



CITY OF IQALUIT

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

PUBLIC CONSULTATION REPORT

DECEMBER 2018

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this Document

- 1.1.1 The purpose of this document is to describe the public consultation that was undertaken by the City of Iqaluit in support of the new Solid Waste Management Project, that includes a new landfill, a waste transfer station and the remediation/ closure of the existing landfill.
- 1.1.2 The consultation process sought to engage the local community and other stakeholders to become aware of any concerns related to the project that could be considered and addressed during the upcoming detailed design phase.
- 1.1.3 The public consultation was also a requirement of the Infrastructure Canada Investment Plan (ICIP) funding agreement that stipulated a duty to consult with the Inuit community of Iqaluit in the context of the Project.
- 1.1.4 This document provides a summary of the questions raised during the public consultation process and an analysis of the main issues that were raised.

1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 Between 2011 and 2013, the City of Iqaluit prepared their new Solid Waste Management Plan that outlined how the City would manage their waste in the future. This involved extensive public consultation involving three public meetings over the course of approximately 2 years. In 2014, after the public consultation was complete, the input from the community was incorporated with consultant recommendations to create the 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan.
- 1.2.2 In May of 2017, the City of Iqaluit prepared a business case to modernize their waste management infrastructure, basing it on the recommendations outlined in the 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan.
- 1.2.3 The business case focused on three areas, the closure of the existing landfill, a waste transfer station to sort and bale the waste, and a new landfill.

1.3 Stakeholders Consulted to Date

- 1.3.1 During the initial consultations between 2011-2013, the public, Inuit groups and the Government of Nunavut were consulted.
- 1.3.2 On June 20, 2018, a project steering committee meeting was held that outlined the scope of the project to various Government of Nunavut stakeholders and allowed an opportunity for their comments and feedback in the direction of the project. These

stakeholders included the Government of Nunavut Departments of Health, Community and Government Services and the Environment, as well as the City of Iqaluit.

1.4 Future Consultation

- 1.4.1 This public consultation focused on the construction of the project only.
- 1.4.2 Future public consultations will be held to discuss the operations and any impacts on residents such as waste pickup and the sorting of waste.

2 CONDUCTING THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE

2.1 What the consultation was about?

- 2.1.1 The consultation documentation (Section 2.3 below) set out the background information for the consultation.
- 2.1.2 Responses were invited from the community and other stakeholders on the three aspects of the project outlined in section 1.2.3.
- 2.1.3 The consultation invited the public to ask any questions related to the project, while providing a platform to voice any concerns they may have had.

2.2 How the consultation was conducted?

- 2.2.1 The public consultation was undertaken on two separate days. The first, and primary day for the public to attend was held on November 15, 2018. This was a general meeting with an open invitation, anyone was free to attend. The second meeting was arranged on November 23, 2018 with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA). During both meetings, simultaneous translation in French and Inuktitut was provided to enable participants to listen and speak in their language of choice.
- 2.2.2 During the public consultation event, poster boards were set up highlighting aspects for each component of the project with members of the project team present to explain the concept drawings and answer any questions.
- 2.2.3 After a set amount of time for the informal viewing of the posters, the project team performed a presentation highlighting the project and their various components that was followed by a question and answer.
- 2.2.4 The project team was available after the question and answer period to answer any media requests.
- 2.2.5 Both consultation events were recorded to ensure all questions were properly captured.

- 2.2.6 A Public Service Announcement (PSA) was prepared that included an extensive question and answer package and was translated into Inuktitut and French. The PSA informed residents that they could submit a question or comment directly to City Hall, or at a dedicated project email address, solidwaste@city.igaluit.nu.ca. The PSA form allowed a place for residents to input their comments on each phase.
- 2.2.7 The PSA was posted on the City's website, the City's Facebook and Twitter accounts, the Iqaluit Public Service Announcement Facebook page and it was sent to all media in Iqaluit.
- 2.2.8 A banner promoting the consultation was posted on the City website and several reminders were posted on the City's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

2.3 Consultation Documentation

- 2.3.1 The public consultation documentation included the 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan that was available on the website and in hardcopy format at the events, an extensive question and answer document available on the City website. The Public Service Announcement Form that contained an area for residents to record their comments was available online and in hardcopy at each event.

INFORMATION PROVIDED

- 2.3.2 Residents were asked to consider the following information:
- The location of the new landfill and waste transfer station.
 - The project components of the waste transfer station and new landfill
 - The closure/ decommissioning plan for the existing landfill
- 2.3.3 The aim of the consultation documentation and public consultation meetings was to obtain information on the concerns of the public and any issues they may have with the proposed project.
- 2.3.4 Responses were accepted online through the City dedicated email address, dropping off hardcopy responses to City Hall before and after the public event, and accepting hardcopy responses at the public events.

3 RESPONSES

3.1 Format of Responses

- 3.1.1 The majority of the responses and questions were received during the two public consultation events. Presenters and residents spoke into a microphone to ensure the audio was recorded, and to ensure translation services were provided.
- 3.1.2 The audio recording of each event was then sent for transcription and is included as part of this report.
- 3.1.3 One comment card was received through the dedicated email address, no others were received at City Hall or in person at the events.

3.2 Questions – New Landfill

Q1 – What is meant by the Construction and Demolition Area?

A1 – At the new landfill, a section will be designated to receive bulk construction and demolition waste once any hazardous material has been removed. This small section of the landfill will follow a traditional landfill design with the waste routinely covered. It would be impractical to bale this waste and would induce a significant amount of wear and tear on the equipment.

Q2 – Will there be public access on the new road to the new landfill?

A2 – A decision will have to be made by City Council to confirm if the road will have public access or not, it is currently undecided.

Q3 – Will the access road be paved, or will it be a dirt road? What are the costs associated with the operation of the road?

A3 – The road will not be paved, it will be a dirt road. The operational costs have not been determined yet, but they were considered in the business case developed for this project. There will be snow removal and grading, and these considerations will be discussed at a later date when the operational details become finalized.

Q4 – How will the City deal with the snow and melt water at the new landfill?

A4 – There will be a program to remove snow, the City has equipment that can be stationed at the facility to ensure snow is removed off site. In terms of meltwater, there will be a containment system planned and the entire landfill site will be lined and have a berm, along with a leachate collection system.

Q5 – Will the wrapping material be able to withstand the extreme cold weather?

A5 – The material used to wrap the bales will be LDP plastic wrap that has a glass transition temperature of -125°C (-193°F) which means the material will remain flexible rather become brittle and will ensure the bales remain contained in the plastic wrap.

Q6 – How much garbage is collected on a daily basis? How frequent will the bales be transported from the waste transfer station to the landfill?

A6 – There is currently approximately 20 tons of waste collected daily and it is anticipated that the wrapped bales will be transported daily to the landfill. The 20 tons currently received is not separated, with the new waste transfer facility, cardboard, wood, metals, and tires will be recycled reducing the amount of waste sent to the landfill by approximately 44%. In the event of a blizzard or other scenario that would prevent the deliver of the bales to the landfill, the waste transfer station will have a designated storage area.

Q7 – What is the distance between the new landfill and the waste transfer station?

A7 – It is approximately 6km between the two facilities.

Q8 – What are the sources of sand and clay? Will the gravel from the new gravel deposit be used for other projects?

A8 – The City is still evaluating where it will source the clay required for the project. The granular material from the new source will likely be able to be used on other projects in the future but the details will need to be sorted out at a later date.

3.3 Questions – New Waste Transfer Station

Q1 – How are the bales secured? How are they wrapped and closed?

A1 – The bales are initially compressed into a cube, then they will be completely wrapped in LDP plastic. A wrapping machine will be used to ensure each bale is completely wrapped the same way each time.

Q2 – Where will the metal go from derelict vehicles?

A2 – Derelict vehicles will be processed at the waste transfer station. They will have the internal fluid and other hazard material drained, and then will be stored on the facility grounds in a designated area until there is a sufficient amount to compact. The waste transfer station will have a separate compactor for scrap steel that will be used to compact the vehicles and prepare them for shipment to a recycling facility in the South.

Q3 – Will residents be charged to dispose of waste?

A3 – It is anticipated that there may be some costs to residents to recoup the facility costs.

Q4 – Will the waste transfer station grounds be lined in a similar manner as the new landfill?

A4 – It is currently not planned to line the grounds, anything stored outside would already have the fluids or hazardous material removed or drained. One area that may be lined would be the temporary storage area of the bales if they cannot be delivered to the landfill; however, the designer will investigate and incorporate if required.

Q5 – Can the shredder accommodate wooden pallets?

A5 – Any type of wooden crates or pallets will go through the shredder. It is anticipated that there is sufficient wood and cardboard waste to heat the facility.

Q6 – Will there be public access to the waste transfer station?

A6 – Conceptual planning is ongoing; however, there will be a section where the public will be able to enter and drop off household hazardous waste or visit the re-use center. Residents will not be able to gain access to the rest of the facility for their own safety.

Q7 – Will the public be able to salvage wood?

A7 – The operational details have not been developed yet however there is a considerable amount of land allocated to the facility and there may be space to accommodate residents to drop off and pick up separated wood.

Q8 – Is there a plan for waste oil as it pertains to storage, being reused or shipped out?

A8 – The facility will contain a biomass burner and there is the potential to use this waste oil as fuel, however given the low quantities that is actually recovered, it will likely be shipped out with the rest of the household hazardous waste to a facility in the South.

Q9 – Will residents be advised that there is a place to dispose of oil?

A9 – Once the operational details of the facility are finalized, residents will be informed of the different types of waste the facility accepts and where to dispose of them.

Q10 – How many staff will be required to run the transfer station and the new landfill site?

A10 – When the original business plan was developed, the waste transfer station required about 5 full-time employees and the new landfill required about 1.5 full time employees.

Q11 – Has the technology for shredding and baling been used in other communities? If so, how long has it been in operation? Has this process been tested long term and are there any problems with it?

A11 – There is a community in New Brunswick that built a similar bale fill facility in 2008 without experiencing any issues. The equipment proposed at the waste transfer station are time-tested and durable, with uses throughout North America and Europe in both the private and public sectors.

Q12 – Will there be a separate building used for old vehicles?

A12 – The detailed design for the construction has not been created yet, only a conceptual drawing has been prepared. It is not yet determined if a separate building will be used or if it will be incorporated into the main facility, but it will be used to drain the fluids and hazardous material from vehicles prior to storage.

Q13 – Residents are currently able to drop off waste at the landfill during the weekend when no staff are present, will residents be able to continue this same practice?

A13 – This will be discussed further when the facility operations are discussed at a later date however a measure to accommodate this would be to have drop off bins for certain items. Security cameras would have to be installed to ensure residents are not dropping off items they are not supposed to, and there is always the possibility of modifying the hours of operation to make it more convenient for residents.

Q14 – Will residents be expected to sort their waste? Will there be a recycling program?

A14 – The prospect of residents segregating their waste would be part of a much larger effort that would involve a lot of planning and public education. This topic will continue to be built on, the facility will be capable of handling a recycling program, it will just be dependent on the programs put in place which would require everyone in the community to participate in the management of waste in the community.

Q15 – What is the timeline for the City to incorporate a recycling and composting program? How will the composting program work?

A15 – The city is unable to give specific timelines however it is something that the City is working towards as part of the Solid Waste Management Plan, which is the mandate that City Council has provided. Staff will begin with what residents are currently familiar with and then slowly incorporate additional elements, starting with composting.

Q16 – Will there be a cost for residents to drop off household hazardous waste?

A16 – Currently there is no cost for residents to drop off hazardous waste, only businesses pay a fee, although that may change based on City Council's future mandates. Hazardous waste included paint, solvents, batteries, cleaners and aerosol cans.

Q17 – Is there an estimated cost for the power consumption of the waste transfer station building?

A17 – Data is not available at this time however there will be a significant savings in heating costs with the waste energy system that is being incorporated in the transfer station which will burn waste wood and cardboard.

Q18 – Is the City concerned about any future residential developments near the waste transfer station?

A18 – The area around the waste transfer station is zoned for heavy industrial uses so it is unlikely that there will be any dense residential growth getting close to the facility. Just to the north of the facility site is the former dump site dating back to the army time and it has its own legacy issues. The combination of these two things led to the selection of this particular site for the transfer station.

3.4 Questions – Remediation/ Closure of the Existing Landfill

Q1 – Will the existing buildings be relocated to the new landfill site?

A1 – One building will be moved and the City is currently evaluating the other buildings. Two office trailers were purchased that require renovations and will be placed on the site during construction. Once construction has been completed, the office trailers will be given to the City Fire Department for their fire training facility.

Q2 – Will the City be upgrading the current containment ponds?

A2 – The City has upgraded the current containment ponds and ditches however they are not finalized. During the closure process, a full design will be completed to ensure the containment ponds and berms meet all regulatory requirements.

Q3 – How will the ditches at the landfill slope towards the containment ponds?

A3 – The ditching will be finalized during the detailed design phase of the landfill closure to ensure proper functionality.

Q4 – Will the existing landfill be covered in a plastic membrane?

A4 – The existing landfill will be covered in several layers of granular material, a plastic membrane will not be used. The first layer will be approximately 300mm of sand to act as a leveling course and provide a smooth contour. Following this, a 300mm layer of a geosynthetic clay material will form a water proof barrier over the entire landfill. The last layer will be approximately 600mm of crushed rock and native fill material, allowing the landfill to blend in with the surrounding landscape.

3.5 General Responses

Below are general comments from residents regarding the project

- 3.5.1 The idea to sort, recycle and reuse waste will be very useful for the community. Indeed, the volumes of waste to be buried will be reduced, this will avoid unnecessarily charging the landfill. The reuse of some material will avoid ordering by boat and plane. Congratulations for that project, the environment and the community will be winners.
- 3.5.2 Mr. Fortier, representative for the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), indicated that the big concern is the public access on the access road being constructed to reach the new landfill and gravel source. He noted that it would gain access to Crazy Lake and public access is important for hunting and fishing. He does not see any other concerns at this time.
- 3.5.3 Thank you for the presentation, this looks like it is going to be an amazing facility. Having a reusable space incorporated into the design is a good idea.

4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 Overall, the responses received were positive and residents are excited about the new project to modernize waste management in Iqaluit.
- 4.2 There were a significant number of questions related to the operation of the facilities however as previously stated, these details will be confirmed at a later date and will involve an additional public consultation. This consultation just focused on the construction of the project.
- 4.3 The residents were satisfied with the location of the facilities and the features provided by the new landfill and waste transfer station

5 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Future public consultation on the operation details of the facilities.
- 5.2 Discussion with City Council to confirm if the access road will be accessible to the public.

6 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTAION

- 6.1 Transcription from November 15, 2018 public consultation
- 6.2 Transcription from November 23, 2018 consultation with the QIA.