



# City of Port Moody

## Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: July 12, 2022  
Submitted by: Engineering and Operations Department – Solid Waste, Fleet, and Shared Services Division  
Subject: Solid Waste and Recycling Report 2020-2021

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### Purpose

To submit the City's Annual Solid Waste and Recycling Report for Council's information.

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### Recommended Resolution(s)

**THAT the report dated July 12, 2022 from the Engineering and Operations Department – Solid Waste, Fleet, and Shared Services Division regarding Solid Waste and Recycling Report 2020-2021 be received for information.**

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### Background

The City operates a Solid Waste Utility that provides collection of garbage, recycling, green waste, and glass materials for most residential and some industrial, commercial, and institutional collection properties in Port Moody.

The Solid Waste & Recycling, Fleet, and Shared Services Division is responsible for the Solid Waste Utility which serves close to 12,000 households. In addition to the curbside collection programs the Division is also responsible for street litter collection, public waste collection, graffiti removal and the Adopt-A Street program. Further, the Division manages contracted services that provide collection services for multi-family complexes and City facilities.

The regional framework for solid waste management in the Metro Vancouver region is the *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan (ISWRMP)*, which was approved by the province in 2011 and includes goals to minimize waste generation and maximize reuse, recycling, and material recovery. Metro Vancouver, working together with member municipalities continuously undertakes actions to achieve goals under the plan with the implementation of several disposal bans on items such as hazardous waste, recyclable materials, organics (including food waste), and clean wood waste. Metro Vancouver reports that these bans, along with expanding recycling options, and publishing creative campaigns to change how we think about waste, have had continued success. Metro Vancouver is now in the engagement phase of an updated regional solid waste plan which will guide future waste generation, reduction, and management goals within the Metro Vancouver Region.

This report, and its attachment, provides a brief summary of activities and accomplishments by the Division through 2020 and 2021.

## Discussion

The Solid Waste and Recycling Report (2020-2021) (**Attachment 1**) illustrates a summary of the City's solid waste reduction programs, services, objectives, and measured results.

With over ten years of in-house service, successful waste diversion accomplishments have been achieved through the last two years:

- ongoing service delivery of solid waste collection programs;
- initiatives and activities designed to promote waste reduction and prevention ;
- inventive and creative communication campaigns and publications;
- public engagement through outreach at City events and at schools;
- adoption and implementation of a single-use plastic bylaw (BL3301);
- updating the Solid Waste and MTIA bylaws to include the ability to require wildlife enclosures;
- publishing statistics and data on the public facing Open Data Portal;
- reducing recycling contamination rates through outreach and curbside audits; and,
- implementing process improvements – transitioning from a paper-based data collection system to utilizing the City's software-based maintenance management system.

The COVID-19 Pandemic had an impact on the Solid Waste Utility. In the second quarter of 2020, health orders from the Provincial Health office directed the public and businesses to restrict human contact. These restrictions forced people to isolate, work from home, and businesses were either shut down and or were unable to operate at full capacity. With more people unable to work or working from home, dwelling spaces were decluttered and reconfigured to accommodate home offices, exercise rooms, and children's learning areas. More time was spent and home and in neighbourhoods. Overall waste quantities notably decreased regionally with commercial closures, but household waste increased slightly. A considerable increase of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks and gloves had begun to show up in waste streams.

The Solid Waste and Recycling (2020 – 2021) report demonstrates that despite the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Port Moody's waste collection service was able to maintain close to pre-pandemic diversion rates and continued to implement measures to further the City's environmental goals. In 2020 and 2021, service complaints continue to be minimal and we appreciated residents' understanding as we work through unexpected conditions during COVID-19.

As noted in the report, contamination in the recycling stream continues to be a challenge and staff have been working hard to reduce contamination through community outreach and audit programs to educate residents. Port Moody collects recycling via a single stream model which increases resident participation and results in higher volumes collected curbside. This approach leads to higher diversion rates but can negatively impact material quality and can be more difficult to manage when compared to a multi-stream program which has multiple receptacles. In May of 2020 at the request of RecycleBC, staff initiated a

new Contamination Remediation Plan (CRP) to address contamination in the recycling stream. This CRP targets a 25% decrease in contamination from current levels of 10.7%. Lowering our recycling contamination rate is important to meet the City's contractual obligations with RecycleBC, avoid potential fines, and maximize the quality of recyclables collected curbside.

Port Moody values responsible and sustainable environmental practices. On April 22, 2022, City of Port Moody Single Use Plastic Bylaw, 2021, No 3301 went into effect as an initiative to help reduce harmful plastics in the environment.

Efforts to protect residents, the public, and wildlife remain a top priority. The City's Environment, Bylaws, Operations, and Communications Divisions work collectively with BC Conservation to ensure the community is educated around effectively managing waste and removing wildlife attractants. Storing carts in garages or enclosed areas proves to be the best deterrent as bears can force their way into exposed carts where they are accessible. To further protect wildlife, the public, and residents Council approved a bylaw amendment (BL3329) to increase cart storage requirements in the spring of 2022.

## Other Options

No alternatives recommended.

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the receipt of the Solid Waste and Recycling Report.

## Communications / Civic Engagement

The Solid Waste and Recycling Report will be posted on the City website, with a hard copy made available to the public at City Hall.

## Council Strategic Plan Objectives

This report is consistent with Council's goals of Exceptional Service Delivery, Environmental Leadership and Community Evolution.

## Attachments:

1. Solid Waste and Recycling Report 2020-2021.

## Report Author

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Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Solid Waste and Recycling Report 2020-2021.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - 2020-2021 Port Moody Solid Waste and Recycling Report.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jul 18, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jeff Moi, General Manager of Engineering and Operations - Jul 14, 2022 - 6:34 PM

Lindsay Todd for Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement -  
Jul 15, 2022 - 8:27 AM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Jul 17, 2022 - 12:40 PM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Jul 18, 2022 - 4:00 PM