
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: Sept. 14, 2005
File No.: 5360-03

To: City Manager

From: Environment & Solid Waste Manager

Subject: Landfill Compactor

Recommendation:

THAT Council authorizes the Equipment Division to tender and purchase a new landfill garbage compactor;

AND THAT the 2005 Financial Plan be amended to provide for this equipment acquisition with funding of \$ \$800,000 from the Landfill Reserve.

Background:

The City has two landfill garbage compactors to ensure proper compaction of garbage at the Glenmore Landfill. The City acquired a new compactor in 2003 while the old one was kept for an anticipated special biocell project as well as for backup during equipment maintenance periods and peak workload periods.

At approximately 3:40 on Sept. 13, 2005 the old unit, a Cat 826 C Compactor, caught on fire and was completely destroyed. Preliminary investigation suggests the fire was started by a hydraulic component that blew oil over the engine compartment causing a hotter than usual fire. Our staff reacted quickly and pushed the burning compactor off the garbage and put the fire out. The fire department attended to ensure that it was fully extinguished. The machine is a write off and the Equipment division is working with the Risk Manager regarding insurance coverage. The actual cash value of the destroyed compactor will be significantly less than the cost for a new unit. Our primary landfill compactor is currently down for repairs and will not be operational for some time as we await parts from the US.

We have currently accessed a bulldozer for compaction. Our regular compactor can achieve a compacted density of about 750 kg/m³ while the dozer can only reach densities of around 325 kg/m³. This will result in a substantial loss of air space and resulting loss of landfill space. Ability to temporarily rent a replacement unit will also be considered.

Staff was already intending to request a new landfill compactor as part of the 2006 budget process due the age and condition of the older unit plus the growing needs generated by ever increasing garbage quantities being received at the landfill site. The cost of a new compactor is approximately \$*800,000.00. In light of the circumstances we are asking Council to advance the decision due to the circumstances we are now encountering. Funding is available through

the Landfill Reserve and any insurance proceeds received will be placed back into the Landfill Reserve.



Mark Watt,
Environment & Solid Waste Manager

Approved for inclusion by:
John Vos, Director of Works & Utilities

cc. Director of Financial Services
Roadways and Equipment Superintendent