

DATE: June 9, 2022

FILE: 5360-31

TO: Chair and Directors
Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board

Supported by James Warren
Deputy Chief Administrative
Officer

FROM: James Warren
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

J. Warren

RE: CSWM Capital Project Updates

Purpose

To provide status updates on the Regional Organics Compost Project (Compost Project), Cell 2 Construction Project (Cell 2 Project) and Campbell River Landfill Closure Project (CR Closure Project).

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

For information only.

Executive Summary

Regional Compost Project

The Compost Project, a strategic priority of the Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) Board, will provide in-region organics waste processing critical to advance the waste diversion goals in the current Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP).

- Staff have been advancing the Compost Project with the goal of a fully commissioned facility by end of fall 2022. Construction of both the transfer station in Cumberland and compost facility in Campbell River are well underway.
- Preparation is ongoing to ensure the successful implementation of this new service, including communication and education outreach, the procurement of kitchen catchers, working with the City of Courtenay (Courtenay) and City of Campbell River (Campbell River) on aligning their curbside collection service contracts with the commencement of food waste collection ideally by no later than Q1 2023, with the understanding that both municipalities are advancing their respective contract negotiations towards this goal.
- Staff will be working with the member municipalities to develop a comprehensive and effective communication and education campaign centered around three key points:
 1. When the new food waste collection service will be starting;
 2. When the new kitchen catchers will be available; and
 3. How residents should be using their new kitchen catchers.
- The goal is to align the distribution of campaign materials with the member municipalities' calendar distribution in November/December 2022 to:
 1. Reduce the number of mailouts required;
 2. Save money through coordination with other mailouts;
 3. Improve the odds of residents reading and retaining the information for future reference; and

4. Provide an additional touchpoint with all residents within the participating communities.
 - For Courtenay and Campbell River:
 1. The educational objectives are to create awareness of the new compost program, “what goes where”, importance of contamination.
 2. Since this is a new program for Courtenay and Campbell River residents, the intent is to provide kitchen catchers for all Courtney and Campbell River residents, delivered to individual homes.
 - For the Village of Cumberland (Cumberland) and Town of Comox (Comox) who are already in the pilot compost program since 2013:
 1. The educational objectives are to increase uptake in the compost program and increase awareness of contamination.
 2. Consultation with municipal staff indicate all of their residents should receive a new kitchen catcher to renew/generate interest in the compost program.
 - A high level project timeline is outlined below in Table 1:

Table 1: Regional Compost Project Timeline

Timeline	2021				2022				2023
	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Compost facility and transfer station design	Completed	Completed							
Phase 2 public engagement		Completed							
Regulatory/DP permit approvals		Completed	Completed						
ITT for construction			Completed						
Construction award				Completed					
Construction				Completed	Completed	Completed	Pending		
Compost facility commissioning								Pending	Pending
Education and communication campaign								Pending	Pending
Municipal organic collection phased in									Pending

Completed
Pending

Table 2: Regional Compost Project Budget

Budget (2021/2022)	Costs To Date	Budget Remaining	Budget Status
\$17,300,000	\$3,600,000	\$13,700,000	Tracking on budget

Campbell River Landfill Closure Project

The CR Closure Project, is the closure of the historical landfill at the Campbell River Waste Management Center including the installation of a landfill gas collection and flaring system.

- Tendering for closure works closed at the end of March 2022 and the two bids received were within approved project budget and were tightly grouped reflecting a competitive procurement process and a well-defined design.
- As of May 4, 2022, the Campbell River landfill reached full capacity and the closure work has commenced, which includes detailed design of the liner systems, storm water

management, gas collection systems and flare, with construction slated for completion by October 31, 2022.

Table 3: Campbell River Landfill Closure Budget

Budget (2022)	Costs to Date	Budget Remaining	Budget Status
\$11,033,301	\$100,000	\$10,933,301	Tracking on budget

Cell 2 Construction Project (Comox Valley Waste Management Center)

The Cell 2 Project is the lateral expansion of the approved landfill development as specified in the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre Design and Closure Plan, consistent with the [Comox Valley Waste Management Center Masterplan](#) (presented to the March 2018 CSWM Board and the January 2018 Joint Resource Committee Meeting with the Village of Cumberland) which lays out the long term disposal plan for the CSWM service. The masterplan will be used to support the upcoming Solid Waste Management Plan renewal to plan for future infrastructure at the Comox Valley Waste Management Center in order to ensure long term, reliable and cost effective in-region solid waste disposal for the CSWM service area.

The Cell 2 Project will also incorporate the construction of a leachate pond for additional leachate handling and capacity.

- Cell 1, which had a projected 470,949 m3 of available airspace, is filling close to the original timeline based on the latest survey data and the following assumptions:
 1. January 2023 organics diversion start for both Campbell River and Courtenay;
 2. November 2022 select waste diversion to Cell 2;
 3. Compaction ratio of 0.7 tonnes/m3;
 4. Resuming full transfer from Campbell River starting May 4, 2022; and
 5. Cell 1 max height at 176 m, Cell 2 will start piggy backing over Cell 1.
- Based on the updated fill model and survey data:
 1. Cell 1 will reach full capacity by February 2024; and
 2. The estimated capacity for Cell 2 is ~1,018,625 m3 with cell life of ~9.7 years (2032).
- Tendering for the Cell 2 Project closed at the beginning of May 2022 and of the three bids received, two were within the current approved project budget and one was above. The responses for the Cell 2 tender, a predominately earthmoving project, were varied largely due to the tight timelines and was heavily impacted given the volatility of the oil market which has resulted in a price increase of 70 per cent over the 12 months.
- The Cell 2 Project will be broken up into 2 phases:
 1. The first phase includes at least 50 per cent of Cell 2 expansion for active landfilling and leachate equalization pond and conveyance to be fully operational by October 31, 2022.
 2. The second phase will be the remaining portion of Cell 2 and the leachate equalization pond cover system and surface water management work to be fully completed by May 26, 2023.

Table 4: Cell 2 Construction Budget

Budget (2022)	Costs to Date	Budget Remaining	Budget Status
\$14,823,205	\$220,000	\$14,603,205	Tracking on Budget

The Capital Project team is committed to providing the CSWM Board with updates as major project milestones are achieved.

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