

Attachment-1 Supplemental Information

Downtown Waste Project Findings

The Downtown Waste Project shortlisted three design concepts that were used in community engagement.

Door-to-Door Collection

Through the Downtown Waste Project's engagement and analysis, the door-to-door collection concept to service properties was found to have technical barriers and was not preferred by the public compared to the current system.

Underground Communal Container

An underground communal container system was determined to be the preferred concept to collect waste from properties, best meeting the technical criteria by creating more storage volume without dominating the street level right-of-way, and had clear public support, leading on all measures surveyed.

Underground containers are commonly used on commercial and multi-residential properties worldwide, including here in Guelph. While commonly used for municipal collection in dense European cities (including similar climates like northern Norway), they have been less commonly used in North America but have been adopted in some similar urban environments for downtown renewal purposes such as Québec City, Kitchener, Brantford, Raleigh (North Carolina), Kissimmee (Florida), and Clearwater (Florida).

Enhanced Cart Collection

A third concept, an expanded and enhanced automated cart collection system including options for enclosed outdoor storage in the public right-of-way, was the next most preferred option to service properties. This concept has more limited potential to create storage volume, competes for space in the right-of-way (with or without storage enclosures), and was perceived as only a small improvement during engagement. This concept may be applied on difficult-to-service streets and during the construction duration of the Downtown Infrastructure Renewal Program (DTIRP).

Downtown Waste Design Guideline

Following community engagement on the above design concepts, a Downtown Waste Design Guideline was prepared, detailing how the preferred concepts of underground communal containers with enhanced cart collection to address gaps could best be implemented to meet the needs of Downtown Guelph. The Downtown Waste Design Guideline is intended to be used to select products (litter containers and underground containers) and to guide civil design during the DTIRP to effectively determine locations for waste infrastructure.

Accessibility aspects of the Downtown Waste Design Guideline were approved by the Accessibility Advisory Committee on April 16, 2024.

Costs and Implementation Sequence

The exact timing of the budget needs depends on the timing of the DTIRP construction and are summarized, by project, in Table 2 below. Underground communal container construction would be included within the scope of DTIRP work to allow efficient design and construction.

The litter containers may be installed ahead of DTIRP construction and simply relocated when construction comes to a street. They are shown to be implemented in one phase.

Communal container systems may require permitting from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks to operate. A 12-month service standard to respond to applications exists which would potentially allow for required permits to be obtained in time for construction of the Wyndham Street North Corridor in 2026.

Table 2: 2025 10 Multi-Year Budget for Downtown Collection Area by DTIRP Phase

Project	Capital Cost	Operation and Maintenance Cost
Litter containers for entire Downtown Collection Area	\$265,000	\$210,000
Wyndham-Wellington Water and Wastewater Capacity Improvements (No underground communal containers)	\$0	\$0
Wyndham Street North Reconstruction - Farquhar to Woolwich underground communal containers	\$190,000	\$50,000
Macdonell Bridge and Allan's Dam Structures (No underground communal containers)	\$0	\$0
Macdonell Street Reconstruction - Wyndham to Wellington underground communal containers	\$150,000	\$40,000
Quebec Street Reconstruction - Norfolk to Wyndham underground communal containers	\$115,000	\$30,000
Douglas Street and Cork Street Reconstruction underground communal containers	\$75,000	\$20,000
Yarmouth Street Reconstruction - Woolwich to Quebec underground communal containers	\$75,000	\$20,000
Woolwich Street Reconstruction - London to Macdonell underground communal containers	\$150,000	\$40,000
Northumberland Street, Kent Street and Dublin Street (No underground communal containers)	\$0	\$0
Subtotal underground communal containers for entire Downtown Collection Area	\$755,000	\$200,000
10 Multi-Year Budget Total	\$1,020,000	\$410,000