

Food Waste Diversion

Utility Services | June 9, 2025

Agenda

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ RDCO Curbside Food Waste Collection Consultation - Phase 2
- ▶ City of Kelowna Context

RDCO Curbside Food Waste Collection

- ▶ Cynthia Coates,
 - ▶ Supervisor, Solid Waste Services
- ▶ Kit Caufield,
 - ▶ Manager of Environmental Services
- ▶ Travis Kendel,
 - ▶ Associate Director of Development and Engineering

Curbside Food Waste Collection

2025

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4
rdco.com



Agenda

- Purpose
- Background
- Proposed Service
- Public Engagement
- Updated Costing
- Next Steps



Purpose

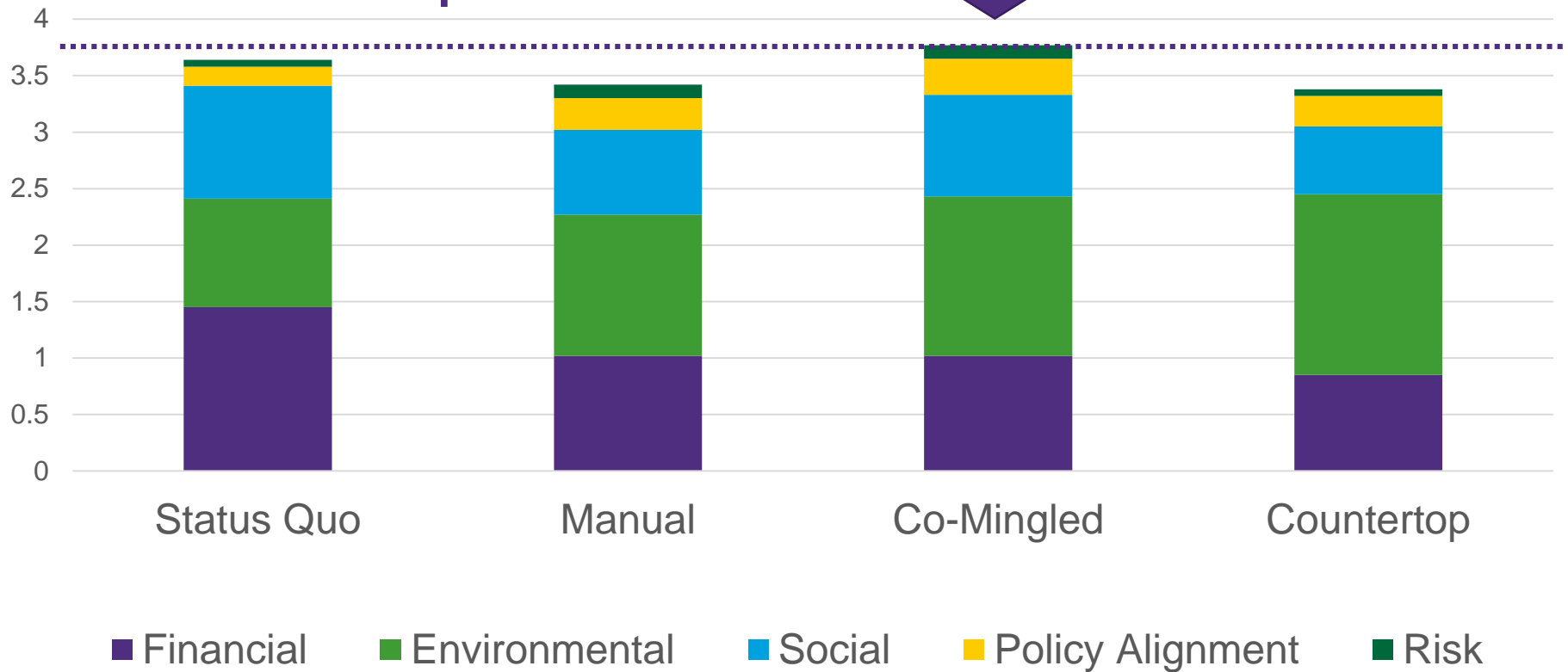
- To provide Council with an update on costing for a curbside food waste program
- To request formal participation in the curbside food waste program



Background – Current Status

- 64,500 households receive curbside collection (garbage, yard waste, recyclables)
- Yard Waste is sent to Glenmore Landfill for composting (Glengrow)
- Over 40% of residential curbside waste is compostable (food waste, soiled paper)
- Strong public support for a curbside food waste program (73%)
- Best option for managing food waste is to include in existing yard waste carts

Feasibility Study – Collection Options



Service Model

- Add food waste to existing curbside yard waste carts
- Collect comingled organics weekly – year round
- Collect garbage bi-weekly
- Single transfer station



Public Engagement



Overall support

There is overall support of a food waste collection program (73%).



Cost concerns

About half of users (49%) are willing to pay up to \$66/HH/Year



Nuisance of wildlife, rodents and odour

Residents have expressed a need to minimize conflict with not only wildlife and rodents. Odours are also a concern.



Scheduling concerns

Bi-weekly garbage collection is a concern, that could be managed through available programs (tag a bag // cart upsizing).

Costing Update

Nov 2024 Report:

\$66 - \$90 / household / year

Q1 2025 – 3rd Party Expert
Consultant engaged to complete
cost analysis update.

Findings: \$63/household/year



Costing Update - Continued

- Full Regional Participation:
 - Service Cost: ~\$63 / HH
 - ~50% of population willing to participate
- Without City of Kelowna
 - Economies of scale
 - Service Cost: >\$150 / HH
 - Less than 13% of population willing to participate

Costing Update – Support @ \$150/HH

		Total	Region						Age		
			Kelowna	West Kelowna	Lake Country	Peachland	Elect Area East (Joe Rich or Ellison)	Elect Area West (Trepanier, Brent Rd)	19-39	40-59	60+
Please indicate your level of support to add a weekly curbside food/ waste collection program for additional cost of \$150/year.	Strongly opposed	16%	15%	19%	17%	14%	11%		14%	20%	14%
	Opposed	22%	24%	21%	20%	19%	19%	24%	19%	24%	22%
	Support	10%	13%	11%	8%	9%	7%		11%	14%	7%
	Strongly support	3%	3%	6%	1%				7%	3%	1%
	Not willing to pay more	37%	32%	31%	43%	50%	57%	76%	33%	33%	43%
	Strongly opposed to \$50/year	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%			4%	1%	1%
	Strongly opposed to \$100/year	10%	10%	11%	9%	7%	6%		12%	6%	12%
Total	Base:	516	162	146	130	59	14	4	125	175	215

Next Steps

May - June

Seeking formal participation from Councils



July 17, 2025

Present outcome to Regional Board



*Possible Next Steps**

Secure partner funding contributions



Procurement of land, contractors and capital



Service Launch

**dependent on municipal participation*



Thank you

City of Kelowna Context

- ▶ Current organics diversion in Kelowna is significant
 - ▶ Approx 45,000 tonnes of organics managed
 - ▶ Approx 15,000 tonnes from curbside collection
 - ▶ Approx 21,000 Biosolids composted
- ▶ *GlenGrow*[™] and other non-putrescible organics are managed with minimal nuisance complaints
- ▶ Processing of mixed yard and food waste would not occur at the *Glengrow*[™] compost operation

City of Kelowna Context

- ▶ Expansion of the residential organics diversion would not consider the Commercial and multi-family (apartment) segments
- ▶ Uncertainty around transfer station location and design
 - ▶ Location
 - ▶ Nuisance mitigation in urban areas
 - ▶ Total costs
 - ▶ Future expansion and scalability
- ▶ Expect fee increase to range from \$60 to \$70
 - ▶ Current User Fee is \$198.34 (30 to 35% increase)

City of Kelowna Context

Food Waste Diversion

Benefits	Challenges / Gaps
Small increase in landfill lifetime	Lose approximately half of GlenGrow™ feedstocks resulting in less compost available for local market
Overall lower green house gas emissions	Potential for increased nuisances at curbside
Allows for growth in current recycling and water operations (existing and future)	This program would not address rapidly growing multi-family or commercial food waste
Increased return of nutrients to the natural environment	Increase in User fee estimated at \$63 from current \$198 (32%)
May defer some capital and equipment replacement projects	Lower landfill gas revenue with same capital and operating costs

City of Kelowna Context

► *Glengrow* Composting Impacts

Benefits	Challenges / Gaps
May defer some capital and equipment replacement projects	Lose approximately half of GlenGrow™ feedstocks resulting in less compost available for local market
Allow small increase in space for other small scale waste diversion opportunities	Smaller scale of operations - expect unit cost of Glengrow operation will increase

City of Kelowna Recommendation

- ▶ Staff recommend that
 - ▶ City of Kelowna not proceed at this time with the expansion of the organics program by including food waste
 - ▶ food waste diversion from landfill be included in the 2030 update to the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan
 - ▶ future versions of this work include consideration of commercial and multi-family (apartment) residential diversion



Questions?

For more information, visit kelowna.ca.