

Supporting Document 1: Parks Waste Collection and Diversion Strategy Options Analysis

Staff Recommendations				
Staff are recommending options one, two and three for the implementation over the next four years. Staff are committing to explore further waste diversion opportunities including options four, five and six.				
	Options Considered	Option Description	Benefits	Risks
1.	Install 3-stream waste receptacles (garbage/organics/recycling) into all District (Destination), Community and Neighbourhood Parks with sports fields or similar amenities as per the City’s established Park Classification System.	This option would see the existing 360L 3-stream carts located at 55 pilot parks currently, installed using a phased-in approach in all District (Destination), Community and Neighbourhood parks with sports fields or similar amenities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding 3-stream waste collection service into approximately 349 parks based on the success of the Waste Diversion in Parks Pilot currently in place at 55 parks • Aligning with recommendations in the 2018/2020 audits to consider expanding recycling and organics into larger parks i.e. District, Community and Neighbourhood parks sports fields based on documented capture and diversion rates • Supporting increased participation in waste diversion programs in public spaces across the City • Supporting increased diversion rates in District, Community and Neighbourhood parks with sports fields, representing more than 30% of parks currently serviced by SWS • Supporting the City’s overall greenhouse gas emission reduction goals by diverting food and organic waste away from landfills as detailed by the SWMP • Supporting consistency in city-wide waste collection service levels at District, Community and Neighbourhood parks with sports fields and similar amenities for residents and visitors • Supporting increased operational and financial efficiencies through increased cart capacity, the use of single-operator automated collection vehicles and reduced staffing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital and operational costs associated with installation and service expansion to support additional resourcing, equipment and processing requirements • Costs and storage space considerations for the removal of existing waste receptacles • Space requirements for seasonal storage and deployment of carts for parks that are not winter maintained • Additional costs associated with expanding recycling collection services to be borne by the City as a result of the Blue Box IPR regulation and uncertainty around the future servicing of recyclables in public space, including City parks • IPR regulation may see the City no longer involved in parks recycling collection which could impact current SWS parks waste collection operations
2.	Install organics waste receptacles into parks with an off-leash designation as	This option proposes to install the existing 360L organic carts used as part of the 3-stream system, through a phased-in approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding organic service into approximately 119 parks with an off-leash designation based on the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital and operational costs associated with installation, collection and processing to support

	<p>identified through the City's Dogs-in-Parks Designation Policy.</p>	<p>in all parks city-wide with an off-leash designation, excluding those to be serviced by 3-stream. This would mean that organics carts and collection service would be made available city-wide in all parks with an off-leash designation outside of District (Destination), Community and Neighbourhood parks.</p>	<p>success of the organics and dog waste receptacles temporarily installed at 13 parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligning with recommendations in 2018/2020 audits to consider expanding organics into larger and or dog-friendly parks to maximize diversion and capture rates Supporting increased participation in waste diversion programs in public spaces across the City Supporting the City's overall greenhouse gas emission reduction goals by diverting food and organic waste away from landfills as detailed by the SWMP Supporting service level consistency in parks with off-leash designations city-wide Helping to meet demand for increased service and dog-waste disposal requirements among residents and visitors accessing parks with off-leash designations Providing additional capacity and odor mitigation compared to open temporary barrels used currently Supporting increased operational and financial efficiencies through increased cart capacity, the use of single-operator automated collection vehicles and reduced staffing Aligning with approach being undertaken in Toronto as per municipal scan to expand organics into parks with an off-leash designation 	<p>additional resourcing, equipment and processing requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs and storage space considerations for the removal of existing waste receptacles and seasonal storage and deployment of carts for parks that are not winter maintained Potential for increased contamination of organics without having garbage and recycling carts co-located with organics carts
<p>3.</p>	<p>Update and standardize park waste receptacles and signage to help address known service-related issues (i.e. illegal dumping, pest control and maintenance issues) and support operational efficiency.</p>	<p>This option would have SWS staff working with Parks Planning staff to identify new standard park waste receptacle (s) to be used for garbage and installed in all city parks not identified for 3-stream waste diversion service. The preferred container would have an easily accessible lid and consider factors such as coordinating with existing park infrastructure and addressing SWS concerns around operational efficiencies, maintenance issues and service-related issues including illegal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing consistency for use and service and a cohesive look across all city parks Addressing identified service-related and operational efficiency issues (i.e. maintenance issues, illegal dumping and pest control) with an improved receptacle style Potential to consider larger capacity receptacles for increased operational efficiency and reduced service-related issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued issues of illegal dumping with waste placed beside or on top of receptacles Capital costs associated with replacing waste receptacles ahead of or not identified for new park development and life-cycle replacement Receptacle selection is limited to current city-approved suppliers in line with City procurement practices and pricing

		dumping, pest control and odors. This new standard would be installed in all parks with existing garbage receptacles and service. In addition, any required signage to be installed on garbage cans would also be standardized across the City to ensure clear and consistent messaging around waste disposal requirements in City parks. Parks would be prioritized for replacement in line with the City's park development and life-cycle projects in order to maximize efficiencies and cost savings.		
4.	Consider future installation of beverage-specific lids on blue bin recycling carts in all 3-stream locations and/or sports fields specifically to reduce contamination	This option would consider the future installation of more restrictive dome-styled beverage specific lids on the existing 360L blue box recycling carts in order to further reduce material contamination compared to the current more open-style lid. This option could be piloted in specific locations to assess effectiveness prior to a city-wide roll out or replacement of existing lids.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for further reduction in contamination and increased capture rate of recyclables • Aligns with recommendations in 2018/2020 audits to install more restrictive lids to help further reduce contamination and increase capture rates • Aligns with pilot approach being undertaken in Toronto as per municipal scan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital costs associated with the procurement and installation of the new lids • IPR regulation may see the City no longer involved in parks recycling collection which could impact current SWS parks waste collection operations • Potential for increased operational challenges and/or illegal dumping as loose material is left around or on top of carts • Potential accessibility issues that need to be further evaluated by SWS
5.	Scale up waste diversion services to support events held in City parks managed through Centralized Allocations	This option would include the delivery of recycling and/or organics carts by SWS staff to park locations with events booked through the City's Recreation and Cultural Facilities Department's (RCFS) Centralized Allocations Branch, typically over the weekend, with waste collection service taking place on Mondays, as well as cart removal and return. Consideration would need to be given to providing day of/weekend waste collection services to support demand as well as aligning waste collection services to more heavily used parks. Details and feasibility of this option require input and discussion with the Centralized Allocations Branch within RCFS. These events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting increased waste diversion at events held in City parks • Supporting collection efficiencies and improved waste collection operations following weekend events that slow down the collection process as a result of illegally dumped waste left behind • Aligns with Action Suite 3 – Waste Minimization and Diversion at Special Events as outlined in the SWMP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital and operational costs associated with process development and service implementation, with resources required to support increased service levels • Challenges with existing resources and current service delivery model to deliver/remove carts during sporting events which mainly take place on weekends with multiple events taking place over the course of one day • Increased collection demands for current parks waste collection operations with no established dedicated resources or routes to service weekend events • IPR regulation may see the City no longer involved in parks recycling collection which could impact current SWS parks waste collection operations

		would fall outside of those events coordinated through the City's Event Central Office where event organizers are responsible for establishing their own waste management plans.		
6.	Green parks – take your waste home – removal of waste receptacles in smaller parks with limited amenities (i.e. Parkettes, Urban Parkettes/Plazas)	This option would consider the removal of existing waste receptacles at Parkettes and or Urban Parkettes/Plazas with limited amenities in order to reduce waste collection requirements and encourage residents to help maintain clean greenspace by taking their waste home with them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting environmental sustainability initiatives and maintaining clean/green park space for resident and visitor use • Encouraging accountability and ownership of waste among residents and visitors of City parks • Increasing operational efficiency by reducing overall waste collection requirements and freeing up resources to support other collection priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital and operational costs associated with the removal of waste receptacles • Potential increase in illegal dumping with additional demands placed on PMFS and SWS collection staff to support litter picking and waste collection services as a result • Potential for political/public concern re: service level reduction