
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 7th, 2001
File No.: 5360-03

To: City Manager

From: Drainage/Solid Waste Manager

Subject: **Landfill Operations**

Recommendation

THAT Council receive the following report as information;

AND THAT Council support the continued operation of the Glenmore Landfill on a six-day per week basis.

Background

Currently the landfill is open to the public Monday to Saturday from 7:30am until 4:45pm. It is closed on Sundays and statutory holidays. Earlier this year Council requested staff to investigate expanding operations to include Sunday openings for the convenience of disposal, possibly at reduced hours and during certain months.

The following information was assessed:

Cost

There would be additional costs of opening the landfill on Sundays. The cost is approximately \$2,000 per additional day of operation. This expenditure would be necessary to provide staff and equipment to operate the scalehouse, compact the incoming garbage, maintain the recycle areas, provide assistance and monitoring of disposal activities and to ensure proper cover at the end of the day. At this time the additional cost of Sunday openings would need to be borne by the residential customer, as there is no commercial or operational need for an expanded workweek.

Past History

During 1997 and 1998, the landfill was open on Sundays during "Chip-It Weeks". This program consisted of Sunday openings for three weeks in the spring and again three weeks in the fall at which time residential yard waste up to eight inches in diameter was accepted for free. During this time, the weekend traffic was split 84% - 16% on Saturday and Sunday respectively. However, it is recognized that this split would equalize as the community became conditioned to Sunday openings.

Yard Waste Collection

The spring and fall curbside yard waste collection program was initiated in 1999. This program is highly utilized by our residential customers and has reduced peak spring and

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fall traffic volumes at the landfill considerably. "Chip-It Months" was also introduced in 1999 and expanded on the "Chip-It Weeks" concept of free disposal, however, the Sunday openings were not continued. The yard waste collection program and the expanded duration of free disposal has maintained the peak volumes of vehicle trips to the landfill on Saturdays to a manageable level.

Surrounding Neighbourhood

Although efforts are made to minimize their impacts - traffic, noise and dust are generated at the Glenmore Landfill. These by-products of an operating landfill are periodically raised as issues by surrounding landowners. Implementation of a Sunday opening will not be seen positively by the neighbourhood.

Site Constraints

It is not uncommon to have greater than 1000 vehicle trips on a Saturday in the spring. This results in queuing at the scalehouse and congestion in the disposal areas; however, it is still manageable at this time.

Public Requests

Since the Sunday opening was discontinued in 1999, landfill management staff have received only three requests to reinstate this.

Inevitably the operation of the Glenmore Landfill will require opening seven days per week. This need will continue to be evaluated on a yearly basis during budget reviews. Increased traffic volumes will generate implementation of Sunday openings as the community population continues to grow.

Alan Newcombe
Drainage/Solid Waste Manager

John Vos
Director of Works and Utilities

AN/ms