Stantec

Memo

To:	Karen Dela Rosa	From:	Alex Velsink, Arnold Paintsil Stantec
Project/File:	City of Lloydminster Integrated Waste Management and Facility Master Plan: Final Draft Diversion Options	Date:	March 6, 2026

Reference: 133800086

1 Introduction & Scope

The City of Lloydminster (City) runs a three-stream residential curbside collection program offering curbside waste, organics, and recycling collection in addition to operating the City's Landfill. On average, the City diverts approximately 35% of materials from the landfill, and landfills approximately 24,000 tonnes of the material per year. This diversion rate has plateaued over the years, and the reason is not fully understood. The City would like to explore alternatives for managing its waste due to the rising landfill operating costs and potential future liability concerns.

Morrison Hershfield, now Stantec, was retained by the City to assess the various waste disposal options including but not limited to continuing current ownership of landfill, transporting waste to another landfill and waste to resource technologies. The intent is to highlight options that may be feasible for the City based on spatial and capital considerations, and to assist the City with completing an Integrated Waste Management and Facility Master Plan (Master Plan). The Master Plan is intended to provide a comprehensive roadmap for solid waste management in the City for the next 20years. The Master Plan will provide strategies that cover all stages of the waste management cycle, from generation to disposal, including reuse, recycling, and recovery and provide a framework for sustainable financing and infrastructure development.

The City and Stantec have adopted a stepwise approach to developing the Master Plan:

Phase 1 (Waste Disposal Feasibility and Alternatives Review): Stantec provided an analysis of the existing landfill systems and explored alternative waste disposal systems, such as a waste transfer station and waste-to-energy, that the City could implement. Stantec provided cost estimates for each approach, considering the existing infrastructure and spatial needs. This was presented in the Waste Disposal Analysis report.

Phase 2 (Waste Management Strategy and Infrastructure Plan): Stantec has worked with the City and its stakeholders to establish a strategic direction and planning framework for the waste management in the City for the next 20 years. This report presents options for the City to increase diversion and includes a framework that will evolve and guide diversion activities in the short term (1-5 years), mid-term (6-10 years) and the long term (11-20 years).

2 Context

Waste Reduction and Reuse

The City has demonstrated its commitment to waste diversion and waste management education through various methods of engagement, including social media, newspapers, radio ads, and community events. The City recognizes the importance of educating residents and ensuring they are well-informed about waste reduction and recycling programs. While this has not been celebrated in recent years, the City has organized annual Waste Reduction Week to raise awareness about waste reduction and encourage action in the past.[1]

There are also numerous thrift stores around the City that promote reduction and reuse, such as Olive Tree, Interval Store, and Reclaim. The City supports these non-profits by offering a tipping fee exemption at the landfill for items that they cannot sell.

Recycling and Waste Diversion

The City also provides information on different recycling and waste management services through its website, offering instructional videos and detailed guidelines on how to properly sort and dispose of waste. Pitch-In Week is an annual event held in early May every year and is focused on encouraging household recycling. During this week, residents are encouraged to pick up litter, sweep sidewalks, and take other actions to keep their communities clean.[2] This week also includes the Household Recycling Roundup, in partnership with Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA), where residents are encouraged to recycle household hazardous waste (HHW). Residents can bring the items for recycling or arrange free pickup.

The City has waste diversion programs for a range of materials. Being located on the border of both Alberta and Saskatchewan, the City has existing partnerships with stewardship organizations in both provinces. The following are the commonly diverted materials through the various diversion programs:

- **Blue Bag Recyclables:** The following collection options are available for Blue Bag recyclables (e.g., paper, tin cans, plastics #1 and #2, aluminum foil, cardboard):
    - curbside collection through the City's residential curbside collection program or
    - free public drop-off at the landfill.
    - businesses can drop off their carboard and blue bag recyclables at the landfill for free or engage a private contractor to collect recyclables.
- **Organics:** The City actively encourages residents to comply with organic waste disposal requirements and divert organics from landfilled waste. The City collects organic waste through the residential curbside collection service. Accepted organics are listed on the City website[3] and include food and yard waste, pizza cardboard and shredded paper, amongst others. The City

[1] https://www.lloydminster.ca/en/news/city-to-celebrate-nation-s-waste-reduction-week-october-18-24.aspx accessed June 2024
[2] Pitch-In Week, Household Recycling Roundup welcomed additions to spring - City of Lloydminster
[3] https://www.lloydminster.ca/en/living-in-lloydminster/curbside-collection-green-cart-organics.aspx#Ensuring-your-organics-are-collected

provides instructional videos and detailed guidelines on how to properly sort and dispose of organic waste.[4]

- **Crushed Concrete:** Residents and businesses can drop off concrete at the landfill for crushing. The City uses this material as a backfill for utility digs or road construction. City departments are billed for this material (at cost) when they use the crushed concrete. If there is an excess inventory of this material, the City sells crushed concrete to the businesses at $16.50/tonne.[5]
- **Metal and Appliance:** Metal and appliances are accepted at the landfill for free. There is currently no charge for Freon removal. The City covers this cost through the landfill's operating budget. The City also has an annual contract with a collector who supplies roll of style bins to collect the metals, including white goods/major appliances, and hauls it to their local facility for processing.
- **E-Waste:** The City is enrolled in the e-waste program through ARMA for recycling of a wide range of electronic items, including small appliances, audio/visual devices, etc. The City receives a grant/rebate per tonne of e-waste collected from the site.
- **Batteries:** The City has a contractor that picks up batteries (mostly car batteries) for recycling. The City receives $5-10/kg of batteries collected.

2.1 Why is Waste Prevention and Diversion Important?

The City operates one landfill with four engineered cells. Based on Stantec's analysis of the waste disposal options considered by the City, keeping the existing landfill is the recommended option. Waste prevention and diversion will be key to limiting waste disposal and the need for costly landfill expansions.

2.2 What is Our Waste Coming from and What is it Comprised of?

The City's disposal rate per capita was 850 kg/capita in 2024. Stantec's comprehensive current system and disposal options review completed in 2024 assessed the City's performance in more detail and a waste audit was conducted in August 2024. The audit was completed for waste disposed from the residential sector (as curbside collection or residential self-haul to the landfill) (Figure 1) and the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector (Figure 2). For both the residential and ICI streams, plastics make up the bulk of the material that is disposed of (31%), with significant volumes also recorded for food and yard waste, paper packaging and hazardous and special waste. The waste composition showed nearly 50% of both residential and ICI garbage is made up of potentially recyclable materials (printed paper, paper packaging, plastics, metals, and glass). Based on this data, there is room for improvement with diverting potentially recyclable material.

References to this waste composition from each sector (curbside and ICI) are highlighted throughout this memo to provide better context for potential strategies.

[4] https://www.facebook.com/CityofLloydminster/videos/curbside-garbage-collection-city-of-lloydminster/1179049982119589/
[5] Subject to change.

Reference: **133800086**

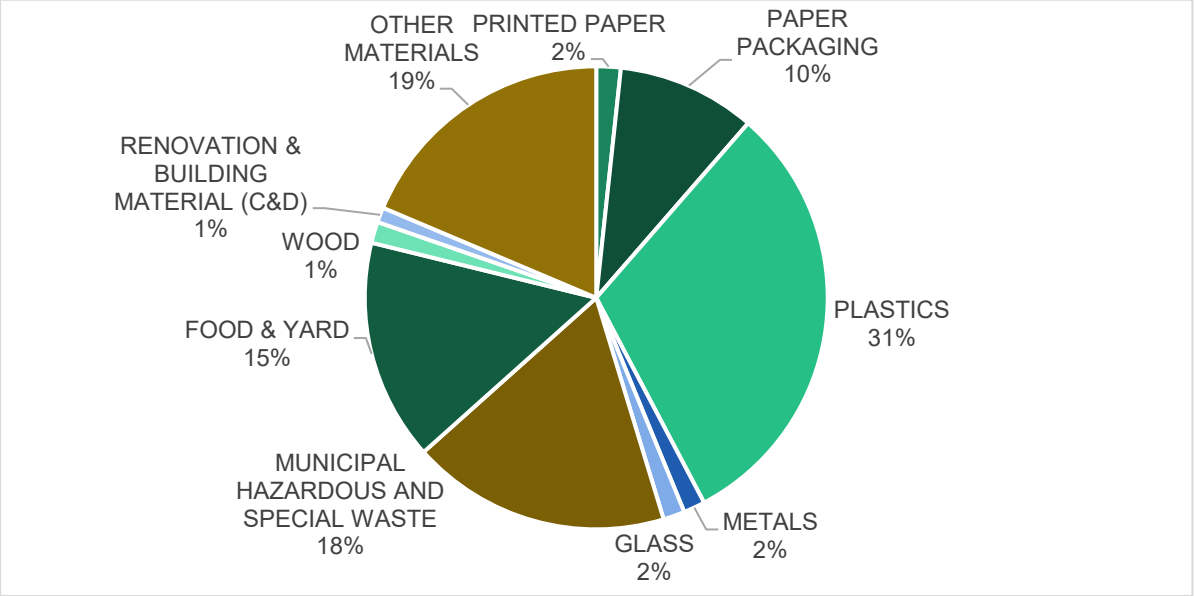


Figure 1: Single-family Residential Curbside Garbage Waste Composition 2024

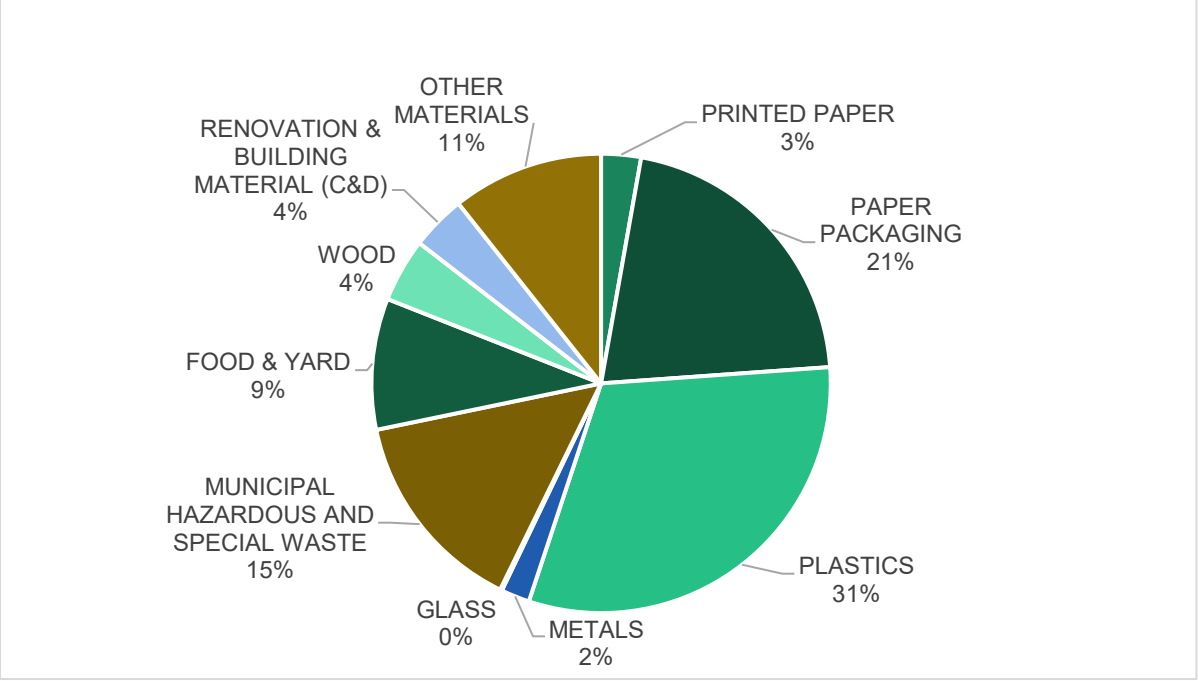


Figure 2: ICI Garbage Waste Composition 2024 (including multi-family residential)

For curbside collection waste, in 2023, the City diverted approximately 30% of the materials from the landfill and landfilled approximately 6,828 tonnes. The curbside waste collection diversion rate decreased from 36% in 2013 to 30% in 2023 as shown in Figure 3. This downward trend is largely due to contamination of organic loads from curbside collection and demonstrates significant room for improving residential diversion.

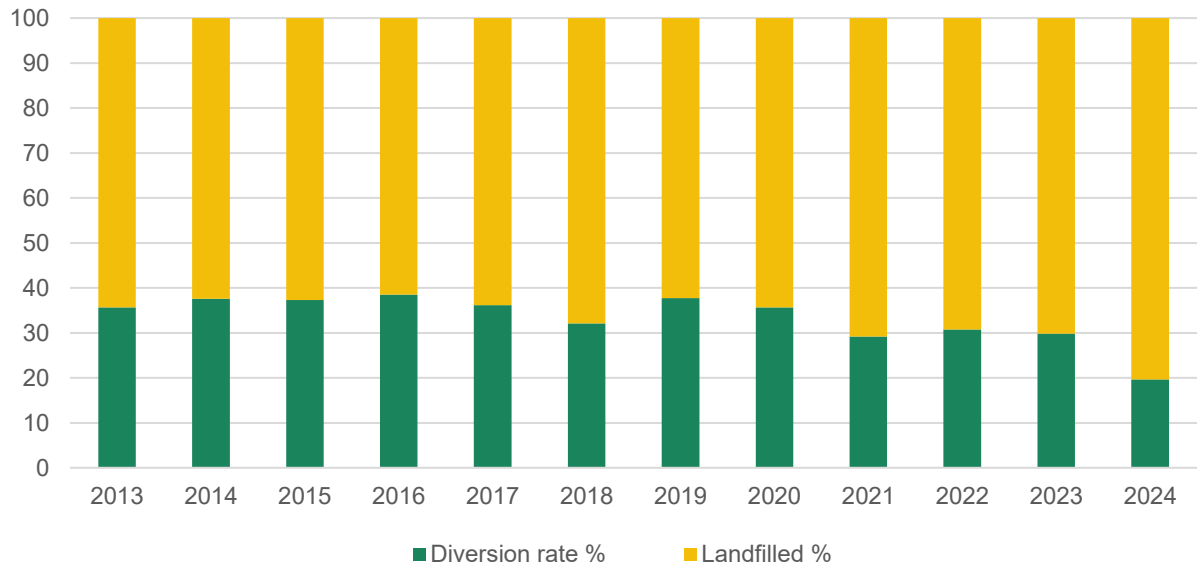


Figure 3: Residential Diversion Rate (%) from 2013 to 2024

The programs available for organics collection and diversion, curbside recycling, depot collection of recyclables and other EPR materials are outlined in Existing Waste Management System report and a summary is provided in the introduction to Section 2. More can be done to ensure that residents have access to recycling and diversion options and that residents and businesses are educated on available options.

This memorandum (memo) explores potential strategies and actions to help prevent waste from being generated and to increase recycling and organics diversion to minimize the need for landfilling.

2.3 Principles for the Solid Waste Master Plan

The approach for developing this Master Plan follows that of the 5R pollution prevention hierarchy (also referred to as the waste hierarchy) where emphasis is placed on maximizing waste reduction and diversion efforts and diverting as much from the landfill as possible. Figure 4 shows all levels of the hierarchy.

A Master Plan should not only be focused on managing residual waste and ensuring proper disposal but also cover aspects of waste prevention (reduction and reuse) and waste diversion which can be implemented at various stages in the 20-year planning period. Alternative waste technologies (including waste-to-energy) and landfilling options are not considered as part of this memo. These were covered in Phase 1 of the project - Waste Disposal Analysis.

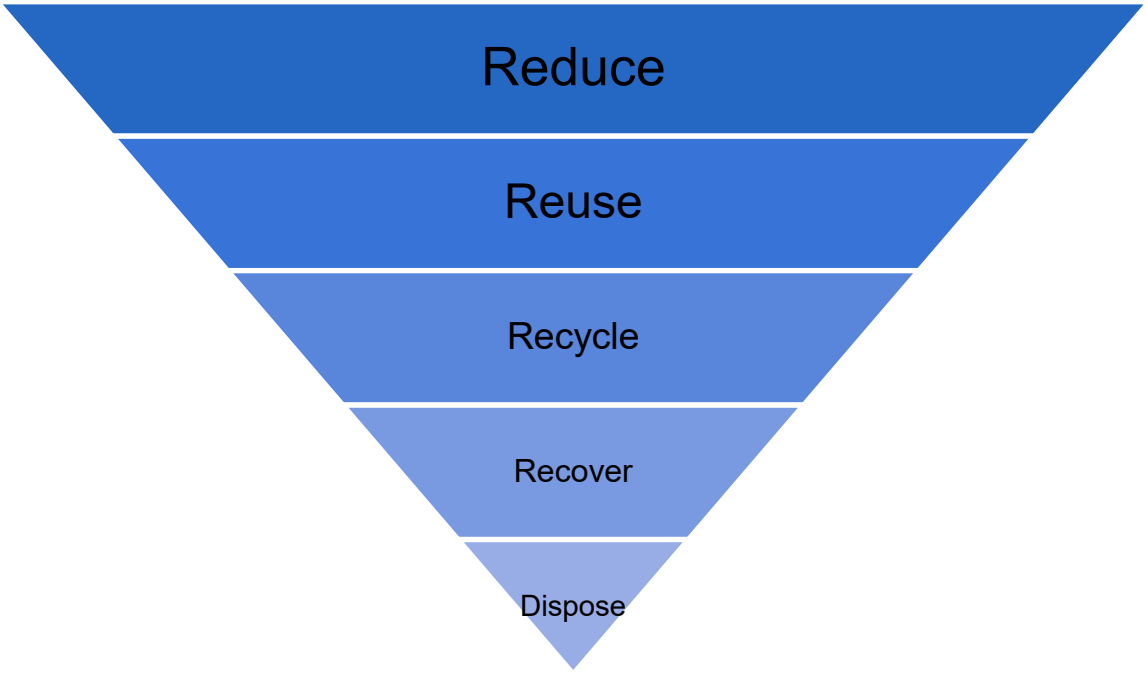


Figure 4: 5R Waste Management Hierarchy[6]

3 Potential Strategies to Prevent Waste and Improve Waste Diversion

The following section explores options to prevent waste and improve waste diversion in the City over the next 20 years. This includes the following topics:

- Improving organics diversion through curbside collection for multi-family (MF) residents and ICI sector,
- Improving recycling and organics collection through education and enforcement,
- Improving recycling through EPR programs, and
- Improving recycling for residents and the ICI sector at the landfill.

3.1 Improve Organics Diversion

Since 2013, the City has offered a three-stream residential curbside collection program for organics, recycling and garbage, serving only single detached and semi-detached/duplex homes. The curbside collection service is contracted out to GFL Environmental Ltd. (GFL). All eligible residents are required to participate in the City's curbside collection program.[7] MF residents and ICI are not serviced by the

[6] Waste reduction and recycling programs | Alberta.ca. Accessed May 15, 2025.
[7] https://www.lloydminster.ca/Modules/Bylaws/Bylaw/Details/dae90010-b7a4-41a4-a284-4701e4d0b151 accessed June 2024

municipal curbside program and organics collection and recycling is optional and services are provided by private providers.

In August 2021, the City changed the acceptable materials in curbside collection, and excluded materials including non-rigid plastics, hinged plastic containers and shredded paper.[8] These were no longer accepted due to recycling markets and process requirements. Residents and businesses that do not receive recycling services can also drop off recyclables at the City's landfill.

Table 1 provides an overview of collection services in the City. The City provide collection for recycling and garbage, while organics is contracted.

Table 1: Overview of Collection Services in the City of Lloydminster

Service Area	Service Provider	Recycling	Organics	Garbage
Single-Family Residential	GFL	Weekly	Weekly from April through November, and Bi-Weekly from November to April.	Weekly
Multi-Family Residential, ICI	Private	Variable	N/A	Variable

The City is interested in exploring organics collection through a city-contracted service for both MF residents and the ICI sector. This service could be funded through user fees, similar to single-family curbside collection.

3.1.1 Multi-Family Organics Diversion

In 2021, the City was home to 2,000 MF residents, representing approximately 5.5% of the total population.[9] Currently, MF residents are required to have garbage collection, while recycling remains optional. The waste audit conducted in 2024 demonstrated that approximately 9% of the MF sector (including ICI) waste is food and yard waste and with the absence of a City-wide organics collection program for this sector presents opportunity for improvement. Expanding organics collection to MF residents is likely to have a significant impact on increased waste diversion and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction from the landfill.

Additionally, the City of Saskatoon conducted a pilot program for MF organics, which included a waste audit prior to implementation. This audit found that approximately 29% of organic material going to landfill from the MF sector could be diverted, showing significant diversion potential.

Several municipalities across Alberta and Saskatchewan have already implemented or are actively planning organics collection for MF residents. These municipalities include:

- City of Regina (planned for 2027),

[8] https://www.lloydminster.ca/en/news/curbside-collection-program-largly-remains-the-same-following-changes-to-acceptable-plastics.aspx accessed June 2024
[9] https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/as-sa/fogs-spg/page.cfm?topic=3&lang=e&dguid=2021S0504840

- City of Leduc (planned for 2026),
- Strathcona County (Sherwood Park, efforts beginning in 2015 and progressing since),
- City of Calgary (2016),
- City of Edmonton (currently rolling out service, to be completed by end of 2027), and
- City of Saskatoon (currently conducting pilot program, goal to be city-wide by 2028).[10][11]

The cities listed above have taken various service approaches, from bylaws to city service. There are benefits and drawbacks to the various approaches to MF organics diversion. Stantec conducted interviews with some of the municipalities to inform recommendations for the City that are presented in this report. This section summarizes the various approaches and further details of each service approach are provided in Appendix A.

Initial Pilot vs. Wide Implementation

Some municipalities have taken the approach of implementing a pilot program before launching city-wide, while others have chosen not to and instead conducted significant engagement prior to the program launch.

Benefits of pilot programs include testing program details and altering based on findings and implementation success, higher engagement rates with buildings participating in the pilot program, and it can act as a phased approach to implementing a city-wide program. The City of Leduc chose not to conduct a pilot program and focused on a robust engagement over multiple years. Overall, they found participation in their program engagement to be low, but Council approved the city-wide roll-out thanks to significant engagement effort.

In the Phase 2 survey completed by the City of Lloydminster, residents were asked if they would be in favour of the City introducing a pilot program for MF and ICI organics collection. The City is interested in exploring options to expand organics collection using contracted services. Many respondents (62%) replied that they would be in favour of the City introducing the pilot project (refer to **Error! Reference s ource not found.**). A lower percentage of respondents were unsure (23% of residents), not in favour (14%), or did not want to disclose (1% of residents).

It is important to look at the responses of MF residents separately for this question given that the program would impact them directly. The percentages are similar with the majority (67%) in favour, a smaller percentage is unsure (17%) and (16%) not in favour. It should be noted that at a total of 6 participants were MF residents. The sample size is small and the responses from MF residents may not reflect the opinion of the majority of the City's MF residents.

[10] Multi-Unit Organics: Pilot Study | Saskatoon.ca
[11] Multi-Unit Organics – Pilot Findings and Next Steps [EUCS2025-0202] - SPC-ENVIRONMENT, UTILITIES AND CORPORATE SERVICES - PUBLIC - February 04, 2025

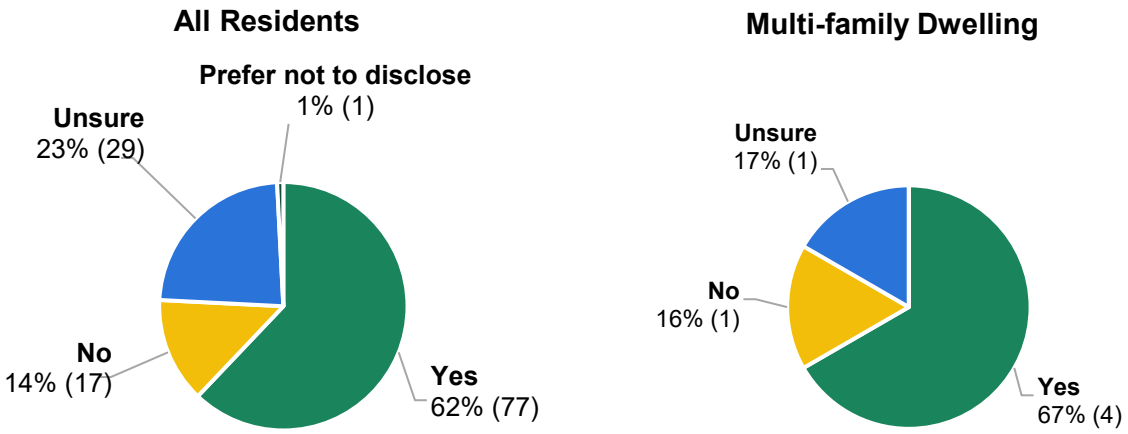


Figure 5: Resident support for the City introducing a targeted organics collection pilot program for businesses and multi-family buildings.

Expansion of Municipal Service vs. Requirements to Acquire Service

Another difference between various programs is whether the City chooses to provide the collection service or requires building managers to acquire their own collection. City of Leduc is requiring building managers to acquire their own collection, while Strathcona County and City of Lethbridge provides both options. One recommendation that was voiced by both Strathcona County and City of Leduc is to develop a toolkit for building managers to help find a suitable private collector by asking the correct questions. If the service is not provided through the City, this effectively supports building managers to acquire their own collection.

Another common recommendation is requiring building managers to submit a compliance plan. This is a method of ensuring MF residents are being provided with the collection services required. It can be difficult to monitor and enforce depending on municipal staff availability.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the City begins with an engagement campaign targeting property managers and boards of MF buildings with face-to-face engagement, as this approach was a common success factor among Alberta municipalities. Based on initial engagement, the City can make an informed decision on whether a pilot program is necessary. Pilot programs can be beneficial for data collection, program evaluation, further engagement with stakeholders, and enables the City to adapt the program based on feedback, and ultimately reducing risks for full program implementation. While only the City of Saskatoon implemented a pilot, others achieved success through extended engagement, which also helped secure council support. If engagement proves effective, a pilot may not be necessary. Program details, such as collection methods, can be guided by feedback from engagement and best practices in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

3.1.2 Institutional, Commercial, and Industrial (ICI) Organics Diversion

The City is interested in expanding organics collection to the ICI sector. This would be in addition to MF residents (option outlined above). The waste audit conducted in 2024 demonstrated that approximately 9% of the ICI sector waste is food and yard waste (this includes MF, which was not able to be broken out). With increased waste audits as part of the City's updated contract with GFL, there is opportunity to regularly monitor organics in the waste stream.

Approaches to ICI organics diversion by a few Alberta and Saskatchewan communities were reviewed for this project, including Strathcona County, City of Saskatoon, City of Regina and City of Fort Saskatchewan. This section summarizes the various approaches based on review and interviews and further details of each municipality are provided in Appendix B.

Strathcona County[12]

Strathcona County launched a pilot organics collection program for businesses in June 2024 in partnership with the Circular Innovation Council (CIC). Although the formal partnership has since concluded, the County has opted to continue the program independently. The pilot involves 13 businesses ranging from fast food, grocery stores, a coffee shop and a mall and offers a collection-based subsidy model for the businesses, calculated based on the number of carts tipped.

During the 12-month period under CIC's involvement, the program successfully diverted 158 tonnes of food waste and avoided approximately 6,400 tonnes of CO_2 emissions. Moving forward, Strathcona County plans to continue data collection, engage with the ICI sector, and present findings and proposed next steps to Council.

The City of Regina also completed this pilot program with CIC, while the City of Edmonton recently announced a CIC collaboration to launch the same pilot program.

City of Saskatoon[13]

Following a 2016 waste characterization study, the City of Saskatoon identified the ICI sector as a key sector to target for increased waste diversion, supporting its goal of 70% diversion. After engaging over 870 stakeholders through workshops, surveys, and meetings, Council approved a phased regulatory approach in 2020. This included staged education and enforcement for recycling (2022–2023) and organics (2023–2024). A bylaw requires ICI establishments generating organic waste to maintain separate containers, educate staff annually, and use private haulers, allowing flexibility in service models. To assist businesses with program adoption, a toolkit was developed, and City staff conducted drop-in visits to assist with setup and answer questions. Key challenges include managing waste in mixed-use buildings and addressing parking bylaw conflicts when containers occupy parking spaces.

The City also piloted organics collection in five schools, and now the City requires organics separation where organic waste is generated (e.g., cooking classes) and it offers direct support for implementation.

---

[12] Discussions with Strathcona County on May 22, 2025
[13] Discussions with City of Saskatoon on May 22, 2025

Beyond collection, Saskatoon promotes food donation, reduction, and reuse through online resources and is developing a database to connect surplus food generators with recipients.

City of Regina[14]

The City of Regina has introduced new waste management regulations for the ICI sector, after Council approval in November 2023. These rules, effective January 1, 2028, will require all businesses and organizations within city limits to implement a multi-stream waste system that separates recycling, food and yard waste, and garbage at the point of disposal. The bylaw applies to all ICI operations, regardless of size or sector, and mandates the use of clearly labeled and color-coded bins—blue for recycling, green for organics, and black or brown for garbage.

To support compliance, the City provides a Multi-Stream Waste Management Guide, printable signage, and educational materials. Businesses must also ensure proper collection and processing of each stream and provide staff with clear instructions on bin use. Businesses that collected organics prior to the new regulations are given 'legacy status' and do not have to comply with bin colour requirements.

In partnership with CIC, the City of Regina is offering an Early Adopter Incentive Program. This is equivalent to a pilot program and encourages businesses to transition ahead of the 2028 deadline, helping Regina move toward its long-term waste diversion goals. [15]

City of Fort Saskatchewan[16]

The City of Fort Saskatchewan does not currently mandate organics collection for businesses. However, the city has established a franchise agreement that grants a single contractor exclusive rights to provide front-load bin services to the commercial sector. This is the City's second franchise agreement, selected from eight proposals, and notably includes organics collection—unlike the previous agreement.

While businesses are not required to use the contractor for all waste services, they must use the contractor for any front-load bin services. This model has been viewed by some businesses as restrictive; however, their attitudes have shifted once the cost benefits to their business become apparent. The agreement offers competitive pricing, bulk rates based on usage, and additional services such as free bin exchanges and no added costs for bin cleanliness or graffiti removal.

At present, no businesses have opted into organics collection. The City does not anticipate significant uptake due to the higher cost of front-load organics service, organics quantities being too low for front-load bins, and a general preference among businesses for cart-based collection, which is not covered under the current agreement.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the City of Lloydminster explores options for the implementation of a three-stream pilot (garbage, organics, and recycling) program for the ICI sector. This could be through city-provided services or in partnership with another service provider, such as GFL. A pilot program would

---

[14] City of Regina | Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Waste
[15] Regina's Multi-Family & Business Food Waste Diversion Pilot
[16] Discussions with City of Fort Saskatchewan on May 22, 2025

allow the City to collect data, evaluate the program, engage more closely with stakeholders, and adapt the program based on feedback, which ultimately reduces the risks for full program implementation.

There may be opportunity for the City to partner with CIC to conduct similar pilot programs to Strathcona County, City of Regina, and City of Edmonton. This is an excellent opportunity to pilot organics collection with support of CIC, reducing the City's resource requirements. Program and contact information can be found on the CIC Commercial Food Waste Diversion Program webpage.[17] If a CIC partnership is not feasible, it is recommended that the City implements a similar pilot program on its own. Since this would be resource intensive, it is not recommended to implement MF and ICI organics collection at the same time.

3.2 Improve Recycling Diversion

The City's current waste diversion efforts vary significantly across sectors. Since 2013, a three-stream curbside collection program for organics, recycling, and garbage has been in place for single detached and semi-detached/duplex homes, with services contracted to GFL Environmental Ltd. Multi-family (MF) properties and the industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector are not serviced by the municipal curbside program; recycling and organics collection is optional and typically provided by private service providers. A waste audit conducted in August 2024 assessed waste disposed from both the residential curbside and the ICI (including MF) and found that approximately 57% of ICI waste and 47% of single-family residential waste consisted of potentially recyclable materials (printed paper, paper packaging, plastics, metals, and glass). These findings demonstrate considerable opportunity to improve diversion across all sectors. This section outlines potential strategies to enhance education, compliance, and regulatory tools, and explores alignment with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs to support consistent service delivery and reduce waste going to landfill.

3.2.1 ICI Recycling Diversion

The City is interested in focusing on compliance of the ICI sector. ICI waste comprises a significant percent of the total waste generated in the region with 57% making up potentially recyclable materials (printed paper, paper packaging, plastics, and metals) as outlines in Section 2.2.

The launch of new education and compliance efforts will benefit from up-front collaboration with waste haulers, as they are a key part to successful education. The City can explore partnering with:

- haulers to provide better education to residents and businesses on existing diversion opportunities, and
- business organizations (e.g., the local Chamber of Commerce) to reach out to the business community about bylaw requirements. Education to business members can cover a range of waste management topics, including bylaws and provide an opportunity to educate businesses on waste prevention and diversion opportunities.

The City can also assess the need to enhance regulatory options if current incentive-based tipping fees and disposal ban seems ineffective. This could include assessing the suitability of expanding materials listed in the disposal ban to include more recyclable materials and assessing increasing variable tipping

[17] Commercial Food Waste Diversion Program

fees to further incentivize diversion. Additional regulatory tools may be seen as necessary to conserve valuable landfill capacity.

Variable Tipping Fees

- Materials that can be diverted from the landfill through other programs (e.g. EPR) are charged a higher tipping fee than materials that are destined for the landfill.
- This can incentivize source separation to divert materials due to higher fees for divertable materials.

Disposal Ban

- Waste is banned or restricted from disposal at the landfill.
- The hauler must communicate with waste generators that banned materials cannot be collected.
- If banned materials are collected and delivered by the hauler, a surcharge is charged on those materials.

Mid-way through the Master Plan implementation, the City can further efforts by assessing the suitability of mandatory waste source separation for the ICI sector.

It is also important that the City continues to advocate for increased stewardship support to improve accessibility to recycling and cover recycling costs. If the Province regulates ICI PPP, the region can anticipate achieving significantly more diversion.

Recommendations

To support improved diversion in the ICI sector, the City would benefit from increasing compliance and education efforts, which is explored further in Section 3.3. If current incentives such as tipping fees and disposal bans prove ineffective, the City can assess expanding the list of banned materials and adjusting the variable tipping fees. Midway through SWMP implementation, the City can also explore the feasibility of mandatory source separation for ICI properties. Continued advocacy for increased stewardship support will help improve access to recycling and reduce program costs.

3.2.2 Residential Recycling and EPR Programs

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs transfer the responsibility (physical and financial burden for collection, sorting and processing) for managing the lifecycle of products, including waste and recycling, from municipalities and taxpayers to producers.[18] These programs encourage producers to design items that are longer-lasting and easier to recycle, ultimately keeping materials in use and out of landfills. Most provinces have implemented or are in the process of implementing EPR programs across Canada and both Saskatchewan and Alberta have EPR programs in place.

In Alberta, the EPR program, administered by the Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA), covers packaging, printed paper products (PPP), and HHW. It requires producers to manage collection and recycling, with specific collection requirements for different housing types. Full implementation is underway, with producer responsibility gradually replacing municipal collection programs. Key implementation dates are April 1, 2025, for areas with existing recycling services and October 1, 2026, for those without. There is opportunity to opt-in to the services and provide collection services or to have

[18] Extended producer responsibility : information for Albertans - Open Government

a producer responsibility organization (PRO) step in and run the program instead of a municipality. This puts the responsibility of education and outreach on the PRO, reducing efforts required by the City.

Saskatchewan's EPR program, implemented in 2016, underwent changes in 2023. Originally a cost-sharing program, the program begun a transitioning to a full EPR program in December 2024, requiring producers to fully fund the program. The transition is being implemented in three phases, starting with large urban communities and expanding to all collectors by December 1, 2027. The program focuses primarily on PPP with other materials managed through separate stewardship programs.

The Alberta and Saskatchewan programs demonstrate a shift toward producer responsibility for recyclable materials, including those that residents have consistently identified as lacking adequate recycling options. Although glass represents a small percentage of the total material being landfilled, one common complaint from residents is the lack of opportunities for glass recycling, which is covered under both the Alberta and Saskatchewan EPR programs. In total, the PPP materials accepted through these programs cover a large portion of the recyclable materials currently found in the residential waste stream (refer to Section 2.2), demonstrating the opportunity to divert significant volumes of waste through program participation.

Recommendations

For EPR programs, the City is in a unique position due to the geographic location covering both Alberta and Saskatchewan. It is recommended that the City continue exploring participating in Alberta and Saskatchewan EPR programs with an emphasis on providing consistent programming to all residents. There may be opportunity to participate in both programs with the agreement from both ARMA and Saskatchewan Recycle to provide consistent services to all residents. This will ensure the same requirements are in place city-wide and will avoid confusion among residents.

It is also important that the City continues to advocate for increased stewardship support to cover more materials and cover recycling costs. As more materials are Provincially regulated, the region can anticipate achieving significantly more diversion.

3.3 Improve Education and Enforcement

Regulatory requirements for waste diversion, such as disposal bans, only result in significant improvements to diversion and disposal rates if all parties involved are well informed about waste diversion options and if the regulatory requirements are well enforced. The 2024 waste composition study noted that 57% of ICI waste and 47% of residential landfilled waste contained potentially recyclable materials (See Figure 1 and Figure 2). This demonstrates that there is room for improvement to reduce the quantity of recyclable materials being landfilled.

The City is interested in increasing education and enforcement to improve recycling and organics diversion. The City recognizes the importance of educating residents and ensuring they are well-informed about existing waste collection programs. Current initiatives include:

- Bylaw No. 28-2022 bans specific recyclable materials, including metal, clean concrete, and non-coated carboard. Loads with more than 5% of these materials are subject to increased tipping fees at the City’s landfill.

- Bylaw No. 28-2023 outlines differential tipping fees at the landfill for mixed loads.
- Bylaw No. 39-2014 includes mandatory curbside collection services for single, semi-detached, and duplex residences.
- The City encourages residents to comply with organic waste disposal requirements to promote a greener and cleaner community.
- Instructional videos and detailed guidelines are provided to help residents properly sort and dispose of organic waste.

Areas for improvement include:

- Increasing awareness through ongoing community education campaigns to support compliance, including enhancing sorting practices to reduce contamination, which can significantly improve program efficiency.
- Developing strategies to adapt to seasonal changes in yard waste disposal in spring, summer and fall months.

The City aims to support residents in navigating the current curbside collection program through ongoing print and social media campaigns. In the City's Phase 2 survey, residents responded that Facebook, city-wide mailers, and newspaper or newsletter ads are the channels on which they have most received Curbside Collection information in the past.

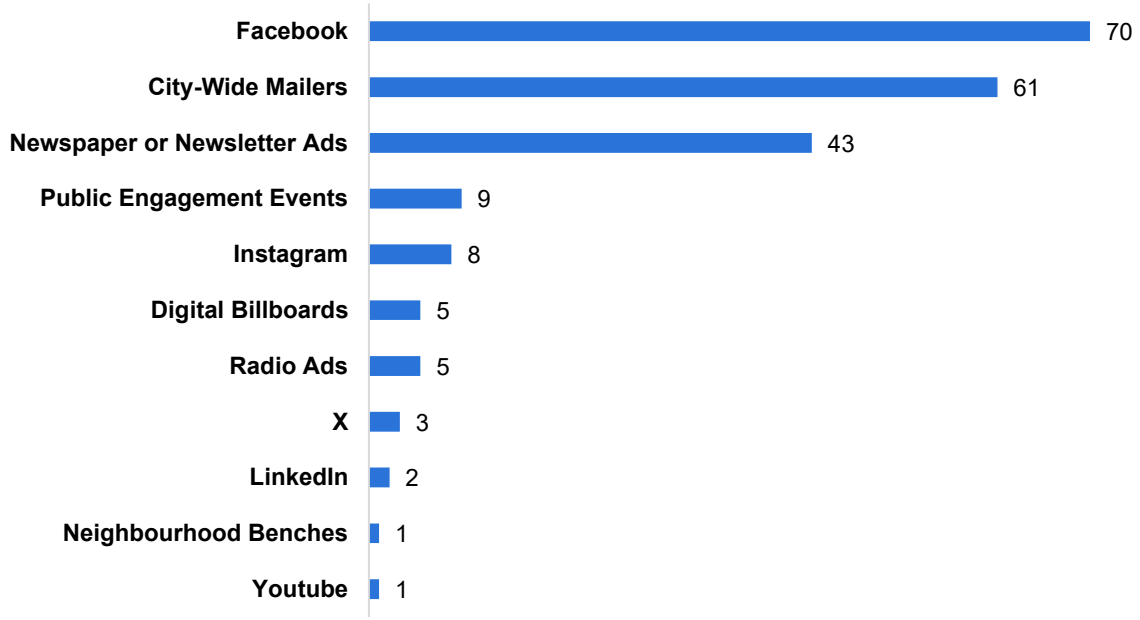


Figure 6: Channels on which residents have received Curbside Collection information

In the Phase 2 survey residents were asked what would help them understand waste diversion and recycling options (note that participants were asked to select all that apply). Figure 7 demonstrates that *clear guidelines and signage on what can and cannot be recycled* is the support that respondents

thought would be most helpful. The second most helpful support is *incentives for residents and businesses that recycle effectively*, followed in order by *improved access to recycling facilities and drop-off locations, regular updates and reminders about recycling programs*, and *consistent collection services for recycling and organics*.



Figure 7: Supports that would help residents understand waste diversion and recycling options

Options to improve education and enforcement

There is opportunity for the City to partner with the local private waste service providers to improve education of residents and the ICI sector, including schools and businesses, on existing diversion options and bylaws.

Residents have suggested for more education tools for at home, such as pictures on bins and fridge magnets, and information on how waste is managed after collection to emphasize the importance of waste diversion and partnering with other services such as Family and Community Support Services.

One notably successful program for education and enforcement is Strathcona County's Gold Star Program.[19] In this program residents who consistently sort their waste correctly and use their organics carts and recycling bags properly can be awarded a Gold Star—a sticker placed on their cart to acknowledge their efforts. Summer students will conduct cart and bag audits, which includes opening carts and inspecting bags to check for contamination. It also includes proper curb placement, spacing and reporting on broken carts. All data is collected in a GIS mapping platform. This program helps by providing education to residents, reducing landfill waste, recognizing and rewarding residents and improve program effectiveness. This program has fostered a strong sense of community pride, with

[19] Gold star | Strathcona County

residents enthusiastically embracing the challenge and celebrating the achievement of earning a Gold Star.

The City may want to explore hiring a solid waste outreach and education coordinator. A staff member in this role can focus on improving face-to-face education and outreach related to program implementation over the course of the Master Plan implementation. Municipalities across Alberta have seen great success from having significant face-to-face engagement with their organics collection programs.

Recommendations

To support long-term diversion success, the City would benefit from hiring a solid waste outreach and education coordinator. This role can focus on:

- Increasing face-to-face engagement at events and during new program implementation—an approach strongly endorsed by interviewed municipalities.
- Exploring the feasibility of implementing a recognition program similar to Strathcona County's Gold Star initiative, which could boost participation and community pride while improving program outcomes.
- Work with local service providers to improve education on existing and future diversion options and bylaws.
- Developing more at-home/at-business tools like bin stickers and fridge magnets and sharing information on post-collection waste management can help reinforce proper sorting.

3.4 Improve Access to Diversion Services and Facilities

There is opportunity for the City to increase diversion of recyclable materials by improving services offered to residents and the ICI sector at the City's landfill.

The City has a designated drop-off areas at the landfill for recycling, which includes cardboard, electronics, blue bag materials, tires, appliances (part of metal recycling), scrap metal, clean concrete and HHW. Accepted HHW materials include paint, oil, oil containers and filters, batteries, and propane. Many of the items are recycled through stewardship programs or contracts with processors.

Construction and demolition (C&D) waste is also accepted at the landfill at the same tipping fees as garbage. Currently, the majority of C&D waste, excluding wood and concrete, are disposed in the landfill mixed with residual waste (garbage). However, the City would like to explore further options for C&D waste diversion to conserve landfill airspace as well as generate revenue from waste generators.

As part of the Phase 2 survey for the Master Plan, residents and businesses were asked what diversion services they would like to see added at the landfill. Of the business respondents, 67% were haulers,[20] 17% were collectors[21] and 8% preferred not to disclose. Residents were asked to rank five options and were able to provide further comments. Of the five options provided, brush and yard waste for

[20] Haulers was defined as transporting waste and recycling to processing facilities.
[21] Collectors was defined as businesses that collect waste and recycling from businesses or households.

composting was ranked highest, followed by having the options to drop-off items suited for reuse, cooking oils, clothing and textiles, and used books for donation (Figure 8).

When businesses were asked to rank different diversion options and provide further comments, brush and yard waste for composting was ranked highest, followed by the option to drop-off grease from grease traps, food waste for composting, asphalt shingles, and agricultural plastics (Figure 9).

All survey respondents were also asked to provide suggestions for additional recycling or diversion services missing at the landfill and most residents mentioned glass, hard/durable and flexible plastic packaging beyond what is currently accepted. Some referenced specific items for reuse such as books and toys. The most common comments from businesses referenced glass, tires and plastics to be accepted at the landfill.

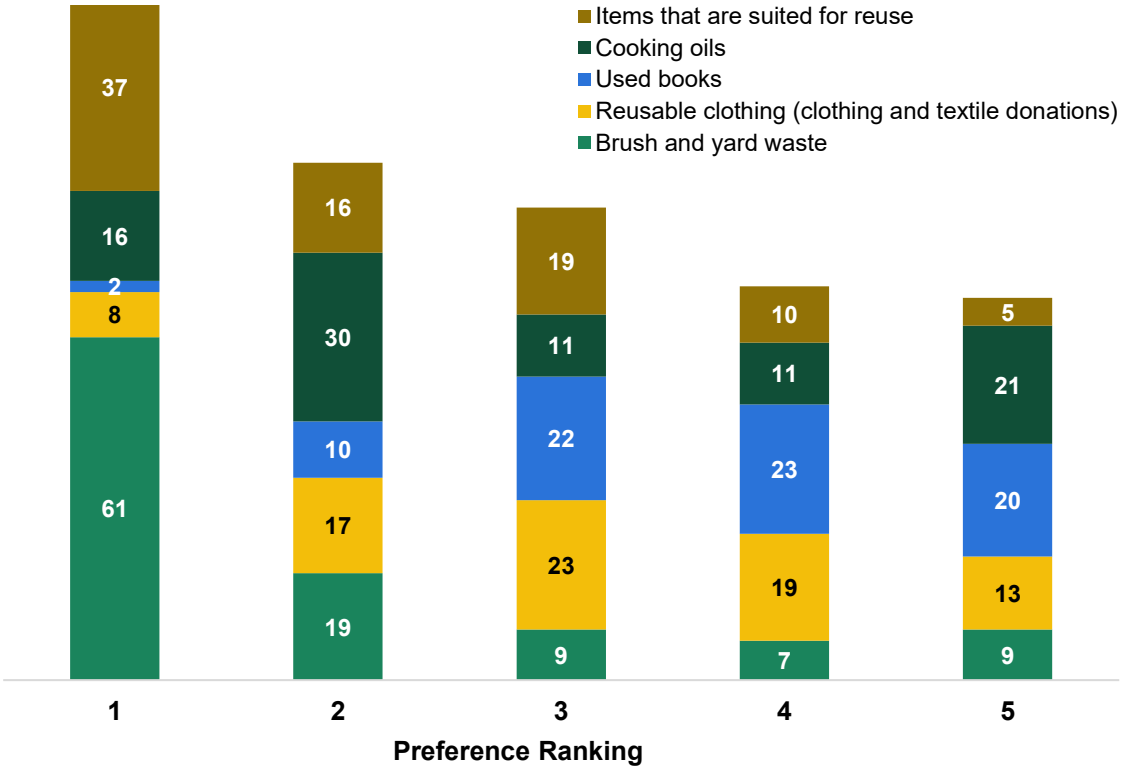


Figure 8: Additional diversion services to provide at the landfill ranked by residents

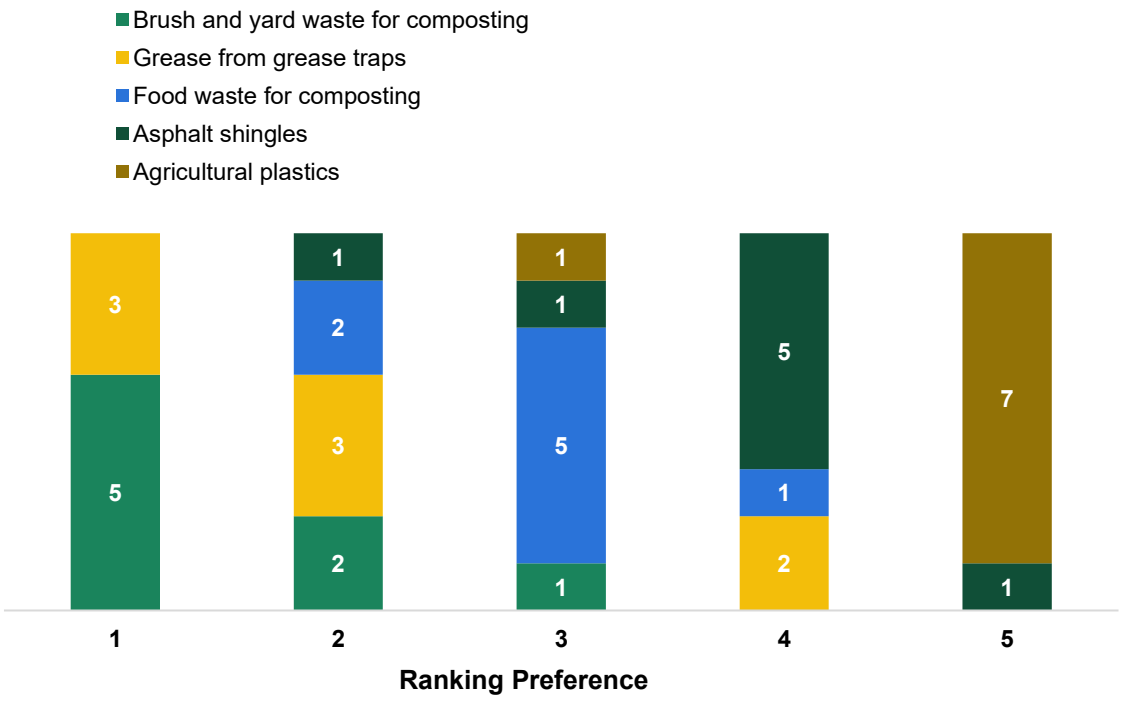


Figure 9: Additional diversion services to provide at the landfill ranked by businesses

3.4.1.1 Brush and Yard Waste

Based on the survey results, it is recommended that the City explores adding brush and yard waste collection for composting to the landfill as it was ranked the highest among both residents and commercial industrial survey respondents. There is opportunity to partner with a third party to compost the material on or off-site. The City can explore the option of expanding the public collection area at the landfill to include an area for residents and businesses to drop this off. The 2024 waste composition study noted that 9% of ICI waste and 15% of residential landfilled waste contained food or yard waste.

Additionally, the City may want to explore adding seasonal yard waste collection days for residents receiving curbside collection. This could be two to three days in the spring and fall where residents are allowed to place yard waste at the curb. Yard waste is often accepted in paper bags as these are biodegradable and recyclable and can hold a significant volume and weight of yard waste, including wet and dry leaves, twigs, and other garden debris. These pickup days are beneficial to coincide with spring and fall clean-up when residents often have more yard waste.

3.4.1.2 Reuse for Residents

Residents are interested in seeing more opportunity for reuse. It is recommended that the City staff explore various opportunities to increase reuse for residents. One option to increase reuse is by piloting a reuse shed at the landfill. Reuse sheds have shown to be successful but do come with challenges. Reuse sheds can turn into dumping grounds, so it is important to have oversight from staff to prevent misuse. It is recommended that the reuse shed is located at the scale so that staff can identify items that are acceptable to avoid misuse.

Strathcona County: The HodgePodge Lodge can be found at an Enviroservice Station (transfer station) in Sherwood Park. The HodgePodge Lodge is staffed by volunteers who sort and organize materials and assist customers. Paid staff at the transfer station are also around to assist. A list of acceptable and not acceptable materials/items is listed on their website. It is free to drop off and take items.

Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD), BC: Re-Use Centres can be found at five of CSRD transfer stations and at all four landfills. A tipping fee was introduced to prevent free dumping but may be a disincentive for residents to drop off items at the Re-Use Centres. These fees are $80 per metric tonne for bulk loads at scaled facilities, or $3 per bag. The Re-Use Center also requires a significant amount of time from staff to clean and maintain.



Figure 10: HodgePodge Lodge, Strathcona Country



Figure 11: Re-Use Centre, CSRD

Alternatively, the City can increase reuse through collaborations and donation events by partnering with local non-profits. Hosting events allows for dedicated staff to assist customers with reuse and can enhance reuse efforts by establishing long-term collaboration. The Cowichan Valley Regional District shifted to this model after challenges with unwanted materials in share sheds when left unstaffed.[22]

[22] z2 20240229 Warren SR Exploration of Reuse Initiatives at CSWM Facilities.pdf

3.4.1.3 C&D Waste Diversion

The City has expressed interest in expanding the current C&D waste separation at the landfill and save landfill airspace through C&D waste diversion. The 2024 waste composition study noted that 4% of ICI waste contained wood and 4% contained renovation and building material. The City can focus on reviewing its tipping fees to ensure that they sufficiently encourage the separation of divertible C&D materials and improving education on diversion options and associated tipping fees.

The City can also explore the option of accepting mixed loads for separation by landfill staff. This would require a large staging area for tipping of mixed loads and material separation. It is important that there are end-markets for the separated materials. The City may consider either staffing this service internally or contracting it out. Tipping fees for mixed loads must cover operational costs but be lower than the tipping fees of municipal solid waste for landfilling.

3.4.1.4 Pop-up Collection Events

One common comment received in the Phase 2 survey was the desire to have a centralized depot in the City for residents. The landfill is located approximately 6km outside of the City center. As outlined in Section 2, the City organizes the Annual Pitch-In Week in May and the Household Recycling Roundup, in partnership with ARMA. A waste audit conducted in August 2024 assessed waste disposed from both the residential curbside and the ICI sector (including MF) and found that approximately 57% of ICI waste and 47% of single-family residential waste consisted of potentially recyclable materials (printed paper, paper packaging, plastics, metals, and glass). This shows there is significant room for improvement to divert materials from the landfill.

Given the close proximity to the landfill, it is recommended that the City explore pop-up events throughout the year as an alternative to a centralized depot. The City can explore expanding the annual Pitch-In Week to include additional items that cannot be recycled with curbside collection. The City can also explore options for pop-up events in partnership with ARMA or Saskatchewan Recycles to increase collection of recyclable stewardship materials for residents. Frequency of events will depend on resource availability to plan and host these events. This can provide increased convenience for residents to recycle items that are not accepted for curbside recycling and be an opportunity for targeted engagement and education.

3.4.1.5 Grease from Grease Traps

The City currently requires all ICI food service facilities to install a fat, oil and grease (FOG) traps as part of the City's "Pollution Prevention" program (Bylaw 15-2021).[23] This program focuses on educating residents on 'flushables and unflushables', garburators, and FOG's. In addition to requiring FOG traps, this bylaw requires routine maintenance to prevent excessive buildup and keep the traps in good condition.

The survey indicated businesses would like to have a diversion option for this at the landfill. The City's solid waste department can work closely with the wastewater department to explore ways to increase

[23] Pollution Prevention | City of Lloydminster

education on current requirements and alternative solutions. Some options for the City to explore includes:

- Develop a grant program to help businesses equip their system or upgrade current traps with proper FOG traps,
- Connect businesses with companies in the area that collect and recycle or dispose of FOG,
- Develop a toolkit for businesses which may include how to clean and maintain FOG traps, ensure they have the proper size, and how to keep FOG out of the drain[24][25], and
- Explore the opportunity to collect FOG at the landfill and partner with a third-party to remove and recycle or properly dispose of FOG off-site.

There is no waste composition data on FOG from FOG traps ending up in the landfill, but this was a common request among businesses in the Phase 2 Waste Master Plan public survey.

4 Summary of Strategies and Actions

The following table summarizes the recommended strategies and actions for the City to consider as part of the Solid Waste Master Plan Update.

Table 2: Summary of Identified Strategies and Actions

#	Strategy	Potential Actions
1	Improve Organics Diversion	A) Explore opportunities for implementing MF organics collection. B) Explore opportunities for implementing an ICI organics pilot program.
2	Improve Recycling Diversion	C) Continue conversations with Recycle Saskatchewan and ARMA to determine a suitable approach to implementing residential EPR program(s) for the City. D) Advocate for the inclusion of new materials under the EPR programs, and for inclusion of the ICI sector, to improve access to recycling and reduce program costs. E) Explore expanding the list of banned materials at the landfill and adjust variable tipping fees to encourage diversion. F) Explore the feasibility of mandatory source separation for the ICI sector.
2	Improve Education and Enforcement	A) Hire a solid waste outreach and education coordinator to support program implementation and long-term diversion success.

[24] Fat, Oil and Grease Disposal | Banff, AB - Official Website
[25] Fats, oil and grease - food service establishments

4	Improve Access to Diversion Services and Facilities	A) Introduce brush and yard waste collection with the potential for composting at the landfill. B) Explore opportunities to facilitate reuse for residents through piloting a staffed reuse shed at the landfill or hosting reuse pop-up events. C) Implement material separation of mixed material loads at the landfill. D) Host pop-up events to collect items not accepted in curbside recycle bins. E) Explore opportunities to increase support to local businesses for recycling grease from grease traps.

5 Implementation Timeline

Following review and feedback from City staff, a high-level implementation timeline can be developed.

6 Closing

We trust the information presented in this memo meets your requirements. If you have any further questions or need additional details, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Stantec Inc.

Velsink, Alex Digitally signed by Velsink, Alex

Alex Velsink MNRM, BSc. ENVS
Solid Waste Planner
alex.velsink@stantec.com

Appendix A Multi-family Organics Collection by Municipality

Stantec

Memo

A.1 City of Saskatoon Multi-family Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with City of Saskatoon on June 24, 2025:

Saskatoon piloted MF organics in 2024, which included targeted engagement for residents that were part of the pilot program. The pilot included 24 buildings and 3 MF (referred to as multi-unit by Saskatoon) townhouse complexes, and participants were both condo owners and renters. Neighbourhoods with historically high contamination rates were not chosen to be part of the pilot. Organics service was provided by Loraas Disposal North through a service agreement and building involvement was optional.

Aspects assessed during the pilot included collection frequency, cart capacity, collection location, and design needs to meet MF sector needs. Details of the pilot include:

- Properties were provided with 360L carts, which the exception of one property that used 240L for indoor use. Findings showed that one 360L can service approximately 30 units with weekly collection.
- Carts are services by a rear-end loader and are required to be rolled out to the alley for collection. This allows carts to be placed as close to recycling and garbage containers as possible.
- Collection was piloted every other week and two times per week. Residents preferred weekly collection, but this varied for property size (how much space there is available for bins and number of bins), location and preference.
- Kitchen pails, BPI bags and information post-cards were given to all properties for education. Two properties only gave pails to residents that asked and participation in these buildings were lower than other buildings in the pilot.
- MF properties have very little yard waste as most buildings hire landscape services out and the material is hauled away. It is important that education and enforcement is used to ensure landscape service providers are hauling yard waste off property.

The pilot showed successful diversion outcomes, noting education, signage and communication were essential for residents' success. Waste audits were conducted during the pilot and Saskatoon found that approximately 29% of organic material going to landfill from the MF sector could be diverted. When engaged on cost, 87% of property managers and boards were supportive of moving waste collection to a utility. In 2024, this cost $4.10 per unit per month. In the end, 81% of participants supported a city-wide program.

MF (multi-Unit) Organics webpage: Multi-Unit Organics: Pilot Study | Saskatoon.ca

A.2 City of Leduc Multi-family Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with the City of Leduc on June 10, 2025:

The City of Leduc began exploring organics collection at multi-family in 2021 to align with single-family residential curbside collection. Leduc began with outreach to property managers, which included a survey and hosting public meetings to express interest. Further engagement was conducted from 2021-2023. In 2024 they amended their Waste Bylaw to require property owners to provide residents with recycling, organics and garbage collection. Leduc continued engagement to determine what program implementation would look like and to determine a timeline. They decided to give multi-family 1.5 years to adopt the program, which will be required as of January 1, 2026. They have developed a multi-family toolkit to help with the transition to organics and recycling collection. This toolkit includes:

- Provides tips and questions for hiring a collection company,
- Tips for sizing your bin,
- Where to store the bins,
- Provided signage,
- Tenant move in letter, and
- Tenant move out checklist.

Approximately 40% of properties were providing recycling collection to residents and none were providing organics collection. Engagement served as an alternative to a pilot program and council was supportive of implementation due to engagement efforts. Some details about program implementation include:

- There is no financial assistance being provided,
- Property management oversees getting recycling and organics collection,
- Kitchen catchers are being provided to some properties as an incentive to sign up early,
- Space for bins has been noted as a barrier, the most common solution to overcome this is to use a parking space. A guide was developed in 2020 which helps new multi-family buildings manage space (this is not a requirement),
- All buildings must submit a one-page annual diversion plan to show that they are providing residents with the appropriate services and the daily penalty for not providing this service is set at $500, and
- The entire city is rolling out at the same time.

A.3 Strathcona County Multi-family Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with Strathcona County on May 22, 2025:

Strathcona County introduced multi-family organics collection eleven years ago. This started with a bylaw that required any building built after 2015 to have comingled recycling and organics. Any building applying for a permit must go through the solid waste department to get the stamp of approval to ensure sufficient waste collection space and plans have been included. Since then, they have moved to a bylaw that requires all property managers to provide residents with the opportunity to separate materials, with the exception for assisted living facilities. They also require a compliance plan, which is monitored by the solid waste staff.

Strathcona County has a collection contract for single-family residential and another for multi-family and schools. They offer organics collection to multi-family buildings for a cart-based fee but cannot offer front-load. Any building built after 2015 can participate in Strathcona County's organics program or find a private hauler to provide the service. They have developed a contractor compliance plan for buildings choosing to use a private hauler.

Overall, Strathcona County has put substantial effort into education and outreach, helping property owners and managers through the entire process to ensure residents are receiving the appropriate services. They have not conducted a waste composition study but did have one multi-family building that conducted their own audit which had good results. This building also provides residents with electronics recycling using a bin in the lobby.

Strathcona County noted some important learning based on their experience, which includes:

- It is important to be clear about where bins are placed,
- Enforcement is difficult, there is no good system for online submittal of compliance plans,
- Compliance plans were first required to be submitted annually but are now required every two years due to the work required to monitor,
- It is an easy program if you provide property managers with the right information,
- Seniors' complexes are easy to work with,
- Dog poop bags and construction workers are the most common sources of contamination,
- Sheds with bins are difficult to manage and it is recommended to stay away from them,
- Rental properties are difficult due to the transient nature of them and residents take their kitchen catcher with them when they move,
- For new buildings, it is important to get in touch with the individual from the building who is in charge of getting waste collection for residents to help them through the process of acquiring the service and to achieve high compliance,
- If you can offer one fee per collection in comparison to cost per cart collected, you may get more buildings to sign up,
- The cost for a pilot is primarily collection costs, providing compost bins and bags.

Multi-family Organics webpage: Multi-family complex collection | Strathcona County

A.4 City of Lethbridge Multi-family Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with City of Lethbridge on July 14, 2025:

Lethbridge began laying the groundwork for waste diversion in 2013, with key investments in 2015 and supportive policies that set clear targets for 2021 and 2030. These goals helped drive council decisions and ensured long-term planning aligned with environmental priorities and public demand for more convenient waste services.

After some initial resistance from the 2021 council, strong engagement with property managers and boards helped secure support for the organics program. The City took 1.5 years to engage with the MF sector, which included identifying supportive and resistant properties. Their engagement focused on resistant properties and providing face-to-face opportunities for those property managers to discuss organics collection.

Lethbridge introduced recycling first, followed by organics, starting with a one-year pilot for small multi-family buildings (6 units or fewer). These programs were part of a phased approach, with multi-family included in Phase 3. The rollout was shaped by earlier planning and policy work and designed to build on existing infrastructure and resident feedback. Program details include:

- Small buildings (fewer than 45 units):
    - Residents place recyclables in designated collection areas.
    - The City collects and delivers recyclables to sorting facilities.
- Large buildings (45+ units):
    - May use the City's recycling service or apply for an exemption to use a private provider.
    - Exemptions require:
        - A clear recycling plan.
        - Use of a private hauler.
        - Recycling of the same materials as the City's program.
        - Proper containers and tracking of tonnage.
        - Resident education and reporting.
- Costs
    - Recycling: $7/month/unit (≈ $0.23/day)
    - Organics: $4/month/unit (≈ $0.13/day)
    - Fees support collection, facility operations, truck maintenance, and public education.
- Enforcement
    - No formal enforcement; any issues are addressed through conversations with property managers.
    - They have applied extra charges for highly contaminated loads.

Between 2019 and 2021, the City conducted waste audits for garbage, recycling, and organics. Results showed an increase in paper recovery and a decrease in contamination for recycling. Organics audits revealed most material was compostable, especially paper products. In response, seniors' homes were encouraged to use cardboard instead of compostable bags to manage odor and keep bins clean.

Multi-family Organics and Recycling webpage: Apartments and Condos Services | City of Lethbridge

Stantec

Memo

Appendix B ICI Organics Collection by Municipality

B.1 Strathcona County ICI Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with Strathcona County on May 22, 2025:

Strathcona County is currently conducting a pilot program for ICI organics collection. This pilot began in June 2024 in partnership with Circular Innovation Council (CIC) where the pilot was implemented in both Strathcona County and City of Westlock, AB. Strathcona County decided to continue the pilot program in 2025 but are no longer supported financially by CIC.

Strathcona County began by reaching out to over 300 businesses and received interest by 16 businesses. This took a substantial amount of follow-up through phone calls. The pilot program began with the 16 businesses participating and have since reduced to 13 but all represent different sectors. The pilot program was initially subsidized by CIC and was a collection-based subsidy based on the number of carts tipped. This worked out to be approximately $5 per tipped cart and for a small business, $43 per month (average). Since Strathcona County has extended the program, they are now subsidizing the businesses which comes to approximately $400-500 per month for the 13 businesses. The program used roll-out bins as there we no haulers that would collect organics in front-load bins. One grocery store left the program due to the collection requiring too much time for staff due to the quantity of food waste and only having roll-out bins. The largest barriers to participate was noted as property management and the program not being free to participate.

The CIC pilot partnered with the non-profit Leftovers to weight bins periodically. This enables them to provide businesses with progress reports at 3 and 6 months. They also periodically organized food rescue events. Over 12 months they were able to divert 158 tonnes of food waste and avoid 6400 tonnes of CO_2 emissions.

Strathcona County has continued to engage with all sectors and will be going to council to share what was heard and propose next steps. If approved, they plan to transition into an early adopter’s program. It was noted that engagement with businesses was difficult, and a remaining question is how to best enforce the program.

B.2 City of Saskatoon ICI Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with City of Saskatoon on June 24, 2025:

The City of Saskatoon identified the potential for increased waste diversion in the industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector through a 2016 waste characterization study, aligning with its broader goal of achieving 70% waste diversion. This led to extensive stakeholder engagement, reaching over 870 participants from businesses and organizations through workshops, surveys, and in-person meetings. Insights from this engagement informed a regulatory approach, which was approved by Council in January 2020. A phased in approach was taken, which included:

- January 2022: Recycling education
- October 2023: Recycling enforcement
- July 2023: Organics education
- October 2024: Organics enforcement (due to an election black-out period this was extended)

Under the bylaw, ICI establishments are required to:

- Maintain separate containers for recycling and organics (if organic waste is generated as part of operations).
- Educate staff annually on proper sorting practices.
- Ensure materials are delivered to appropriate processing facilities.
- Use private haulers for collection, with flexibility in container size, collection frequency, and service model.
- Small businesses may self-haul if preferred.

To support compliance, the City developed a comprehensive toolkit that includes topics such as bylaw overview, guidance on selecting a hauler, and printable signage for staff education. Compliance is complaint-based, with City staff conducting site visits to verify compliance when complaints are received. Also, in preparation for enforcement, staff conducted drop-in visits to assist businesses with setup and answering questions. These visits revealed that many large grocery stores were already diverting organics, and feedback on the face-to-face engagement was overwhelmingly positive.

A small pilot involving five schools was also conducted to assess the impact of organics collection in educational settings. As a result, schools with programs generating organic waste are now required to participate, with the City providing direct support for implementation.

The City is also promoting upstream solutions such as food donation, reduction, and reuse. Their website offers resources on donation opportunities, agricultural uses, and on-site composting. A database is currently in development to connect businesses with surplus organic material to those in need.

Two key challenges have emerged:

- Coordinating collection in mixed-use buildings with both residential and commercial tenants.
- Navigating potential conflicts with parking bylaws when businesses use parking spaces for waste containers.

ICI Organics webpage: Business Organics | Saskatoon.ca

B.3 City of Regina ICI Organics Collection

The following information was taken from the City of Saskatoon's ICI Waste webpage.

In November 2023, Regina City Council approved new waste management requirements for the ICI sector to support the City's long-term waste diversion goals. These regulations will come into full effect on January 1, 2028, requiring all businesses, institutions, and organizations within city limits to implement multi-stream waste management systems that separate recycling, food and yard waste, and garbage at the point of disposal, using a private hauler.

To assist with implementation, the City provides:

- A downloadable Multi-Stream Waste Management Guide
- Printable signage and educational posters
- Options to apply for waivers or legacy status for bin color requirements (e.g., for businesses with multi-stream collection prior to March 2023 do not have to comply with bin colour scheme)

Under the Waste Management Bylaw (No. 2012-63), ICI entities must:

- Separate recyclables, food and yard waste, and garbage at the source
- Maintain clearly labeled and color-coded bins:
    - Blue for recycling
    - Green for food and yard waste
    - Black or brown for garbage
- Ensure consistent collection and appropriate processing of all streams
- Provide staff with clear information on bin locations and accepted materials

An Early Adopter Incentive Program is available to encourage businesses to transition ahead of the 2028 deadline. Compliance will be monitored, and businesses are expected to maintain visible, well-maintained signage and follow the color-coding system.

B.4 City of Lethbridge ICI Organics Collection

The following information was gathered from an interview with City of Lethbridge on July 14, 2025:

The Mandatory Recycling and Organics Program is a key component of Lethbridge's Business Waste Diversion Strategy, aiming to reduce commercial and industrial waste by 45% by 2030. This initiative complements the Lethbridge's residential curbside recycling and organics programs and targets the Industrial, Commercial & Institutional (ICI) and Construction & Demolition (C&D) sectors, which together contribute about two-thirds of landfill waste. Mandatory recycling and organics applies to all businesses and organizations in Lethbridge, including non-profits and charities.

Initially, multi-family (MF) properties were grouped together with the commercial sector, but they have since been separated to better tailor waste diversion strategies. Early waste audits showed that many recyclable and compostable materials were ending up in the garbage stream. At the time, the City was cautious about being seen as managing the market so they were focusing on reducing landfill tonnage through financial incentives and increasing garbage tipping fees. Requiring organics and recycling collection was introduced later, as private collectors (e.g., blue bin providers) were already operating in the area. Businesses must find a private hauler. Other program details include:

Implementation Timeline:

- 2013: ICI Waste Strategy initiated
- 2015: Strategy approved
- 2018: Waste diversion targets revised
- 2020: Partial implementation (Mandatory Recycling with surcharges)
- 2023: Full implementation (Mandatory Recycling & Organics with surcharges)
- 2030: Target of 45% waste diversion for ICI and C&D sectors

Business Requirements:

1. Provide clearly labeled recycling and organics containers with images of acceptable materials.
2. Educate staff annually on recycling and organics requirements.
3. Submit annual waste reports via the Re-TRAC Connect platform.

Support for Businesses:

- Business Waste Diversion Toolbox, including:
  - A Recycling/Organics Sign Maker
  - Training resources for staff
  - A video guide and FAQs
  - The Re-TRAC Connect Self-Reporting Guide

ICI Organics webpage: Commercial Waste and Recycling | City of Lethbridge