

## Clerks

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**From:** Shoshanah Jacobs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 5:01 PM  
**To:** Clerks  
**Subject:** Comment - SWMMP

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Dear Clerks, I would like to provide the following comments to the Council of the Whole meeting scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup> at 13.00 on agenda item 5.1.

Dear Members of Council,

Change is hard. It is rarely popular. And sometimes we need to adjust later. These are all important ideas that the Solid Waste Management team kept with them through the entire process of developing recommendations for change in Guelph. As an Associate Professor at the University of Guelph, I had the pleasure of meeting and working with them in my capacity as instructor of the IdeasCongress undergraduate course, mentioned on Page 7 of the recommendations document under Community Engagement. I was also part of the community consultations as an individual citizen of Guelph and I had the opportunity to meet with several members of the team one-on-one on many occasions.

The Solid Waste Management team has provided an excellent evidence and community-informed report with recommendations that are achievable within the timeframe. As a member of the The University of Guelph community as well, I know that there has already been much invested in accessibly reducing single use plastics on campus. The success is exciting and the culture of change has happened.

The City of Guelph is recognised as a leader in circular and sustainable economic living. Changing the way that we manage waste will be the next step in a long series of exciting ways that we support sustainable practices. Specific to the recommendations about reducing single use plastics, these are a necessary first step and we will adapt quickly.

I am grateful to Mayor Cam Guthrie for connecting us with the SWM team. It has meant the world to us as a class and as professors dedicated to community-engaged research.

I am grateful to the Solid Waste Management Team on behalf of myself, my colleague, Dr. Dan Gillis, and all the students whose careers were launched from the experiences that they had working on this project. Several students have shifted their research interests to plastics reduction or circular economy design and the rest learned essential transferable skills that will stay with them wherever they go.

Shoshanah Jacobs



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Please note: I send and read emails during my working hours. I do not expect those hours to align with yours. If you receive an email from me during your non-working hours, please do not respond until you're at work, of course!

And another thing: The often overwhelming volume of emails that I receive in a day might mean that yours gets lost in the shuffle. You know how it is. Please, if I do not respond to you within a timeline that is 1) reasonable, or 2) reflects the urgency of your needs, feel free to resend and get it back to the top of the inbox.

