Organics Landfill Bans

The City of Calgary
Agenda

• Background
• ICI Strategy Development
• Current status of management of organics
• Ongoing consultation
• Ban details
• Education
• Lessons learned
Background

- 34% of waste was from ICI (Industrial, Commercial and Institutional) sector
- 25% of that was organics
- Other major material was paper and cardboard (35%)

ICI Strategy

- Diversion goal of 80% by 2020*
- Started engagement in 2012
  - Consultant researched best practices
  - Best practices were ranked by stakeholders
  - Stakeholders engaged on timeline

*this goal has since been adjusted
Stakeholders’ Preferred Options

- Most highly rated options by stakeholders were:
  - Zero waste special events
  - Waste diversion promotion
  - Food redirection
  - Mandatory source separation
  - Establish a working group on ICI waste diversion
Waste Diversion for Businesses and Organizations
City initiatives at a glance

**RECYCLABLES**
- Paper and cardboard
- Plastic containers with recycling symbols 1–7
- Food cans and foil
- Glass jars and bottles
- Scrap metal
- Untreated wood
- Clear plastic film

**FOOD AND YARD WASTE**
- Plate scrapings, dressings and sauces
- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, bones, eggshells and dairy
- Bread, noodles and rice
- Paper plates and napkins
- Fats, cooking oils and grease
- Leaves, plants and branches

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**Timeline**

- **OCT 5, 2015 BYLAW APPROVED**
  Council approves bylaw requiring businesses and organizations to provide recycling by Nov. 1, 2016.

- **FEB 1, 2016 RATE INCREASE**
  Higher fee for commercial loads with paper and cardboard disposed at City landfills.*

- **NOV 1, 2016 BYLAW IN EFFECT**
  Businesses and organizations must provide recycling for their employees and customers.

- **OCT 1, 2018 LANDFILL BAN**
  Financial penalty and possible refusal of service for commercial loads with paper and cardboard disposed at City landfills.*

- **NOV 1, 2017 BYLAW APPROVED**
  Council approves bylaw requiring businesses and organizations to provide separate food and yard waste collection by Nov. 1, 2017.

- **NOV 1, 2017 BYLAW IN EFFECT**
  Businesses and organizations must provide separate food and yard waste collection.

- **OCT 1, 2018 RATE INCREASE**
  Higher fee for commercial loads with food and yard waste disposed at City landfills.*

- **OCT 1, 2019 LANDFILL BAN**
  Financial penalty and possible refusal of service for commercial loads with food and yard waste disposed at City landfills.*

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*All rates and fees subject to Council approval.
Current status: organic waste management

• Green Cart program implemented 2017
• Bylaw took effect Nov. 1, 2017 requiring multi-family and ICI properties to divert food and yard waste
• Primarily handled by the private sector
Current consultation

- Stakeholders → ICI Working Group
- Made up of businesses/organizations, haulers, processors
- Small businesses underrepresented
- Self-selected but open to anyone
Who’s affected by the ban?

- All commercial loads are included – so ICI and MF sectors
- All food waste and all yard waste are included
- Single family waste is handled by our own collection trucks and won’t be inspected at this time
Enforcement

• Based on random inspection of commercial vehicles

• No specific threshold – any amount can trigger the higher rate

• Inspectors at each of our 3 landfill sites
Monitoring Success

• Waste composition studies
Public Education

• Have been focusing on bylaw compliance

• Complex – what’s the pathway that the waste takes from the place of generation to landfill?

• City collection services

• Going forward
Lessons learned

• Think about the whole system
  • Consider the flow of materials from generation to ban location

• Engagement

• Communication/education
Thank you!

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