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Town of Aurora

Memorandum

Planning and Development Services

Re: Corporate Waste Audit and Reduction Plan Update

To: Environmental Advisory Committee

From: Natalie Kehle, Program Manager, Energy and Environment

Date: April 20, 2026

Recommendation

1. That the memorandum regarding Corporate Waste Audit and Reduction Plan Update be received; and
2. That the Environmental Advisory Committee comments regarding Corporate Waste Audit and Reduction Plan Update be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Background

The Town's latest five-year Energy Conservation Demand Management Plan (ECDMP) includes the quantification of GHG emissions from Town-owned facilities, fleet, water/wastewater facilities, street lighting and from corporate waste generation. Solid waste sources from corporate sources including facilities, parks and public waste receptacles. Quantification of solid waste generated at the Town under the 2024 ECDMP was based on desk-top estimations. Performing physical waste audits to improve accuracies and to create a targeted reduction plan for corporate waste was identified as an action item in the 2024 ECDMP.

Analysis

The Town retained the consulting services of AET Inc. to perform the waste audits and develop the reduction plan. The project commenced in December 2025 with the study completion date planned for May 2026. The project consists of the following elements:

1. Undertaking a review of relevant regulations and trends that may impact corporate solid waste management practices and circular economy and how they impact the Town's corporate reduction plan.
2. Reviewing best practices and undertaking a comparative analysis from other municipalities and corporations to inform the reduction plan.
3. Performing solid waste audits at selected Town-owned locations including at facilities, parks and other public receptacles.
4. Developing a baseline inventory of corporate solid waste and 2050 projections.
5. Developing a solid waste reduction plan that aligns with the Town's 2024 ECDMP net-zero by 2050 target, including an implementation plan, monitoring strategy and financial impacts.

The following Town locations were selected for the waste audit:

Facilities:

- Joint Operation Centre
- Stronach Aurora Recreational Complex
- Aurora Senior Centre
- Aurora Town Hall
- Aurora Town Square

Parks, roadside receptacles and Town-run events:

- Arboretum Trail and Lambert Wilson Park
- Aurora Town Park
- Edward Coltham Park
- Fleury Park
- Machell Park
- Roadside receptacles along Yonge Street and Wellington Street (5 locations)
- Arctic Adventure – (Town run event held on February 16th)

Attachments

none