

Report to Council



Date: September 9, 2024
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Organics collection expansion (food waste) update
Department: Utility Services

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives for information, the report from Utility Services dated September 9, 2024, with respect to updates on the second phase of public consultation on the Regional District of Central Okanagan Food Waste Diversion initiative.

Purpose:

To provide results of the RDCO led public engagement on food waste collection and place within a City of Kelowna context.

Council Priority Alignment:

Climate & Environment

Background:

The current Regional District of Central Okanagan’s Solid Waste Management Plan, approved by the Province in 2020, includes a commitment to re-evaluate organic diversion opportunities. This led to a Food Waste Diversion Feasibility study in 2022. After a review of the RDCO Strategic Priorities in 2023, a review of RDCO food waste diversion opportunities was completed, and a public engagement process was prepared. Phase 1 of this engagement process was undertaken in the fall of 2023, and with a second phase completed in the spring and summer of 2024.

Discussion:

The RDCO has completed the second phase of engagement and wish to present this information to the City of Kelowna Council and to obtain feedback and comment from Council prior to finalizing their report to the RDCO Board. The presentation includes some Kelowna specific context and impacts of potential food waste diversion on City of Kelowna operations and ratepayers.

Conclusion:

Staff continue to support the process to achieving food waste diversion for the region and recognize that this Regional Initiative would be a significant waste reduction milestone that will require City of Kelowna Council Approval to adopt for Kelowna residents.

Internal Circulation:

Community Engagement

Considerations applicable to this report:

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Communications Comments:

Consultation and Engagement:

Submitted by: S. Hoekstra, Landfill & Compost Operations Manager

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Approved for inclusion: M. Logan, General Manager Infrastructure

cc: D. Nobel-Brandt, RDCO