintenance projects
- Biosolids processing system construction
- District Energy System detailed design and construction initiation
- Transition to new facility operator

The Committee will be updated on the status of the actions and projects in this Work Plan on a monthly basis per the Committee’s schedule.

2025 Committee Meeting Schedule

The MVRD *Procedure Bylaw* requires the Corporate Officer to provide the Committee with an Annual Meeting Schedule for the upcoming year, including the date, time, and place of meetings (Attachment 2).

Meeting Place

Committee meetings will be held in the Metro Vancouver Committee room, 28th Floor, 4515 Central Blvd., Burnaby, BC, at 1:00 pm, unless otherwise specified on the Metro Vancouver public notice board, the Metro Vancouver website, and the respective agenda.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Zero Waste Committee:
 - a) receive for information the Zero Waste Committee Terms of Reference and the 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”; and
 - b) endorse the 2025 Work Plan, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”.
2. That the Zero Waste Committee:
 - a) receive for information the Zero Waste Committee Terms of Reference and the 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”; and
 - b) endorse the 2025 Work Plan, as presented in the report dated December 17, 2024, titled “2025 Zero Waste Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan”, incorporating the requested changes from the Zero Waste Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The priorities in the 2025 Work Plan of the Zero Waste Committee are consistent with the 2025 budget approved by the GVS&DD Board on November 1, 2024, and with key actions included in the Annual Work Plans.

Committee meeting expenses and remuneration associated with meeting attendance have been allocated in the annual budget.

CONCLUSION

The Work Plan presented in this report identifies the priorities for the Zero Waste Committee in 2025 and is consistent with its Terms of Reference and the 2025 Budget approved by the GVS&DD Board. To assist the Committee, the 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule has been established to guide the Committee's success in completing all the key initiatives on the Work Plan. Staff recommends that Alternative 1 be approved.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Zero Waste Committee 2025 Work Plan.
2. Zero Waste Committee Terms of Reference.
3. Zero Waste Committee 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule.

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Zero Waste Committee 2025 Work Plan

Report Date: December 17, 2024

Priorities

1st Quarter	Status
2023 Annual Solid Waste and Recycling Statistics	Pending
2025 Food Scraps Recycling Campaign Update	Pending
2025 Textile Waste Reduction Campaign Update	Pending
2024 Holiday Waste Reduction Campaign Results	Pending
Recycling and Waste Centre Reuse Scale-Up	Pending
Repair Events, Reuse Programs, and Regional Food Recovery Network	Pending
Multi-Family Residential Waste Prevention	Pending
2024 Financial Performance Report	Pending
2nd Quarter	Status
2024 Waste Composition Program Results	Pending
2024 Disposal Ban Program Results	Pending
Solid Waste Management Plan Goals and Idea Generation Summary	Pending
2025 Food Scraps Recycling Campaign Results	Pending
Financial Performance Report	Pending
2025 Single-Use Item Reduction Campaign Update	Pending
2025 Zero Waste Conference	Pending
2025 Love Food Hate Waste National Campaign Update	Pending
3rd Quarter	Status
North Surrey and Langley Recycling Depot Development Update	Pending
2025 Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Report	Pending
Source Reduction Incentive Program	Pending
2024 Waste-to-Energy Facility Financial Summary	Pending
Waste-to-Energy District Energy System Update	Pending
2024 Waste-to-Energy Facility Environmental Performance Summary	Pending
2025 Textile Waste Reduction Campaign Results	Pending
4th Quarter	Status
National Zero Waste Council Progress Update	Pending
2026 Tipping Fee Bylaw Revisions	Pending
Financial Performance Report	Pending
Solid Waste Services Annual Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan	Pending
2025 Holiday Waste Reduction Campaign Update	Pending

Zero Waste Committee

Terms of Reference

The Zero Waste Committee is the standing committee of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Board that provides advice and recommendations on policies, bylaws, plans, programs, budgets and issues related to solid waste management under the GVS&DD service, as well as the Zero Waste Communications Program under the MVRD General Government service.

Committee Responsibilities

Within the scope of the *Board Strategic Plan*, *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan*, and *Metro Vancouver Financial Plan*, the Committee provides guidance and oversight to staff on the implementation of the annual work plan and business plans for the service. Specific Committee responsibilities include:

- Reviewing and endorsing the annual budget and five-year financial plan for the Solid Waste function;
- Overseeing and monitoring the implementation of the *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan*;
- Providing governance and oversight over key major projects within the context of the approved budgets and financial plans;
- Overseeing implementation of the Solid Waste capital program, and development of significant works within the plan;
- Overseeing and guiding programs and initiatives aimed at reducing the volume of solid waste, enhancing recycling and diversion efforts, and promoting recovery; and
- Monitoring the operation of waste disposal and transfer station facilities, and the overall management of residuals.

Metro Vancouver has primary responsibility for ensuring implementation of the *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan*. Metro Vancouver is also responsible for operating the regional systems for transfer and disposal of solid waste. Guiding these activities is the primary focus for the Committee.

Committee Membership and Meetings

The Chair, Vice Chair and members are appointed annually by the Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board. The Committee meets monthly, except for August and December, and holds special meetings as required. Members of the Committee must be members of the GVS&DD. A quorum of 50% plus one of the Committee membership is required to conduct Committee business.

Committee Management

The Committee Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair is the chief spokesperson on matters of public interest within the Committee's purview. For high profile issues the role of spokesperson rests with the Metro Vancouver Board Chair or Vice Chair. On technical matters or in cases where an initiative is still at the staff proposal level, the Commissioner or designate is the

appropriate chief spokesperson. Where necessary and practical, the Board Chair, the Committee Chair and the Commissioner will confer to determine the most appropriate representative to speak.

The Chief Administrative Officer assigns a Committee Manager for the Committee. The Committee Manager is responsible for coordinating agendas and is the principal point of contact for Committee members.

Zero Waste Committee 2025 Annual Meeting Schedule

- **Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, July 3, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 1:00 pm**
- **Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 1:00 pm**

** Committee Meetings are subject to change.*

To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Adriana Velázquez, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services
Sahar Ahmadvand, Assistant Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services

Date: December 16, 2024 Meeting Date: January 9, 2025

Subject: **Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated December 16, 2024, titled “Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Metro Vancouver collaborates with member jurisdictions on programs and initiatives to encourage waste reduction and recycling in multi-family buildings. The 2023 multi-family waste composition study results show a reduction in per capita disposal for most material categories and demonstrate that compostable organics remain the largest component of multi-family waste and a key opportunity for waste reduction in this sector. Metro Vancouver is seeking new ideas to further reduce waste in the multi-family sector as a key part of the solid waste management plan update.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the Zero Waste Committee on Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions’ initiatives to encourage waste reduction and recycling in multi-family buildings.

BACKGROUND

At its January 11, 2024, meeting the Zero Waste Committee requested information on actions Metro Vancouver is taking to advance waste reduction and recycling in the multi-family sector, including working directly with strata and property management companies and their associations.

MULTI-FAMILY WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING INITIATIVES IN METRO VANCOUVER

Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions are actively working on programs and policies to encourage waste reduction and recycling in the multi-family sector. In addition, multi-family has been identified as a key focus area for the solid waste management plan update.

Metro Vancouver Programs and Policies to Encourage Waste Reduction and Recycling

Metro Vancouver provides multi-family waste reduction resources on the “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” website, including a guide to estimate the recycling and garbage bins required in a multi-unit building, recycling room signage and posters, and “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” campaign collateral. The campaign material includes “Green Bin Party”, a multi-family focused video encouraging all residents in apartments to “join the party” and recycle their food scraps.

A key challenge for residents is knowing where to take items for recycling. Metro Vancouver Recycles, a web-based application with a database of reuse and recycling facilities, helps residents recycle and reuse more materials by providing information on the closest facility to take unwanted items for donation or recycling, addressing both the information and convenience barriers.

Metro Vancouver education and policies such as the Organics Disposal Ban help support buildings serviced by private sector waste and recycling haulers, which is common for multi-family buildings. The disposal ban program encourages waste reduction and recycling through surcharges for garbage loads that contain banned materials above prescribed thresholds. Garbage loads are visually inspected to identify banned materials.

Metro Vancouver is working on updating educational resources to support waste reduction and recycling in multi-family residences.

Summary of Member Jurisdiction Programs and Policies to Encourage Waste Reduction and Recycling

Staff completed a desktop review of Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions programs and interviewed municipal staff to inform next steps to further improve waste reduction and recycling in the multi-family sector. Member jurisdictions in the region have a range of programs and policies for multi-family recycling and organics. Some member jurisdictions have recycling container storage and pickup space requirements for new multi-family developments. Four member jurisdictions provide large item pick-up programs, a collection service for unwanted bulky items, to multi-unit homes.

Approaches to waste reduction and recycling education for the multi-family sector range from providing links to Metro Vancouver resources on the member's website to offering free community and lobby events. For example, the City of Vancouver deployed a Zero Waste Ambassador program designed to increase multi-family waste reduction and recycling by training volunteers with a focus on garbage and recycling room improvements, resident education and engagement to leverage staff delivered 'Rethink Waste' webinars, and lobby talk events (Reference 1). A summary of responses to the survey of member jurisdiction programs and policies to encourage multi-family waste reduction is included in Attachment 1.

Solid Waste Management Plan Update Engagement

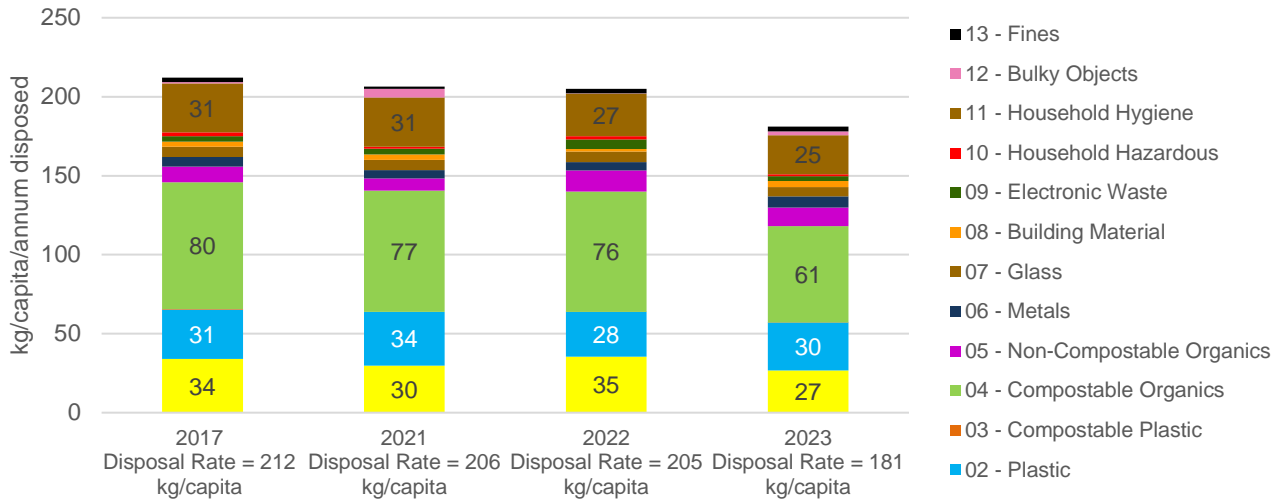
Metro Vancouver is updating its solid waste management plan and looking to hear potential actions and strategies to be included. As part of the update, Metro Vancouver is actively looking for opportunities to obtain feedback from those interested in or representing the multi-family sector by, attending existing events, conferences, and association meetings (e.g. Condominium Home Owners Association of BC (CHOA), Landlords BC).

Multi-Family Waste Composition Study

The 2023 Multi-Family Residential Waste Composition Study examined waste disposed at 87 multi-family residences throughout the Metro Vancouver region and showed diversion is improving due to efforts by member jurisdictions and Metro Vancouver to support waste reduction in multi-family buildings (Reference 2). Total per capita disposal decreased from 212 kg/capita in 2017 to 181 kg/capita in 2023 (Figure 1). Compostable organics and paper show a steady decrease in per capita

disposal rates. The largest component of multi-family waste is compostable organics, followed by plastic, paper, and household hygiene products such as diapers and pet waste.

Figure 1: Multi-Family Waste Composition



ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report. Programs and initiatives to support programs and policies to encourage waste reduction and recycling are carried out within existing regional budgets.

CONCLUSION

Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions continue to work on programs and policies to encourage recycling and waste reduction in the multi-family sector. The multi-family sector is a key focus area of the solid waste management plan update to advance towards the region’s waste reduction goals.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Municipal Programs and Policies to Encourage Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling.
2. Presentation re: Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling.

REFERENCES

1. [Zero Waste Ambassador Program | City of Vancouver.](#)
2. [2023 Multi-Family Waste Composition Study.](#)

Municipal Programs and Policies to Encourage Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling

The information included in this summary table is based on data provided by member jurisdictions who responded to the municipal survey shared with Regional Engineers Advisory Committee Solid Waste Sub-Committee and Regional Waste Reduction Coordinators Committee members.

Municipality	Summary of Education/Outreach Programs ¹ and Policies ²
Burnaby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community events and outreach tent - Admin team dedicated to answering inquiries - Contamination letters along with educational brochures - Free presentations to and meetings with groups and strata upon request - Free tours of Burnaby Eco Center - Recycling and Green Bin guide in different languages - Annual education material sent to buildings - Inside-bin stickers and above-bin laminated material - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Provide education to tenants and post signage
Coquitlam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Metro Vancouver resources for multi-family - ReCollect app and Waste Wizard - Online information on recycling depot and donation recommendations - Social media posts on waste reduction and recycling - Staff provide education during public events - Presentations to groups upon request - Free food waste drop-off to all Coquitlam residents at the Town Centre Recycling Depot and United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre - City Wide Garage Sale and Swap Events - Coquitlam’s Zoning Bylaw sets out minimum space requirements for garbage and recycling rooms/enclosures
Delta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shared Recycling Toolkit - Shared Recycling Guide - Recycle Coach App - Social media (e.g., Recycle It Right YouTube video) - Waste Room Signage - Public Outreach at events - Buildings serviced by the City are required to pay a recycling fee - Recycling storage space requirements (Delta Zoning Bylaw) enforced through planning stages of new multi-family developments
Township of Langley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling Ambassador Program - What Goes Where Tool (centralized collection) - Sorting guide in different languages - Free presentations, information sessions, letter to residents, and site visits upon request - Waste room signage - Household hazardous waste event - Free beverage containers lockable cart and reusable tote bags - Storage and pickup space requirements included in design guidelines for new multi-family developments

Municipality	Summary of Education/Outreach Programs ¹ and Policies ²
Maple Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing education (e.g., free presentations, workshops and notices on board) provided by Ridge Meadows Recycling to strata or management - Summer students site visit - Apartment Sort Poster - Free tote bags provided to each unit - Recycling Pickup Map - Customizable pickup frequency - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling from garbage o Implement District’s Recycling Program
New Westminster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lobby events for new programs and new buildings through contracted hauler - Waste room posters - Contamination Reduction Campaign - Oops tags - Multi-family audits planned for 2025/2026 - How to Line Your Kitchen Catcher - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Use City’s (agent) recycling and organics collection system
North Vancouver City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lobby events and zero waste building champions (Program on hold now as staffing resources are limited) - Multi-family Buildings Recycling Guide - Multi-family What Goes Where Poster and Flyer - Metro Vancouver’s Food Scraps Recycling How-To Guide for Apartments and Condos - Multi-family waste room signage - List of private organics haulers - Municipal Collection for organics limited to buildings with nine units or less - Location and placement of recycling bins and types of recyclables - Satisfactory location, number, signage, cleanliness, and collection frequency of green bins - Multi-family buildings may utilise private organics collection or City’s service, which is limited to buildings with nine units or less
North Vancouver District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On-the-ground education upon request - Organics diversion education at events and public spaces a focus for 2024/2025 public education - Education materials via print-out and by email - Metro Vancouver waste room signage - Municipal collection for recycling limited to separated cardboard and organics - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Utilize private collection or District’s service - Location and placement of recycling and organics bins defined through design guidelines

¹ Program – Any initiative which supports multi-family waste reduction.

² Policy – Typically a bylaw or written requirement for multi-family building properties, which aims to reduce multi-family waste.

Municipality	Summary of Education/Outreach Programs ¹ and Policies ²
Pitt Meadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper brochures for garbage, organics and recycling via mail - Posting information on City website (e.g., collection schedules and location of Return-it) - Recycling Guide - Multi-family residents are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage and avoid contamination
Port Coquitlam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambassador Program - PoCo Sort & Report app - Sort it Right Guide - Zone map and collection schedule - Recollect app - Sorting guide posters in waste rooms - Multi-family buildings are required to separate recycling and organics from garbage and may opt for City's service or private collection
Port Moody	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lobby events as requested by City and in case of high recycling contamination - Waste collection calendar - Solid Waste app - Handouts, flyers, and mail outs - Correction cards - Multi-family buildings serviced by the City are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage - Enforced through planning stages of new multi-family developments
Richmond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling Champion Program - Customer service information line 276-4010 - Staff outreach through lobby events, information sessions, in-person/virtual workshops and depot tours - Back to Recycling School Campaign for Glass and Hazardous Materials - Rethink Waste Campaign - Ads in elevators, transit shelters, skytrain stations, City facility screens, YouTube videos, and material in other languages - Collection calendar and utility inserts - Recycling guides, brochures, posters, cart decals and contamination notice/letters - Richmond Recycling App - Repair and reuse events - Shred a Thon events - Youth education through Green Ambassadors Program - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Utilize City services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Possible exemption for organics upon approval of alternate plan - Storage and placement of bins defined through design guidelines

¹ Program – Any initiative which supports multi-family waste reduction.

² Policy – Typically a bylaw or written requirement for multi-family building properties, which aims to reduce multi-family waste.

Municipality	Summary of Education/Outreach Programs ¹ and Policies ²
Surrey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rethink Waste Guide - Waste Wizard and Rethink Waste Game - Collection schedule by property type - What Goes in Organics Poster - Translatable website and council-approved multilingual communications strategy - What Goes in Recycling Poster - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Utilize private collection or City's service
Vancouver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zero Waste Ambassadors Program - Monthly Recycling and Reuse Drop-off Events - Monthly Repair Cafes - Free Swap Events and Toolkit - Staff outreach at public events - Staff presentation and lobby talks offered - Social Media Campaigns throughout the year aimed at promoting diversion programs - Zero waste education program for K-12 students - City green bin program education – program brochures, acceptable/unacceptable posters, and welcome package including bin lid stickers and welcome posters - Collection calendar - City webpage with information such as list of private haulers and consideration when selecting one - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Have both an organic waste and a recyclable materials diversion plan - Design guidelines for multi-family developments - Rezoning Policy for Sustainable Large Developments – requirements to go above and beyond having the standard waste and recycling room - City crews provide collection to a small number of multi-family buildings with the rest serviced by private collection - Recollect App and Waste Wizard
West Vancouver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Metro Vancouver waste room signage - How-to-guide for organics diversion - Metro Vancouver resources for multi-family - Letter to building managers where organics or recycling collection is not provided - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Have a diversion plan - Design guidelines for new multi-family developments
White Rock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Web links to recycling information, resources, and drop-off locations - Municipal collection limited to buildings with up to 15 units - Multi-family buildings are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Separate recycling and organics from garbage o Have a diversion plan

¹ Program – Any initiative which supports multi-family waste reduction.

² Policy – Typically a bylaw or written requirement for multi-family building properties, which aims to reduce multi-family waste.

Food Scraps Aren't Garbage Campaign

Multi-Family Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling

Adriana Velázquez P.Eng M.Eng
Senior Project Engineer
Zero Waste Committee Meeting, January 9, 2025

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BACKGROUND

Request of Staff – ZWC January 2024

“Request of staff at the Jan 11, 2024 ZWC meeting to bring back more information on actions Metro Vancouver is taking to help advance waste reduction in the multi-family sector, including working directly with strata/property management companies and their associations”

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MULTI-FAMILY WASTE REDUCTION ACTIONS SCAN

Gather information on programs and policies from member jurisdictions to:

- summarize actions by member jurisdictions to promote waste reduction and recycling in multi-family buildings
- promote information exchange among member municipalities

METRO VANCOUVER RESOURCES

- Recycling room signage
- Food Scraps Aren't Garbage campaign
- [Metro Vancouver Recycles](#)
- Organics Disposal Ban
- Educational resources review



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Engagement

- Multi-family identified as a key sector to advance waste reduction and recycling



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MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

Programs, policies and bylaws

- Community and lobby events
- Education to reduce contamination (apps, guides)
- Recycling container access and storage requirements
- Recycling room signage

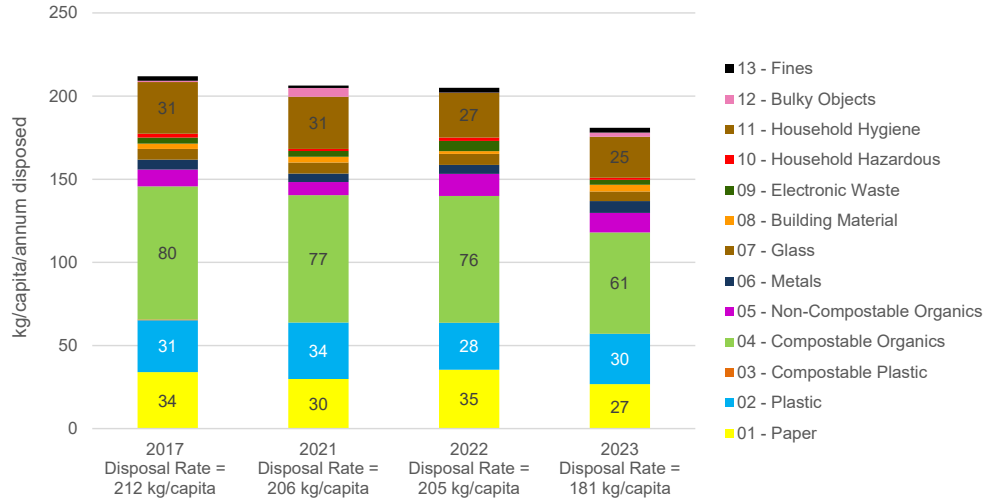


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MULTI-FAMILY DISPOSED WASTE COMPOSITION



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Metro Vancouver Skyline

Thank you!

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To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Alec Wu, Assistant Project Engineer, Solid Waste Service

Date: December 16, 2024 Meeting Date: January 9, 2025

Subject: **Regional Reuse, Repair, and Food Recovery Programs**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated December 16, 2024, titled “Regional Reuse, Repair, and Food Recovery Programs”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Work is underway to continue to scale up reuse and repair through the expansion of a variety of initiatives including increasing reuse collection at recycling and waste centres, supporting more member jurisdiction repair cafés, and growing the regional food recovery network. Metrics from these reuse and repair initiatives show that they are effective in encouraging the public to practice waste reduction. Participants in repair events and the food recovery network note the value of the programs not only in reducing waste, but also increasing access to free repairs and supporting increased demand for donated and low-cost food.

PURPOSE

To update the committee on work completed in 2024 towards increasing reuse and repair programs in the region and plans underway in 2025 to further expand this work.

BACKGROUND

Reuse and repair are a priority for the region through initiatives such as scaling up reuse days at recycling and waste centres, repair events, reuse at offices and events, bike repair in schools, and the regional food recovery network.

SCALING UP REUSE AND REPAIR

Reusing and repairing items locally has lower carbon impacts than producing new goods from virgin materials. Metro Vancouver continues to work collaboratively with local reuse partners, member jurisdictions, and others to increase reuse in the region. Three programs being enhanced are reuse collection at recycling and waste centres, co-funding for repair cafés throughout the region, and support for a regional food recovery network.

Reuse Days Event Pilot at North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre

The overall goal of the reuse day events is to educate recycling and waste centre customers of the community and environmental benefits of prioritizing reuse over recycling and disposal. The long-term goal of these events is to encourage behavior change toward considering reuse of materials before recycling and disposal, through education and easy access to convenient options for reuse drop-off at regional facilities. In 2024, Metro Vancouver piloted an expansion of reuse events at the North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre in collaboration with the not-for-profit organization Urban

Repurpose. Thirty-four events were held from June to November, which is almost three times the 12 events piloted in 2023. Additional improvements in 2024 included weekday events in addition to weekend events, increased advertising, and new promotional materials such as signage and website updates to increase public awareness. In total, Urban Repurpose collected 27,000 kg of material for reuse that was either donated or sold to residents at their local storefront.

In addition to reuse day events, which provide drop-off options for a wider variety of materials, Metro Vancouver recycling and waste centres continue to have established programs for the collection of clothing and books. In recent years, a bike reuse and recycling program was added to the North Shore and United Boulevard recycling and waste centres.

Scaling Reuse

In 2023, Metro Vancouver engaged the Share Reuse Repair Initiative to review options for scaling reuse to all of the recycling and waste centres, and to provide insights into how to further expand existing reuse options. As part of the project, Share Reuse Repair Initiative identified a number of potential community partners that may be a good fit for increasing reuse at recycling and waste centres. Share Reuse Repair Initiative's report titled "Scaling Reuse Study" was publicized in October 2024.

Using the learnings from Share Reuse Repair Initiatives' work, staff engaged some of the potential partners to agree on the optimal method for expanding reuse drop off to the United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre. Metro Vancouver contracted with Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver to provide the reuse service, which began on November 25. Screening and collection of reusable materials would be done for eight hours per day during every day that the recycling and waste centre is open. The program began with the collection of small household goods for reuse, and Metro Vancouver will work with Big Brothers to expand the scope of collected items.

The Share Reuse Repair Initiative also authored a report for Metro Vancouver titled "Reuse and Recycling of Bulky Household Items." Research was conducted on existing reuse and recycling practices of bulky items collected through illegal dumping cleanup programs. A workshop was also held for member jurisdictions involving a presentation about best practices outside of the region, and group discussions which captured ideas to enhance the reuse and recycling of bulky items in the region.

Ocean Ambassadors Canada Reuse at Offices and Events

Metro Vancouver is in the final year of a two-year engagement with the not-for-profit organization, Ocean Ambassadors Canada, with a focus on reducing single-use items at offices and public events. In 2024 they delivered 26 in-person or webinar "lunch and learn" presentations to office groups to encourage behavior change by employees. Companies can use Ocean Ambassadors' expertise to connect them with a suitable reusable cup and container sharing platform.

Outreach and education was provided by Ocean Ambassadors Canada at 15 different community events across the region. Ocean Ambassadors gauged public interest in reuse and educated the public through games, displays, and handouts. Their focus in 2024 was to work with previously engaged event organizers to implement a reusable food and beverage container service at their

events. Thousands of people attended the 2024 Hyack Festival, which was a successful event using reusable food service ware. Ocean Ambassadors Canada provided support in planning the initiative and was in attendance to provide education to residents and assist with properly sorting the reusable cups and containers.

Reuse at Metro Vancouver Head Office Cafeteria

A new program planned for 2025 is a reusable cup and container sharing platform pilot at the Metro Tower III head office cafeteria, through the local reusable food service ware company ShareWares. The procurement phase has ended, and Metro Vancouver is now working to obtain authorization from Fraser Health Authority. ShareWares is experienced with the steps required to implement these types of programs, and this pilot is an opportunity to help other food service providers learn how to switch to reusable alternatives.

Repair Café Funding

Repair cafés are events where residents bring items such as broken electronics and clothes in need of repair, to receive free repair services from community volunteers. Several member jurisdictions host these events to support their waste reduction goals. To encourage more events, Metro Vancouver offers a contribution agreement to co-fund member jurisdiction repair cafés. Member jurisdictions can receive up to 50 percent reimbursement for repair events they host. In 2024, four member jurisdictions signed on to contribution agreements, and 26 co-funded repair café events were held, serving over 1,600 residents and successfully repairing over 1,100 items. Resident feedback has been positive, and while not all items can be repaired, residents appreciate the effort and insights from the repair volunteers. Successful repairs help residents save money by not buying replacement items and reduce their environmental impact. To further increase the number of events across the region, Metro Vancouver is connecting repair café organizers who have capacity to expand with municipal contacts interested in hosting such events. Metro Vancouver is also exploring the option to directly contract with repair event services providers as another option to increase the number of repair events in the region.

Insights from the repair café initiatives were included in a letter from the chairs of the Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Committee and the National Zero Waste Council responding to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's Right to Repair Consultation. The letter advocated for a coordinated approach to right-to-repair, improvements in access to and affordability of repair, and design changes for the targeted consumer electronics and appliances, to improve repairability, interoperability and durability.

Pilot Bike Repair Education in Schools (Our Community Bikes)

Metro Vancouver contracted with Our Community Bikes to provide repair sessions at schools throughout the region for the 2024/2025 school year. Support from Metro Vancouver will allow them to expand the services provided to schools in the region. Through this program, schools can apply to have Our Community Bike staff attend their school to provide basic repairs to student's bikes. The program is only able to provide services to a set number of schools so the program will be provided on a first come first serve basis. The aim of the program is to provide an opportunity for students to learn about bike maintenance and repair, thereby extending the lifespan of bikes. Our Community Bikes will also provide information about additional Metro Vancouver school

programs that teachers can access to learn more about other waste reduction and recycling programs, as well as Metro Vancouver school programs available for other service areas.

Regional Food Recovery Network

In September 2021, Metro Vancouver entered into a three-year contract with FoodMesh to increase food recovery in the region. The Food Recovery Network project helps Metro Vancouver-based food businesses divert their unsold food from going to waste or compost in a safe, cost-effective and convenient way.

Over the project's three years, about 11,800 tonnes of edible food destined for the green bin or disposal were diverted to feed people and to farmers to feed animals, avoiding over 30,000 tonnes of CO2e emissions (summarized in Table 1), and creating 69.5 jobs and 951 volunteer positions.

Due to the success of the three-year FoodMesh project, the contract has been extended for an additional two years, to August 2026. The City of Richmond and the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) were some of the first communities to work with FoodMesh to build local food recovery networks in BC. Metro Vancouver continue supporting food recovery efforts in the region by working with FoodMesh and expanding the regional food recovery network.

Table 1 – Summary of the Regional Food Recovery Network Benefits

	Year 1 (Sept 2021-Aug 2022)	Year 2 (Sept 2022-Aug 2023)	Year 3 (Sept 2023-Aug 2024)	Total
Food for people (kg)	3,500,000	3,700,000	3,700,000	10,900,000
Equivalent Meals	6,400,000	6,700,000	6,800,000	19,900,000
Food for animals (kg)	300,000	300,000	320,000	920,000
GHG Savings (kg CO2e)	9,800,000	10,200,000	10,300,000	30,300,000

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Reuse, repair and food recovery programs are included in the 2024 and 2025 budget.

CONCLUSION

Scaling up reuse, repair, and food recovery activities is a key focus for Metro Vancouver to achieve waste reduction goals. Metro Vancouver works collaboratively with member jurisdictions, community reuse partners, and other stakeholders to expand reuse and repair in the region. Reuse at recycling and waste centres, repair cafes, bike repair in schools, and food recovery are a few examples of the many initiatives underway.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation re: 2024 Regional Reuse, Repair, and Food Recovery Programs.



Reuse Day at North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre

Regional Reuse, Repair, and Food Recovery Programs

Alec Wu, EIT

Assistant Project Engineer - Zero Waste Implementation

Zero Waste Committee, January 9, 2025



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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Reuse, Repair, and Recovery Initiatives

1. Reuse Days at North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre
2. Regional Expansion of Reuse Days
3. Single-use Item Reduction at Offices and Events
4. Repair Event Funding
5. Food Recovery Network



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Reuse Days 2024

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REUSE DAYS RESULTS

Urban Repurpose Pilot

- Convenient drop-off for reusable items
- Several optimizations made to the program
- 34 events in 2024 compared to 12 in 2023
- Over 27,000 kg reused

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Reuse signage at the United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre

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UNITED BOULEVARD

12-month Pilot Began Nov 25

- Contracted with Big Brothers
- Area to collect and temporarily store materials
- Everyday on-site service from 9am to 5pm
- Focused on small household goods

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Reusable containers

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REUSE AT OFFICES

- Delivered 26 lunch and learn sessions from January to December 2024.

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Ocean Ambassadors Canada at the PNE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Educational Booth

- Ocean Ambassadors attended 15 public events in 2024

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Maple Ridge Repair Cafe

Repair Event Funding

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Coquitlam Repair Cafe

2024 REPAIR EVENTS

2024 Results up to December:

- 26 events funded
- 1,600+ residents attended
- 1,100+ items repaired

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Food Recovery

Breakfast of food rescue champions

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REGIONAL FOOD RECOVERY

FoodMesh Network

- Rescue and redistribute surplus food to highest end-use
- First two years were focused on diversion. Third year on data tracking and waste prevention



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FOOD RECOVERY HIGHLIGHTS

Three-year Results

	Year 1 2021 - 2022	Year 2 2022 - 2023	Year 3 2023 - 2024	Total
Food for people (kg)	3,500,000	3,700,000	3,700,000	10,900,000
Equivalent meals	6,400,000	6,700,000	6,800,000	19,900,000
Food for animals (kg)	300,000	300,000	320,000	920,000
GHG savings (kg CO2e)	9,800,000	10,200,000	10,300,000	30,300,000

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A wide-angle photograph of the Metro Vancouver skyline at sunset. The sky is a vibrant mix of orange, red, and yellow, with soft clouds. Below the horizon, a thick layer of white fog blankets the city, with the lights of buildings and the iconic red and white tower of the Vancouver Convention Centre visible through the mist. In the background, dark mountain ranges are silhouetted against the bright sky. On the right side of the image, there is a white hexagonal logo with the text "TOGETHER WE MAKE OUR REGION STRONG" inside. At the bottom of the image, there is a dark blue horizontal bar containing the text "Questions?" on the left, the "metrovancover" logo in the center, and the number "15" on the right.

Metro Vancouver skyline

Questions?

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To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services

Date: December 18, 2024 Meeting Date: January 9, 2025

Subject: **Manager's Report**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated December 18, 2024, titled "Manager's Report".

Collaborative Engagement Update

In 2024, participants in the collaborative engagement program include 16 not-for-profit organizations, who receive funding and support from Metro Vancouver to deliver engagement activities on the solid waste management plan update. Activities include workshops (virtual and in-person), in-person and online surveys, focus groups, interviews, email newsletters, panel discussions, community outreach events, and social media promotion. Activities are fully led by the not-for-profit organizations, with support from Metro Vancouver staff.

In 2023, Metro Vancouver introduced the collaborative engagement program during the vision and guiding principles phase of engagement on the solid waste management plan update. The program provides funding and support to not-for-profit organizations to conduct engagement with their members or networks. The goal of this initiative is to hear from audiences and organizations who otherwise may not be aware of or have access to opportunities to provide input to Metro Vancouver projects, such as underrepresented or equity-denied communities, youth, seniors, urban Indigenous people, and environmental groups.

Due to the success of the program in 2023, Metro Vancouver repeated the program in 2024, during the idea generation phase of engagement. The feedback provided through reports from each organization will be considered as inputs to the idea generation phase of engagement. Ideas generated during this phase will then be assessed in the subsequent phase of the plan update: options analysis.

Presentations from members of the public to the Zero Waste Committee and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee – November 7, 2024

As part of public engagement during the idea generation phase of engagement for the development of an updated solid waste management plan, members of the public were invited to present ideas for potential actions and strategies directly to the Zero Waste Committee and Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee. On November 7, 2024, 12 members of the public presented to the Zero Waste Committee and Public/Technical Advisory Committee. The session [recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) are now published on the solid waste management plan update web page.

Feedback and ideas presented by the public during the session will be recorded and considered as inputs to the idea generation phase of engagement. Ideas for potential actions and strategies to include in an updated solid waste management plan will be assessed and evaluated in the subsequent phase: options analysis.

2025 Food Scraps Recycling Campaign Update

The 2025 “Food Scraps Aren’t Garbage” campaign will be in market from Monday, January 13 to Sunday, March 9. The objective is to increase diversion of organic waste into the green bin in Metro Vancouver. Similar to 2024, the target audience is residents living in apartments and condos (adults age 35-54 and men 55+), who tend to use their green bins less than people living in houses. Knowing that people tend to conform to the perceived norm in their community, the campaign strategy focuses on green bin use as the common, accepted behaviour among Metro Vancouverites. By communicating this social norm and the benefits of recycling food scraps we aim to encourage those who are not already motivated to use the green bin to start doing so.

The campaign leverages the existing googly-eyed food face characters and features videos ([Green Bin Party](#), [Prevent Bad Gas](#)) and helpful infographics. Promotions include social media (YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, and Pinterest), television PSA, radio ads (Move 103.5, Virgin, CKNW, and Rock 101), elevator ads in residential buildings, and Google search ads. New in 2025 are Global TV 10-second ads, digital banner ads, Skytrain platform posters, and collaborations with social media influencers. The campaign website metrovancover.org/foodscraps features information on what goes in the green bin, resources for residents and property managers, and tips to make green binning clean and easy.

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