

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2017

Item 2, Report No. 15, of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session), which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 19, 2017.

2 WASTE DIVERSION PROGRAM - CURBSIDE SWAP DAYS - ALL WARDS

The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Public Works and the Director of Environmental Services, dated April 10, 2017, be approved; and**
- 2) That Communication C4, presentation material titled “Curbside Swap Days, Waste Diversion Programming”, dated April 10, 2017, be received.**

Recommendation

The Deputy City Manager, Public Works and the Director of Environmental Services recommend that:

1. This report be received for information.

Contribution to Sustainability

The new waste diversion programming supports Green Directions Vaughan, Community Sustainability Master Plan, Goal 1:

To significantly reduce our use of natural resources and the amount of waste generated by encouraging all residents to adopt more environmentally conscious choices and consider new ways to reduce their waste.

The promotion of reuse through Curbside Swap Days supports waste diversion and regional goals set through the York Region’s SM4RT Living Plan (Integrated Waste Management Master Plan) by creating avenues for sharing unwanted but serviceable goods and reducing waste to landfill.

Economic Impact

The waste diversion program is supported by the existing budget for Promotion and Education of the Solid Waste Management division.

Communications Plan

Solid Waste Division staff will work directly with Corporate Communications to promote the event days, and co-ordinate with York Region Communications staff to amplify the message through their media channels. The City will use a number of different communications channels, including but not limited to the City’s website, e-Newsletter, social media and mobile and digital signs.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of new waste diversion programming for Vaughan residents, focused on reuse of household goods.

Background

Solid Waste staff are continually working to provide further means of waste reduction, and are focusing specifically in 2017 on bulky items, textiles and household goods.

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The City of Vaughan provides waste diversion services including recycling, organics and leaf and yard waste collection for all eligible residential properties. In addition to these services, the City promotes other means of reducing waste to landfill, including backyard composting, grass-cycling, textile donation and food waste reduction. In order to provide further means of waste reduction and diversion, Solid Waste staff have identified bulky items, textiles and household goods as a priority area for program expansion. With the closing of Goodwill Industries in the GTA and at York Region's Community Environmental Centres, there are fewer options available to dispose of reusable goods, and a greater probability that these materials are being disposed of as residential waste.

In support of York Region's SM4RT Living Plan (Integrated Waste Management Master Plan), and the goals of the Reuse, Repair and Repurpose Strategy, November 2013, we are launching Curbside Swap Days in Vaughan to promote a simple, cost-effective means of reusing household waste. Other York Region communities including King and Georgina have successfully operated similar programs since 2012, while Newmarket launched Curbside Swap Days in 2015. Municipalities across Canada have established comparable events including Guelph, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, and Nanaimo.

Our program will align with the established model in York Region, and promote monthly events where residents are encouraged to place unwanted items in good condition on their property (next to the sidewalk or curb) for other residents to take, free of charge.

To communicate that the items are available for reuse, residents mark them with signage, and all unclaimed items are then removed from the curb by 5 p.m. These events will be marketed as a convenient option to de-clutter, acquire new household goods, and reduce waste to landfill. We propose the following event dates to allow for cross-promotion with other York Region municipalities:

- Saturday, May 27, 2017
- Saturday, June 24, 2017
- Saturday, July 29, 2017
- Saturday, August 26, 2017
- Saturday, September 30, 2017
- Saturday, October 28, 2017

Based on the reports from municipal staff in King, Newmarket and Georgina, no issues were reported due to items left at the curb past the cut-off time, or items being taken that were not marked. Overall, response from the public was positive, and the events were well received.

Creating new diversion programs such as swap events will help the City of Vaughan surpass the 2031 target rate of 289 kg of waste per capita, and allow us to establish more ambitious waste reduction targets.

We anticipate growth in participation throughout the season, as residents become aware of this new opportunity to easily dispense with household goods or obtain new items free of charge. We will work with York Region to ensure widespread promotion, and to measure the impact of the events through social media interaction and surveys, as well as on the ground monitoring.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2015 – 2018)

The introduction of Curbside Swap Days aligns with the following components of service excellence strategy map:

- Term of Council priorities – Continue to cultivate an environmentally sustainable city

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Regional Implications

Through these proposed events, the City continues to support the York Region's SM4RT Living Plan which sets regional targets for waste reduction and waste diversion.

Conclusion

Curbside Swap Days will provide a new means of redistributing unwanted, serviceable household goods to Vaughan residents and reducing our overall waste to landfill.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

Kate Dykman, Manager, Solid Waste Management, ext. 6309

C4

C 4
COMMUNICATION
CW (W5) April 10/17
ITEM - 2

Curbside Swap Days

Waste Diversion Programming

Kate Dykman, Manager, Solid Waste Management
April 10, 2017



Curbside Swap Days

- Specific dates and times where residents are encouraged to place items they no longer need at the edge of their property for others to take
- Branded as Curbside Swap Days or Giveaway Weekends
- Modeled after longstanding, successful events in Canadian cities such as Halifax, Ottawa, Saskatoon, and Winnipeg
- These events promote the “3-R” hierarchy – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



Curbside Swap Days



Program Logistics



Benefits

- Provides a new venue for re-use, given the departure of Goodwill Industries from York Region's Community Environmental Centers
- Supports York Region's SM4RT Living Plan and the Reuse, Repair and Repurpose Strategy
- Helps achieve our target of 5% waste reduction from re-use by 2031, and cost savings in processing
- Builds on the success of equivalent programs in Newmarket, Georgina and King



Curbside Swap Days in York Region



Results from our neighbours

- Estimated 700 homes participated in municipalities of King, Newmarket and Georgina in 2016.
- Most common items included desks, chairs, tables, and metal appliances.
- Staff did not report any issues relating to items left out beyond the end of the event.



Promotions



- City of Vaughan website
- E-newsletter
- Flyers
- Mobile/digital signs
- Social media

Promotions

RECENT ACTIVITY



Jenn Murray

October 29 at 10:22am · 🌐

2 lamps and a black futon free for curbside pick up on beman at and patterson



👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share



Jenn Murray Lamps and futon have been taken. Thanks neighbours!

Like · Reply · October 29 at 12:05pm

OLDER



Rebecca Lance

October 29 at 9:31am · 🌐

We have set out a working treadmill (literally a free gym membership.), white double headboard for child's bed, 30" door, and 2 bbq! Hope they can be of use for some great neighbours in Newmarket. 88 Beswick dr. near Yonge and William Roe.



👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

👍 2

View 1 more comment



Nicole Marie Either bbq still available?

Like · Reply · October 29 at 2:59pm



Rebecca Lance Yes still available on curb welcome to get it tomorrow

Like · Reply · October 29 at 10:01pm



Rebecca Lance Shoot sorry it's gone 😞

Like · Reply · October 29 at 10:01pm

Town of Newmarket @TownofNewmarket
Official Town of Newmarket Twitter account featuring news, events, active living, community information & more. Account is not monitored 24/7.
Newmarket, Ontario
newmarket.ca
Joined July 2009
641 Photos and videos

TWEETS 7,555 FOLLOWING 1,654 FOLLOWERS 10.2K LINES 909 LISTS 2

Tweets Tweets & replies Media

Town of Newmarket @TownofNewmarket · 16h
#WasteReductionWeek Tip: Have unwanted items? Leave them at the curb marked 'free' on Curbside Giveaway Day on Oct 29 from 7am to 5pm.

Town of Newmarket @TownofNewmarket · 13h
Come out to a halloween-themed outdoor discovery & adventure night on Oct 25, 6:30 to 7:30pm at the Community Centre bit.ly/1SfaZ52

Have an account?

☐ Remember me [Forgot password?](#)

[Log in](#)

New to Twitter? [Sign up](#)

New to Twitter? [Sign up](#) now to get your own personalized timeline!

You may also like: [Town of Aurora](#), [Tony Van Bynen](#), [snagd Newmarket](#), [Newmarket Chamber](#), [Town of Georgina](#)

Curbside Swap Day Etiquette

- Take only the items at the curb marked "FREE".
- Respect other people's property – don't walk or drive on people's lawns or gardens.
- Giveaway items should still be in good condition.
- Obey the traffic laws at all times.

Encouraged Swap Items

- Appliances
- Artwork
- Bicycles
- Building materials
- Clothes
- Computers and electronics
- Dishes, cutlery,
- Furniture
- Books/movies/CDs/DVDs
- Kitchen gadgets, utensils
- Musical instruments
- Plants, potted trees, etc.
- Pots and pans
- Sporting goods, toys
- Tools
- Usable paint
- Yard and garden tools and equipment
- Other durable goods



Discouraged Items

- Garbage or recyclables
- Chemicals of any kind
- Food items
- Mattresses
- Dangerous/illegal items
- Car/booster seats
- Baby gates and walkers
- Cribs/cradles
- Toilets

Residents will be referred to the **Consumer Product Safety Bureau** for additional information on non-reusable items.



Post-Event Instructions

For unclaimed items following the events, we will promote local donation and resale options:

- Diabetes Canada
- Kidney Clothes
- Kijiji and Craigslist
- Re-store Vaughan
- Salvation Army
- Local community gifting groups
 - Bunz Trading Zone
 - FreeCycle.org

**DIABETES
CANADA**

kijiji

Habitat for Humanity
ReStore



craigslist



Tracking Participation and Impact

- Feedback received from residents through Access Vaughan
- Observations by City of Vaughan and York Region staff
- Monitoring of media coverage
- Responses to survey question

Questions

Curbside Swap Days: Waste Diversion Programming

Kate Dykman, Manager, Solid Waste Management
April 10, 2017



WASTE DIVERSION PROGRAM - CURBSIDE SWAP DAYS - ALL WARDS

Recommendation

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Attachments

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Report prepared by:

Kate Dykman, Manager, Solid Waste Management, ext. 6309

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Collins, P. Eng.
Deputy City Manager, Public Works

Jennifer Rose
Director, Environmental Services