



Minutes Waste Resource Innovation Centre Public Liaison Advisory Committee

**Thursday, October 17, 2024, 7:00 pm
Remote meeting via Cisco Webex**

Members: **S. Casey
L. Conrad
R. Forrest Smith
S. Halloran
D. Marchant
G. Price**

Absent: **D. Shinde**

Staff: **C. Walsh, Divisional Manager Solid Waste Research
D. Turner, Environmental Management Specialist
Dylan McMahon
Winnie Chan**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:02 p.m.

1.1 First Nation Acknowledgement

1.2 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures.

1.3 Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Member Smith

Seconded by: Member Conrad

That the minutes from the June 19, 2024 meeting of the Waste Resource Innovation Centre Public Liaison Committee, be approved.

Carried

2. Items for Discussion

2.1 Advisory Committee Update

Dylan McMahon, Acting General Manager, City Clerk's Office presented on this topic.

Member Price asked if the proposed new environment committee would start from scratch or if current members would merge.

Answer: If the creation of the new committee is approved by Council, all seats on existing committees will become vacant and then vacancies will go to the public to be filled.

Member Price asked what the proposed size of the new committee will be.

Answer: the ACOC framework suggests ACOCs should have 7, 9 or 11 members. Final number of members will be determined upon creation of the Terms of Reference (ToR). The specific composition of members will also be determined in ToR and appointment to a committee will be merit based.

Chair Marchant asked what functions of the existing PLC will be in the new ACOC vs. the working group.

Answer: There are currently two parts to the PLC's ToR. The part about being kept informed of operations at the WRIC, which is the statutory component from the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA), will be part of the working group. The part about providing advice on circular economy and climate change as they relate to waste management will be part of the new ACOC.

Member Conrad asked if we are sure the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is OK with the proposed change.

Answer: The City will need to speak with the MECP but prior to the most recent update to the ToR, the only component of the PLC mandate was the part about WRIC operations, which will remain in the working group. There is no requirement in the ECA for the PLC to be an ACOC. Members could choose to be on the new ACOC, the PLC (as a working group) or both.

Cam Walsh asked if the future PLC can provide advice to the new ACOC.

Answer: The PLC as a working group can provide input to staff who can issue reports to Council.

Member Halloran asked why the proposed new committee was "Planning, Environment and Water"? Why is water called out specifically but not waste?

Answer: Planning is included because there is a statutory requirement to have a planning ACOC. Water is included because there was discussion through the process that some of Guelph's identity is tied to water.

Member Price asked if there would be more consideration for equal representation on the new committee for a diverse group of people.

Answer: yes, the City has measured demographics and the goal is to match membership to City demographics. There has been progress on this and there are options being considered to help improve. Ultimately membership is based on the ToR and evaluation of an applicant's merits.

Member Marchant noted that fewer ACOCs with more meetings may be a challenge for some to have availability to participate.

Dylan McMahon noted this is understood and there are proposed options being considered to help.

The PLC discussed the new ACOC proposed title, including whether to propose changes.

Vote 1 Moved by: Member Price

Seconded by: Member Conrad

Vote 2 Moved by: Member Conrad

Seconded by: Member Price

That the Waste Resource Innovation Centre Public Liaison Advisory Committee (WRIC PLC) recommends to City Council the creation of a Planning, Environment and Water Advisory Committee.

Carried

That the WRIC PLC recommends to City Council to transition the statutory elements of the WRIC PLC to an alternate form of engagement.

Carried

2.2 Operations Update

Dan Turner, Environmental Management System Specialist provided a presentation on this topic.

Member Smith requested that waste quantities provide a comparison to historical average year to date (YTD) instead of 12-month total so they can be compared to current YTD.

Some questions were submitted by Member Smith, which will be discussed in the next meeting.

3. Chair and Staff Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Adjournment

Moved by: Member Smith

Seconded by: Member Price

That the Waste Resource Innovation Centre Public Liaison Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

5. Next Meeting

To be scheduled using online poll.