

## Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee

### Key Topic Discussion Feedback Summary – May 6, 2025

At the May 6, 2025, Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting, committee members provided feedback on the draft guiding principles and elements for a recycling and waste centre strategy that will be a component of the updated solid waste management plan. A summary of feedback received is presented below.

Discussion Topic	Feedback
<b>Draft Guiding principles for a recycling and waste centre strategy</b>	<p><b>Best practices in facility design and operation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to define “recycling”</li> <li>• Need to define “best practices”</li> <li>• Recycling and waste centres – suggestion they be renamed: “diversion centres”</li> <li>• Suggestion to show private facilities as well as public ones on the regional waste facilities map</li> </ul> <p><b>Reasonable and consistent drive times:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be different for different people what reasonable times and distance – things like traffic flows, time of days, other factors like directions need to be considered</li> <li>• Need a working definition of “reasonable drive times”</li> </ul> <p><b>Resilient and cost-effective service delivery:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost effective is in the eye of beholder – what does it mean in this context? Definition needed.</li> <li>• What does resilient and cost-effective delivery mean? Need more quantifiable data to really understand what they mean.</li> </ul> <p><b>General comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the numbers and data that are driving these guiding principles?</li> <li>• More defined terms and objective are needed – these draft principles are too vague</li> <li>• Desire to learn about Metro Vancouver’s goals and objectives and get clarity about what level participation is available from waste and recycling industry.</li> <li>• Key issue: what is the role of private sector if Metro Vancouver develops competitive facilities? For private sector, can’t invest in business if no certainty.</li> <li>• Recycling is all about economies of scale. Is this strategy focusing on providing services that private industry that cannot meet?</li> </ul>

Discussion Topic	Feedback
<b>Draft elements of a recycling and waste centre strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include an element on effective cost saving measures while still maintaining or improving the current level of diversion.</li> <li>• With regards to “describe future updates to facilities”, suggest prioritizing AI and other structural/capital investments to ensure longevity. This is an area that private sector could collaborate.</li> <li>• Potential locations and reduction of GHG emissions are linked and important as the population increases throughout the region. Changes to zoning can negatively impact the potential and existing locations for recycling facilities. Important that municipalities set aside areas in their OCP to allow for these facilities to be built and operated.</li> <li>• Identify the type of waste that Metro Vancouver is targeting – who are the customers?</li> <li>• Include expansion of services in the draft elements.</li> </ul>
Committee Function	Feedback
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestion to convene a working group outside of the IAC to give feedback on this topic – target users of the facilities.</li> <li>• Preference is to have consensus or a voting system when determining decisions regarding the solid waste management plan update.</li> </ul>
	Additional comments / questions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why are solid waste facilities owned and managed by Metro Vancouver instead of the private sector?</li> <li>• Is this strategy going to address the lack of infrastructure?</li> </ul>

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bryan, Lori, Executive Director, Waste Management Association of BC (Co-Chair) (via teleconference)  
 Craig Hodge, Director, Zero Waste Committee (Co-Chair)  
 Agassiz, Sam – West Coast Reduction Ltd.  
 Atkinson, Brooke  
 Collins, James – Tymac Launch Service Ltd.  
 Crawford, Jeremy – Waste Control Services  
 Gauci, Joanne Gauci – NZWC  
 Hankins, Grant – Canada Minibins.com Ltd.  
 Johnston, Kurt – CleanStart Property Services  
 Kaminski, Jamie – HSR Zero Waste  
 Kheyrandish, Ataollah – Richmond Steel Recycling  
 Lannin, Mike – Super Save Group

MacFarlane, Angus – Growing City  
 Mac Neil, Patrick – Wescan Disposal Ltd.  
 McRae, Ralph – Revolution Infrastructure Inc.  
 Moucachen, Maya – Merlin Plastics  
 Muir, Wesley – Veolia North America (Canada)  
 Pantazopoulos, Dimitri – Waste Connections of Canada  
 Prasad, Shad – Cascade Recovery+  
 Skoropada, Lorne – Ridge Meadows Recycling Society  
 Van Beusekom, Brent – product Care Association  
 Vargas, Pinky – Republic Services  
 Zarbl, Michael – Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable