

# Recycling in Parks Program Update

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July 21, 2025 Regular Council Meeting

# Purpose

- Provide Council with an update on existing recycling in parks and options for potential expansion in Ambleside Park.



# Amount Diverted from Landfill

- Phase 1 – Three-Stream (landfill, containers, organics)
  - Millenium Park
  - John Lawson Park
  - Dundarave Park
  
- Phase 2 – Two-Stream (landfill, containers)
  - Horseshoe Bay Park
  - Whytecliff Park

	Recycling in Parks	Landfill in Parks
Year	(MT)	(MT)
<b>2023</b>	4	254
<b>2024</b>	4.8	262

# Contamination

- 36.9% in Containers
- 18.5% in Organics



Landfill



Containers



Organics

## Requirements for Phase 3 – Ambleside Park

- New Receptacles
  - three-stream receptacles near concession and picnic areas
  - two-stream receptacles near sports facilities and walkways
- Disposal Compound Expansion
  - recycling streams require additional dumpsters
- Electric Utility Vehicle
  - to accommodate additional collection requirements
- Additional Operating Costs



# Financial Implications

Program Costs		
	Capital	Annual Operating
<b>Phase 1 (2023)</b>	\$138,900	\$80,700
<b>Phase 2 (2024)</b>	\$48,600	\$99,600
Audits		\$56,000
Public Education		\$13,000
Total to date:	\$187,500	\$249,300
<b>Phase 3 Proposal (2026)</b>	\$202,000	\$53,500

# Financial Implications

## Capital

- \$107,000 Receptacles
  - \$ 55,000 Ambleside disposal compound expansion
  - \$ 40,000 Electric utility vehicle
- \$202,000

## Operating

- \$53,500 Staffing, bin service, and tipping

## Additional cost per household 2026

- \$2.60 Increase in rates above 2025



# Benefits and Challenges

## Benefits

- Public expectation
- Council Strategic Objective
- Diversion from landfill
- Aligns with Environmental Reserve Fund criteria
- Diversion potential is high
- Operational efficiency in the waterfront parks

## Challenges

- Contamination rates are high
- Diversion rates are low
- Minimal improvement to date
- High expense per tonnage diverted
- Risk to District credibility if program is unsuccessful at diversion

# Considered Option 1

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. the June 24, 2025 report from the Parks Maintenance Manager titled Recycling in Parks Program Update be received for information;
2. beginning in 2026, once the necessary equipment and storage infrastructure is in place, staff initiate Phase 3 (Ambleside Park) of the Recycling in Parks Program;
3. staff incorporate an increase to the Public Realm Refuse Fee in the Solid Waste Utility in 2026 to fund the \$53,500 operating costs for implementation of Phase 3 of the Recycling in Parks Program;
4. capital costs of \$162,000 for receptacles and expansion of the Ambleside Park disposal compound be funded from the Environmental Reserve Fund;
5. capital costs of \$40,000 for the purchase of an electric utility vehicle from the Environmental Reserve Fund;
6. staff report to Council 12 months following implementation on the results of diverting waste from the landfill.

## Considered Option 2

### RECOMMENDATION

#### THAT

1. the June 24, 2025 report from the Parks Maintenance Manager titled Recycling in Parks Program Update be received for information;
2. staff defer Phase 3 expansion pending diversion and contamination rate improvements in existing public realm recycling in parks;
3. staff be directed to continue to investigate and employ options to improve diversion and contamination rates; and
4. staff report to Council in 12 months on the results of diverting waste from the landfill and based on those results, consider expansion.

**Thank You!**  
**Questions?**

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