



**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

REGULAR MEETING

Friday, April 12, 2024

3:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Online meeting

Zoom teleconference

A G E N D A

ITEMS
1. WELCOME
2. AGENDA
3. MEETING NOTES – February 23, 2024 (Attachment 1)
4. ACTION/STANDING ITEMS 4.1 Action tracker (Attachment 2) 4.2 Incoming/outgoing communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie Kaminski, Email (Attachment 3) • Sue Maxwell, Email (Attachment 4)
5. METRO VANCOUVER UPDATES
5.1 Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles Report Back <i>For Input/Feedback</i> Speaker: Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, and Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Metro Vancouver <i>Small group discussions.</i> <i>Suggested discussion questions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any comments on the draft vision statement? • Any comments on the draft guiding principles? • Is there anything that should be added or removed?
5.2 Solid Waste Management Plan Issues/Opportunities Discussion Questions <i>For Input/Feedback</i> Speaker: Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Metro Vancouver Veronica Bartlett, Morrison Hershfield <i>Small group discussions</i>



<p><i>Suggested discussion questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Any comments on the draft issue/opportunity statements?</i>• <i>Is there anything that should be added or removed?</i>
<p>5.3 Zero Waste Committee Updates <i>For Information</i> Speaker: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services</p>
<p>6. OTHER BUSINESS</p>
<p>6.1 Draft Agenda for PTAC Working Groups Initial Meetings and Update on Member Sign-ups (Attachment 5-6) <i>For Input/feedback</i> Speaker: Director Kirby-Yung, Chair; and Chairs of Working Groups</p>
<p>6.2 June 2024 Meeting and Tour <i>For Information</i> Speaker: Director Kirby-Yung, Chair</p>
<p>7. INFORMATION ITEMS</p> <p>7.1 Public/Technical Advisory Committee Draft 2024 Work Plan (Attachment 7) 7.2 Regional Waste Flows March 2024 (Attachment 8)</p>

Attachment 1: Draft Meeting notes – February 23, 2024 – Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee

Attachment 2: Action Tracker

Attachment 3: Email from Jamie Kaminski

Attachment 4: Email from Sue Maxwell

Attachment 5: Draft Agenda for PTAC working groups initial meetings

Attachment 6: Public/Technical Advisory Committee Working Groups Draft Terms of Reference

Attachment 7: Public/Technical Advisory Committee Draft 2024 Work Plan

Attachment 8: Regional Waste Flows March 2024

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Friday, February 23, 2024

Zoom Meeting

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Director Sarah Kirby-Yung (Chair), Alice Henry, Ben Liegey, Bill Chan, Daniel Rotman, Hunter Bergen, Jamie Kaminski, John Doherty, Kevin Huang, Louise Schwarz, Love-Ese Chile, Lyndsay Poaps, Michael Zarbl, Raman Johal, Sue Maxwell, Tara Immell, Ulwiana Mehta-Malhotra, William Selten.

Absent: Director Craig Hodge (Vice-Chair), Brenda Martens, Brianne De Man, Christian Dietrich, Cody Irwin, Doug Schell, Grant Hankins, Jake Turek, Jaye-Jay Berggren, Matthew Morin, Sara Larter, Yasmin Abraham, Lori Bryan (IAC Chair).

Metro Vancouver Staff: Paul Henderson, Chris Allan, Chris Underwood Terry Fulton, Allen Jensen, Nanette van Doorn, Stephanie Liu, Brooke Atkinson, Zack Ha.

1.	INTRODUCTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting started at 3:03 pm 	Chair
	Welcome from the Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Kirby-Yung expressed gratitude for the attendees' commitment. 	Chair
2.	AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed the February 23, 2024 meeting agenda. 	Chair
3.	MEETING NOTES – November 16, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed the November 16, 2023 meeting notes. 	Chair
4.	ACTION/STANDING ITEMS	Chair
	4.1 Action tracker Action items taken from 2023 action tracker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inviting the Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel to a future Public/Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) meeting. • Communicate opportunity for PTAC members to provide ideas for invited presenters at future meetings on an ongoing basis 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metro Vancouver to share lessons learned from innovative Metro Vancouver repair and reuse initiatives with PTAC • Metro Vancouver to provide more information about the potential pilot program to waive disposal ban surcharges for haulers that demonstrate they have encouraged their customers to recycle materials <p>4.2 Incoming/outgoing communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence from Waste Management Association of BC (WMABC) to the Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District in December 2023 and January 2024 included in agenda package • Response letter from Metro Vancouver in January 2024 included in agenda package <p>Chair Kirby-Yung invited committee members to share any communications they received related to the solid waste management plan or to their participation on PTAC. No responses were provided.</p>	
5.	OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>5.1 2024 Draft PTAC Work Plan and Working Groups Discussion <i>For Input/feedback</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MV staff drafted a 2024 work plan for the Committee, based on the conversation and feedback from the last meeting. • Proposed group approach – form working groups that allow deeper discussions, which meet on a regular basis outside of regular PTAC meetings and report findings to the committee. Conclusions from those discussions will help contribute to the solid waste management plan update. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the committee put together a timeline of activities needed to be done in order to complete the solid waste management plan update by November of this year? We should also try to cut out peripheral activities which might not be relevant to the new plan. • MV responded that there’s a process laid out by the province for updating the solid waste management plan, and we are working as fast as we can to update the solid waste management plan but trying to target November of this year is not realistic. Also, the concept of these working groups is meant to allow committee members to dive into key issues and come up with ideas that will directly contribute to the plan update process. • Suggestion that the Waste-to-Energy Facility tour be done on a separate occasion, rather than using a scheduled PTAC meeting. • Most members support the idea of working groups. • Membership of working groups: each working group can identify other people they think would be valuable to present to the group, e.g., consultants, specialists, business owners, etc. Each group should have 1-2 	Chair

	<p>PTAC members who have good knowledge about the topic in addition to others who have interest in it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MV staff will support working groups 	
	<p>5.2 Discussion on PTAC Working Group Topics <i>For Input/feedback</i></p> <p>There are four broad categories of topics proposed for working groups (in-bracket details are only examples – working groups to narrow down the topics further):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and Demolition Waste Management (capacity, markets, regulatory framework) • Organics Management (improving participation, contamination, processing capacity) • Waste Prevention (repair, reuse, reduce, food recovery, education and behavior change) • Plastics (regulatory framework, commodity markets) <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments that waste prevention, waste hierarchy, and education/behaviour change should be incorporated into all of the topic categories • MV action: removal of the Waste Prevention topic area as an option for a working group. Instead this will be incorporated in all working groups. • Topics should be aligned to the solid waste management plan. • Comment that we should map out areas of expertise that people (PTAC, MV, National Zero Waste Council) already have and don't have, to see what/who should be added, make sure we don't miss important things, and also utilize what we already have to move faster. • MV is working with consulting firm Morrison Hershfield on a document reviewing the existing solid waste management plan. The current plan is structured in the form of the waste hierarchy and it may also be beneficial to structure the updated plan in the form of the waste hierarchy – from waste prevention to residual management. • Some members are concerned that other materials / sub-categorized materials may not be covered by the proposed working group topics. • Clarification: all material categories will be covered at larger PTAC Committee level. These working group topics are suggested based on interest expressed by PTAC members to focus on and to come up with potential solutions. • Policies/regulations and infrastructure are related to each of those topics, and will be a part of every conversation. • Comment that members should keep in mind the scope of solutions in group discussions (i.e., where to focus MV's resources to work towards the goals of solid waste management plan, rather than specific solution with products). 	<p>Chair</p>

	<p>Clarifying details provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not required for every member of PTAC to join working groups, and PTAC members can choose not to participate in this working group activity. • Members will be provided a separate opportunity to sign up to join the working groups after this meeting. • PTAC will receive updates on the work of the working groups, and as such there will be opportunity for all members of PTAC to provide input on the working group topic areas even if they are not in the working groups. • It will be up to each group to decide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Chair of the working group ○ The specific issues to be discussed in the working group ○ Whether it's necessary to invite external experts ○ Meeting's frequency, duration, offline/online <p>A Menti Meter exercise was conducted to gauge the interest of members in joining a working group on the topics (Waste Prevention topic was removed based on member discussion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and Demolition Waste Management (5 members interested) • Organics Management (11 members interested) • Plastics (11 members interested) 	
	<p>5.3 PTAC Working Groups Draft Terms of Reference <i>For Input/feedback</i></p> <p>The draft Terms of Reference were introduced.</p>	<p>Chair</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>METRO VANCOUVER UPDATES</p>	
	<p>6.1 Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Biennial Report <i>For Input/feedback</i></p> <p>An update was provided on the Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Biennial Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes 2021 and 2022 highlights • Reports on status of each action within the solid waste management plan • Provides updated solid waste and recycling statistics <p>The full report will be published and presented to Zero Waste Committee in April, at which point PTAC members and the public will be invited to provide feedback.</p>	<p>Terry Fulton, Metro Vancouver</p>
	<p>6.2 Updates on Technical Studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Opportunities Scope Review • Residuals Management Options Scope Review <p><i>For Information</i></p> <p>Members can review the material provided and connect with Metro Vancouver if they are interested in providing input or feedback on either study. Members discussed:</p>	<p>Paul Henderson, Metro Vancouver</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment that the rationale for a study on concrete and asphalt recycling is not clear given the high recycling rates for these materials. • MV responded: The goal of the Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Opportunities study is to evaluate new and leading edge recycling opportunities for upcycling these materials. • A member suggested that a recent Environment and Climate Change Canada study has looked at combustion, gasification, pyrolysis treatment options for residual municipal solid waste and noted the various challenges. Consequently, an additional study on residual management options may not be necessary. • MV responded: We are aware of that study, the residuals management options study isn't focused on waste to energy, but rather on all options to manage residual waste. 	
	<p>6.3 Zero Waste Committee Updates <i>For Information</i></p> <p>Highlights from February Zero Waste Committee meeting were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-Family Waste Reduction added to the 2024 work plan • Smart Waste Program / Tipping Fee Bylaw Updates • Textiles Waste Reduction Campaign Update • Zero Waste Conference Report 	<p>Paul Henderson, Metro Vancouver</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>INFORMATION ITEMS</p> <p>7.1 Regional Waste Flows January</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjourned at 4:57 pm 	<p>Chair</p>

2024 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER

To be updated after every Public/Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) meeting to keep track of the actions or tasks that Metro Vancouver staff are responsible for.

Meeting Date	Requested Action/Item	Assigned Staff	Status
June 1, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule Engagement Panel to attend a future PTAC meeting 	Stephanie Liu	Pending
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate opportunity for PTAC members to provide ideas for invited presentations at future meetings 	Staff	Ongoing
September 7, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Vancouver to share lessons learned from innovative Metro Vancouver repair and reuse initiatives with PTAC 	Karen Storry	In progress
November 16, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Vancouver to provide more information about the potential pilot program to waive Disposal Ban surcharges for haulers that demonstrate they have encouraged their customers to recycle materials 	Lynne Vidler	Complete
February 23, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring to PTAC a timeline and list of activities for what needs to be completed for the swmp update 	Staff	Pending

From: [Jamie Kaminski](#)
To: [Metro Vancouver Solid Waste Management Plan Update](#)
Cc: [Committee members](#)

Subject: Re: PTAC Feb 23 2024 Draft Meeting Notes + Recording
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:23:46 AM

Thank you for providing this information.

I apologize if I missed this discussion. I would like to understand more around why MV would be hiring an outside consultant to do this work and not bring this work forward to the committee to review and make decisions on.

"MV is working with consulting firm Morrison Hershfield on a document reviewing the existing solid waste management plan. The current plan is structured in the form of the waste hierarchy and it may also be beneficial to structure the updated plan in the form of the waste hierarchy – from waste prevention to residual management."

I would like to understand more about the requirements to follow the Waste Hierarchy and where/if that is stipulated. Because we are learning more and more everyday about the liabilities and hazards of a number of waste management practices, it is important to ensure that anything we develop is following a future trend and not a past trend of regulatory framework aiming to achieve Zero Waste in a community.

Jamie Kaminski

On Mon, Mar 18, 2024 at 1:18 PM Metro Vancouver Solid Waste Management Plan Update <zerowaste@metrovancover.org> wrote:

Dear members of the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee,

The draft meeting notes and meeting recording from the February 23, 2023 meeting are now posted on the PTAC [website](#).

Thank you,

Nanette van Doorn
Engagement and Communications Consultant, Community Engagement
Solid Waste Services

From: [Sue Maxwell -ZWBC](#)
To: [Metro Vancouver Solid Waste Management Plan Update](#)
Cc: [Committee members](#)

Subject: Residuals Management Options Review and Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Opportunities Review Scope of Work
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024 10:28:50 AM
Attachments: [Screen Shot 2020-04-22 at 7.21.22 PM.png](#)

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on these two reviews.

A. Residuals Management Options Review

After conducting our own [review of Metro Vancouver's last plan](#), it became clear that the question should not be “what do we do with the waste?” but instead “how do we stop creating so much waste?”. With this in mind, the pursuit of technology as the solution to waste is a waste of time and money. Metro Vancouver embarked on this strategy before in developing the 2010 plan and the findings were that mass burn was the only technology that reliably burned waste at scale. Morrison Hershfield conducted a similar analysis for the federal government in 2023 and the same conclusion was reached. Edmonton recently closed the gasification plant as it was not able to work as expected after a waste of 15 years and over \$40 million in public funds. The plasmification plant in Ottawa was finally shut down as a failure after 9 years of waiting for it to work properly and a waste of over \$390 million. Sustane has yet to release a public report on its progress despite being requested by another local government interested in their technology. ([Cautionary Tales](#)). It makes no sense to commission the same work that has just been done by the same company for the federal government with a report that is available to Metro Vancouver.

Even if any of these technologies could work, the resources on the planet are running out and we need to value them, not destroy them by allowing them to become waste (with all the consequent GHG emissions). We need to compare Zero Waste actions as an alternate to landfill and waste to energy/technologies.

This review is also planning on looking backwards at what has been done instead of looking forward given the current situation of a climate crisis, a biodiversity crisis and increasing pollution. We can no longer afford to go about business as in the past but instead must quickly change our systems based on what we have learned. Instead of seeking a magic new technology, we should be analyzing how much waste can be eliminated by pursuing aggressive waste reduction policies and what the relative costs and volumes are.

I think this review as scoped is an **extremely poor choice**. Instead, Metro Vancouver should be looking at what existing landfill options are available to them at what price and how to scale down the amount of waste as quickly as possible. The review should then map out how much longer the landfill capacity would last. It should also determine what funds and staff capacity could be freed up by closing the incinerator and how to reallocate this towards zero

waste actions.

B. Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Review Scope

With regards to the Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Opportunities Review, the review should look at :

1. barriers to reduction, reuse, collection and recycling of these materials
2. understanding the data on the market for the materials (if the point of resale is the measurement point for when recycling occurs, not just collection and processing)
3. ensuring the measurement system is accurate and transparent, and determine if better data collection is needed.
4. what is needed to support similar systems province-wide.

It should not look at systems that are further down the zero waste hierarchy than recycling (i.e. not landfill cover, not putting the materials in other types of products that will make it hard/impossible to recycle the next time, not backfilling -mine reclamation for example).

Note the definition of recycling should be use of the material in a similar product and steps should also be taken to minimize contamination by other materials in the recycled product.

This project has the potential to improve the current system and address issues noted by some of the existing recyclers of these materials.

As the actual recycling level of wood is far below this and the volumes are significant, ZWBC's recommendation is to conduct a similar study around how best to reduce, reuse and actually recycle wood.

Note I am copying PTAC in the interests of transparency and in case others wish to provide feedback or insights as well.

Also, I would be happy to present the results of our case study at the April PTAC meeting.

Sincerely,
Sue

Sue Maxwell
Chair, Zero Waste BC
smaxwell@zerowastebc.ca
604-734-4046
www.zerowastebc.ca

Zero Waste BC is a non-profit society that has been championing Zero Waste since 2008 with a mission to drive systemic change towards Zero Waste in BC.

I humbly acknowledge that the land on which I live, work and play is in the unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Lil'wat7úl (Lil'wat) peoples.

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WORKING GROUPS**

FIRST MEETING

Friday, April 12, 2024

0:00 pm – 0:00 pm

Online meeting

Zoom teleconference

A G E N D A

ITEMS
1. MEMBER INTRODUCTION
2. CHAIR SELECTION
3. FOCUS TOPIC DISCUSSION
4. MEETING FREQUENCY and NUMBER
5. MEETING FORMAT
6. POTENTIAL PRESENTERS/ OTHER INFORMATION OR RESOURCES REQUIRED

Solid Waste Management Plan

Public/Technical Advisory Committee Working Groups

Terms of Reference

February 2024

1. PURPOSE

The solid waste management public/technical advisory committee (committee) has proposed the formation of smaller working groups that meet separately from the regular committee meetings, to allow space for deeper discussion and to work towards potential solutions for solid waste challenges that have been raised by committee members. Working groups will report back to the full committee with their findings on a regular basis.

Conclusions from working group discussions will contribute to the work of updating the solid waste management plan with the objective of identifying opportunities for accelerated waste reduction and diversion, while reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy. In 2024, working groups will work towards potential ideas and solutions for solid waste challenges, the findings of each working group will be considered in the idea generation phase of engagement for the solid waste management plan update.

2. TIMEFRAME

The committee working groups will begin in spring 2024 with a final presentation day set for late 2024, where each working group will present their findings. Working groups will also provide updates during regular PTAC committee meetings in 2024.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

Each working group will focus on a specific solid waste topic based on areas of interest identified by committee members at previous meetings. Metro Vancouver staff will prepare proposed key issue(s) related to each working group topic. Each working group will refine and finalize key issue(s) to focus on. The key issue(s) will be the focus of the working group meetings with the goal of coming up with ideas, potential solutions, or alternatives to share with the entire committee.

The working groups will have until late 2024 to finalize their ideas or potential solutions to the key issue(s).

The agenda and format of each working group meeting will be determined by the working group Chair with input from working group members.

Working group members will be encouraged to pose questions, engage in discussion, and provide comments for consideration. Potential topics for the working groups based on areas of interest identified by committee members include: construction and demolition waste management, organics management, and plastics.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Participation in working groups is optional, and committee members may participate in as many working groups as they wish. There is no limit to the number of members each working group can have.

Working groups will meet separately from the regular committee meetings.

5. CHAIRS

The committee working groups will select a chair. The chair would lead the meetings and provide updates at the regular committee meetings throughout the year, including identifying the chosen key issue(s) for the working group, and providing updates on working group discussions to date.

6. MEETINGS

- a. Each working group can decide on the frequency of meetings for the year, and will meet outside of the regular committee meetings.
- b. Meetings can be held virtually or in-person and will be determined by working group members.
- c. Metro Vancouver staff will provide administrative and technical support (i.e. setting up online meetings, sending out email information, assisting the Chair with drafting agendas, and noting action items).
- d. Agendas and action items will be circulated to the committee in advance of meetings. The agendas and action items will be posted on the committee website.
- e. The final ideas from each working group will be presented at a committee meeting in late 2024, and will be included in an engagement summary report for the solid waste management plan update.
- f. The working groups may choose to invite subject matter experts to present and provide advice and feedback on specific agenda items.

7. Applicability of Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Committee Terms of Reference

The following elements of the solid waste management plan public/technical advisory committee terms of reference also apply to the committee working groups:

- Code of Conduct
- Budget and Resources
- Media Protocol
- Declaring Conflict of Interest
- Support mechanisms in place to lower barriers to participation
- Reimbursement for reasonable, out-of-pocket expenses associated with participating in meetings

Reference:

[Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee Terms of Reference](#)

Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee

2024 Draft Annual Work Plan

Meeting Date: April 12, 2024

An annual work plan for the committee will be developed by Metro Vancouver staff based on deliverables in the solid waste management plan development. The work plan will be reviewed annually by the committee, and will guide development of meeting agendas.

Priorities	
Item	Status
Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Vision and Guiding Principles Report Back	In progress
Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Issues/Opportunities Report Review	In progress
Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Phase 2: Idea Generation	Pending
Waste-to-Energy Facility Tour	Pending
Disposal Ban Exemption Program Pilot	Pending
Performance Metrics Study Update	Pending
Residuals Management Options Scope Review	Complete
Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Opportunities Scope Review	Complete
<i>Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan</i> Biennial Report	Complete
Working Group Updates – Ongoing	Pending

2024 Meetings:

February 23, 2024

April 12, 2024

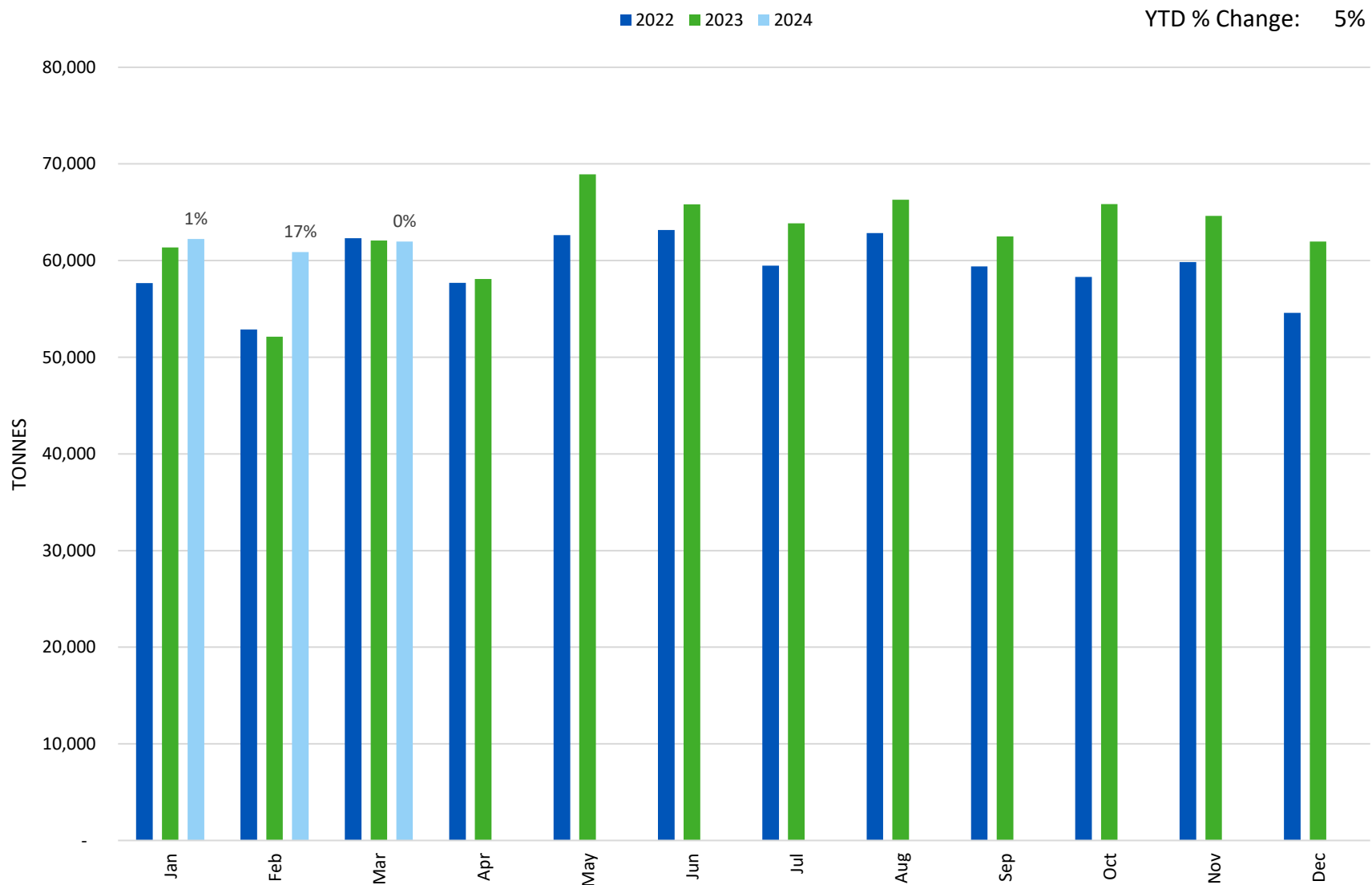
June 14, 2024 – Facility Tour

September 26, 2024

November 21, 2024 – PTAC Presentation Day

Working groups will establish meeting frequency once groups are established.

Metro Vancouver Waste Quantities* 2022 - 2024**



**Data reconciled to Feb 2024

*Metro Vancouver's Six Recycling and Waste Centres & the Waste-to-Energy Facility

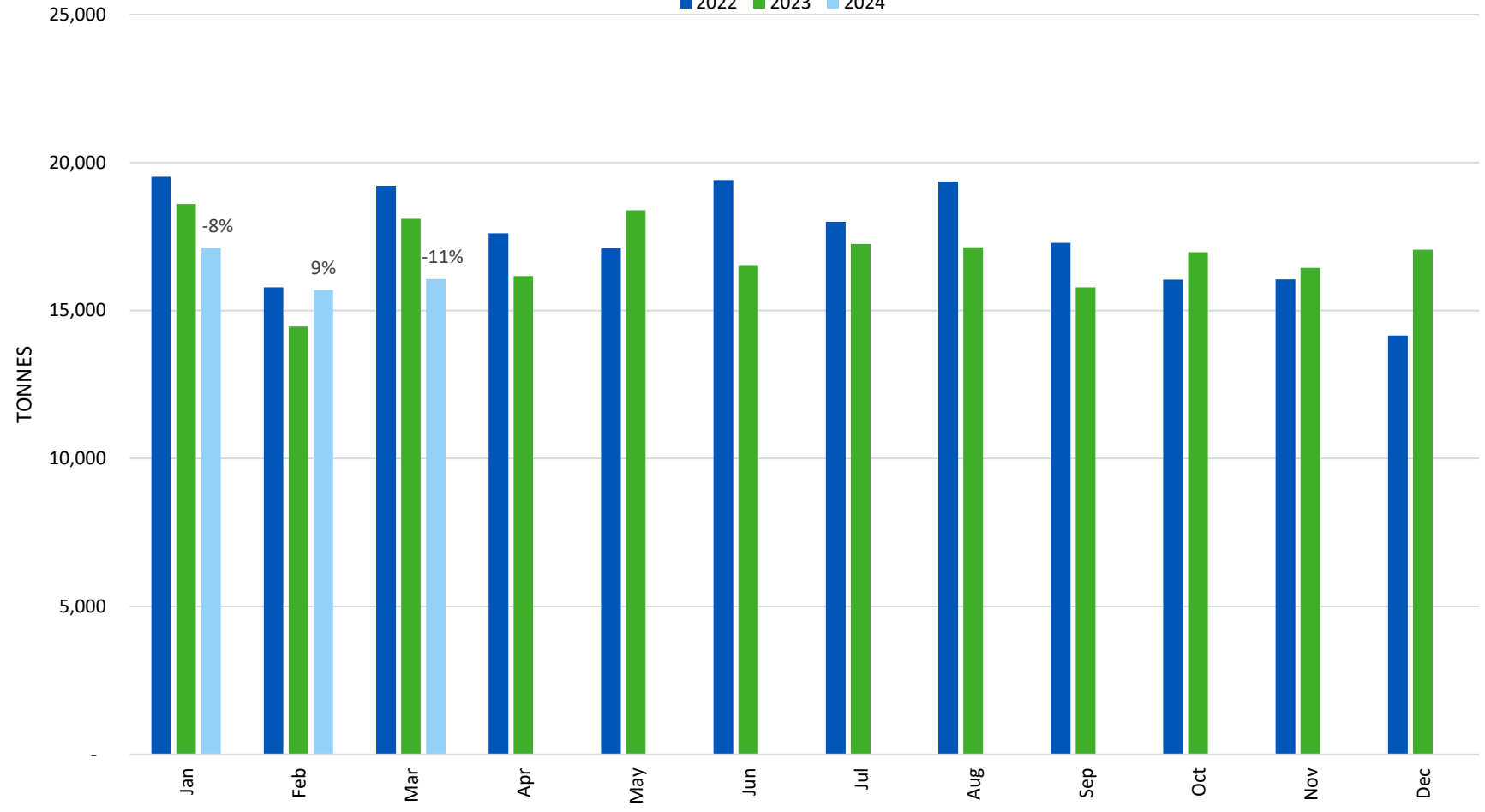
City of Vancouver Waste Quantities*

2022 - 2024

(Demo garbage not included)

YTD % Change: -4%

■ 2022 ■ 2023 ■ 2024



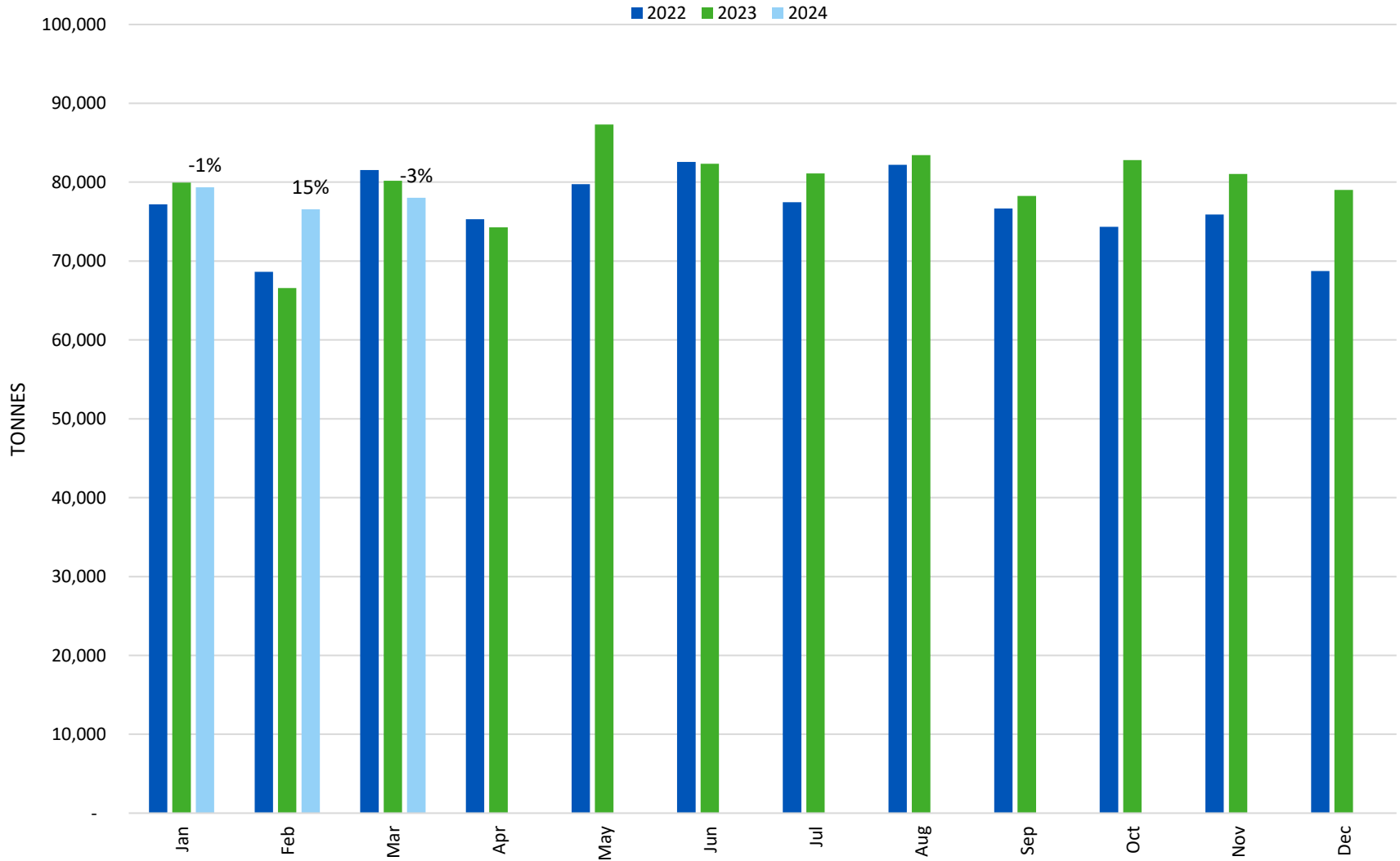
*Vancouver Landfill & Vancouver South Transfer Station

Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver Waste Quantities

2022 - 2024*

(Demo garbage not included)

YTD % Change: 3%



*Metro Vancouver data reconciled to Feb 2024