

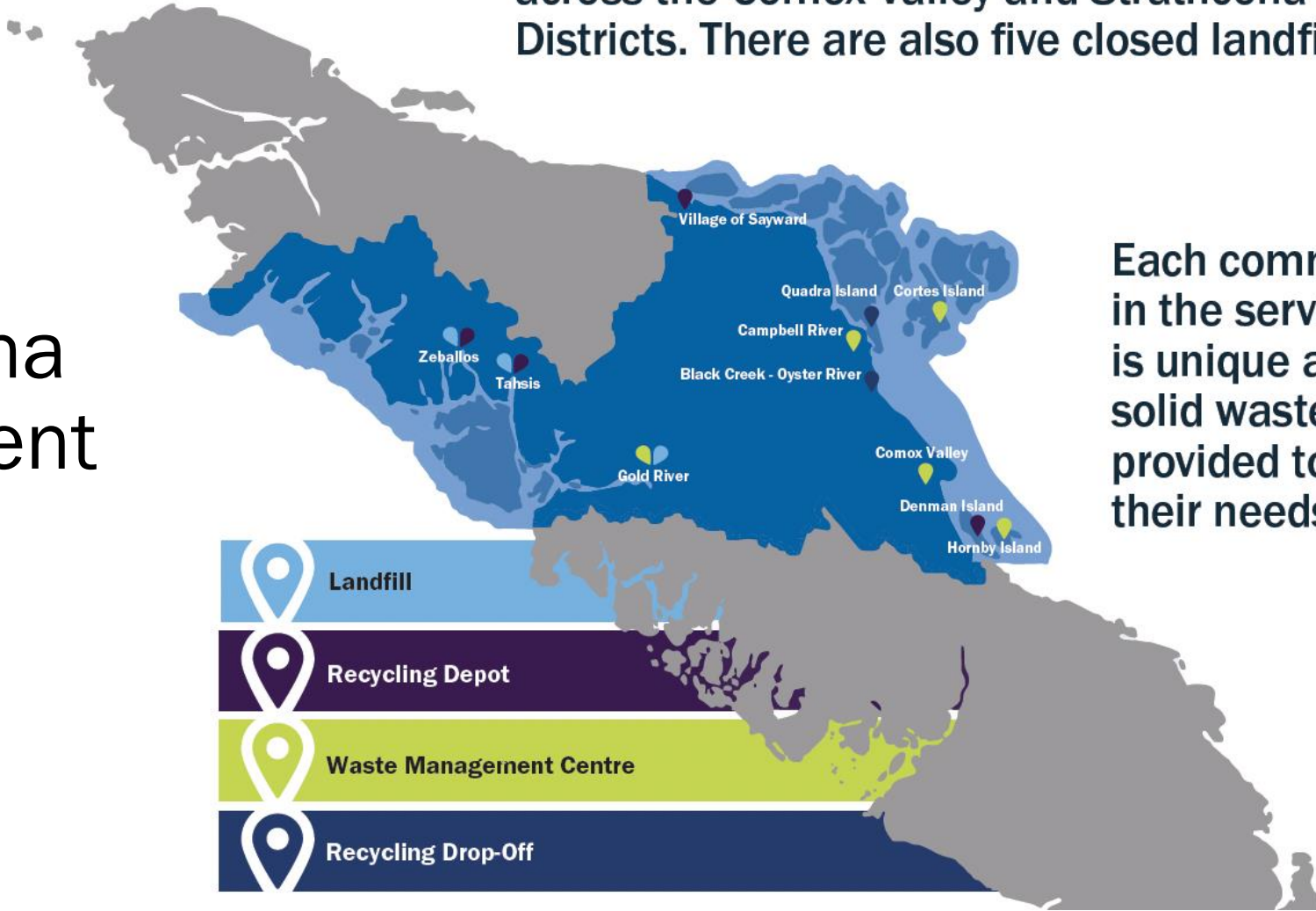
Solid Waste Management Plan Renewal



City of Courtenay
Council Presentation
June 12, 2024

CSWM operates waste management centres, recycling depots, transfer stations and landfills across the Comox Valley and Strathcona Regional Districts. There are also five closed landfills.

What is the Comox Strathcona Waste Management Service?



Each community in the service area is unique as are the solid waste services provided to meet their needs.

What is a Solid Waste Management Plan?



- The long-term vision for garbage and recycling.
- Presents the programs, services, infrastructure and policies that guide the design and implementation of solid waste for the next decade.
- The current Regional Solid Waste Management Plan was approved by the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy in 2013.

Why is a Solid Waste Management Plan Needed?

- The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategies recommends plans be renewed every 10 years.
- As communities, regulations, and public needs change, CSWM must adapt to meet the evolving environment through the delivery of effective, cost efficient and convenient solid waste management services.
- Waste disposal is a long-term problem, without quick solutions.

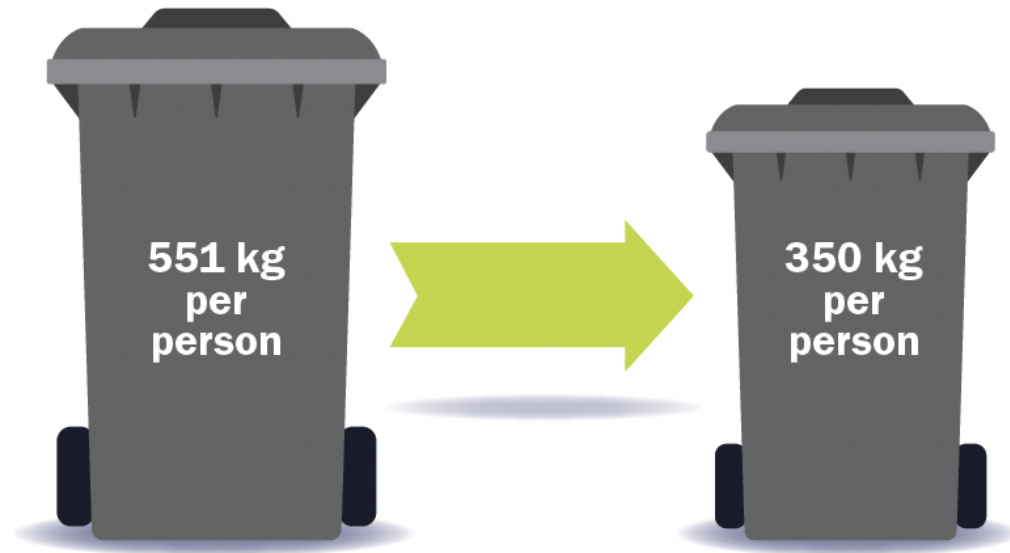


What is the goal of a Solid Waste Management Plan?

The goal is to produce less garbage.

On average, each person in the service area generates 551 kg of waste annually. The provincial target is 350 kg per person.

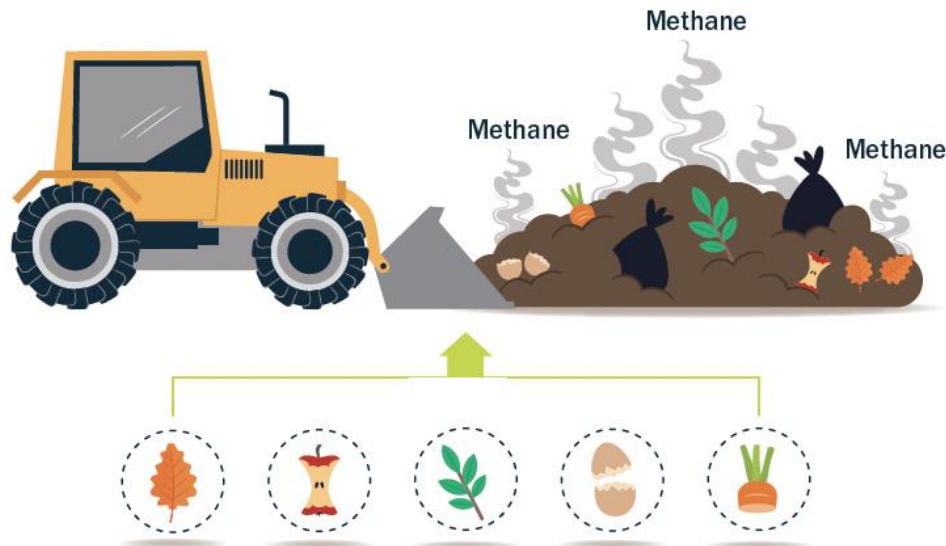
The CSWM service manages over 75,000 tonnes of waste and recycled material annually and oversees diversion and education programs for the CVRD and the SRD.



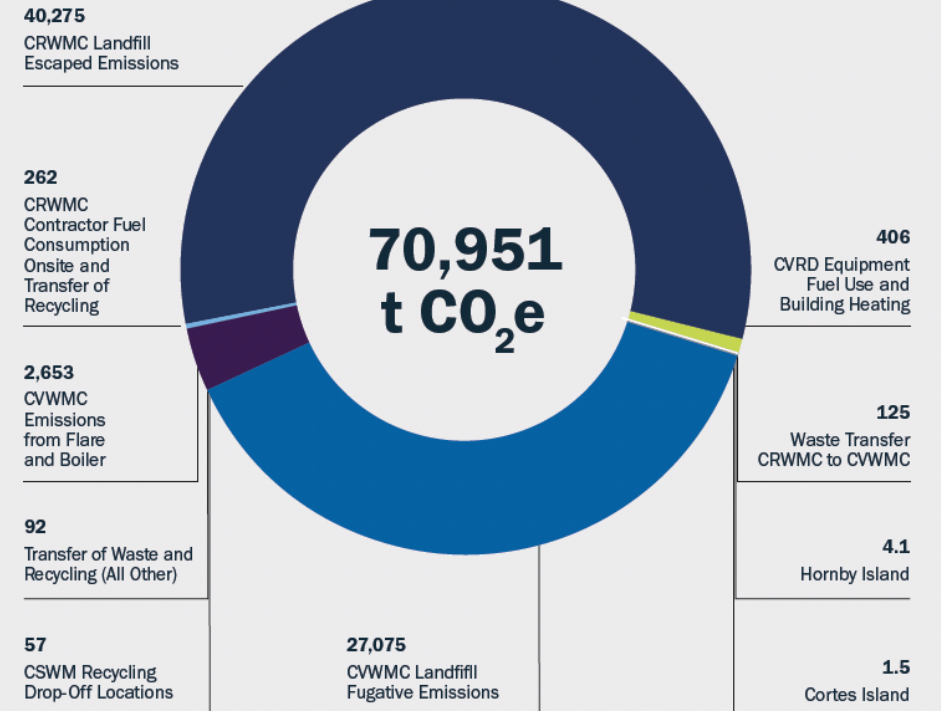
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Municipal landfills account for about 23% of Canada's methane emissions. 95% of CSWM GHG's are generated from Comox Valley and Campbell River Waste landfills.

Less organic waste in landfills = less methane

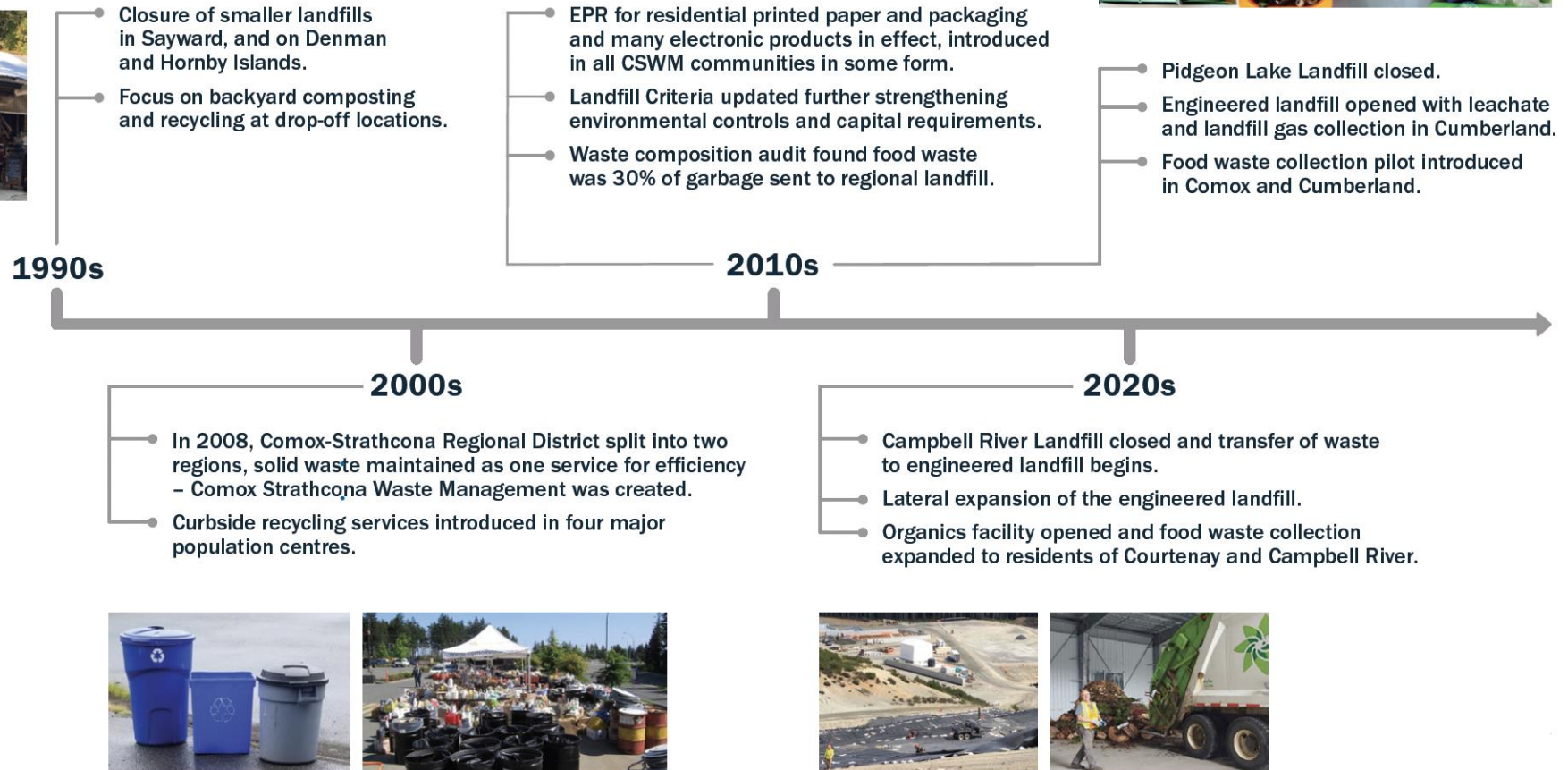


Estimate of 2021 Greenhouse Gases from CSWM Service (Tonnes of CO₂ Equivalent)



Evolution of Waste Management in CSWM

How far we have come:



Sphere of Influence

Municipal or First Nation	Regional District	Provincial Government	Federal Government
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Residential Collection ✓ ICI or Multi-Family Collection ✓ Public Area Waste Collection ✓ Building and Business permits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solid Waste Management Plans ✓ Residual Waste Management ✓ Waste Diversion Targets ✓ Collection in Electoral Areas ✓ Recycling Depots ✓ Advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Environmental Management Act ✓ Recycling Reg. ✓ LFG Management Reg. ✓ Organic Matter Recycling Reg. ✓ Funding of Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Canadian Environmental Protection Act ✓ Single-use Plastics Prohibition Reg. ✓ Plastics Labelling, Registry, Recycled Content ✓ Landfill Emissions ✓ Grant Funding

The SWMP Renewal Process



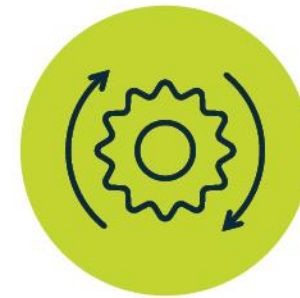
1.
Initiate the process
July 2022 to December 2022



2.
Set the Plan Direction
January 2023 to September 2023



3.
Evaluate Options
2024 to 2025



4.
Prepare and Adopt the Plan
2025 to 2026

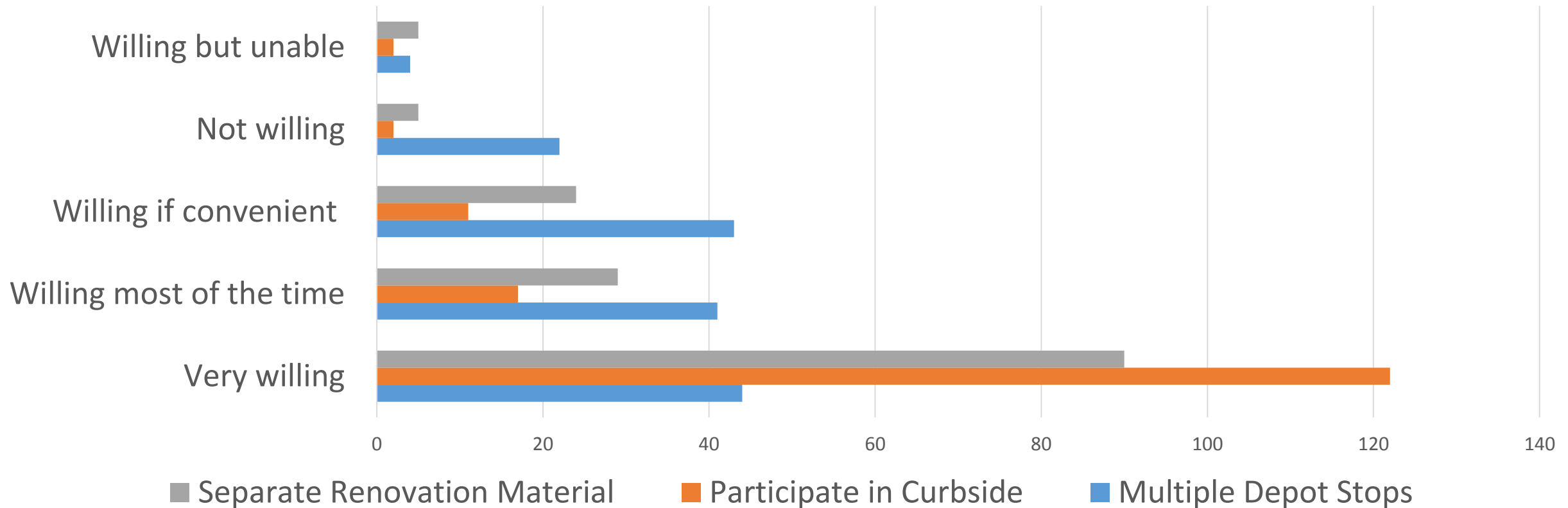
Step 1: Initiation - 2022

- Recruited the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Survey of experiences with garbage, recycling and organics in their community (November 2022)
- Respondents expressed a desire for improved facilities to support an increased diversion of recycling, yard and food waste, with a primary focus on the need for increasing convenience and accepting a wider range of materials.



Resident Survey – 157 Courtenay Responses

How willing and able are you to take the following actions to increase your waste diversion?



Step 2: Plan Direction - 2023

Goal

1

To support regional circular economy approaches, and to work towards a goal of zero waste.



Goal

2

To reduce and remediate environmental impacts from solid waste management activities.



Goal

3

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to pursue beneficial use of landfill gas.



Goal

4

To responsibly manage waste, and to minimize the amount of residual waste in landfills.



Goal

5

To have informed residents, businesses and community partners empowered to participate effectively and consistently in proper waste management practices. To use CSWM enforcement powers when necessary.



Goal

6

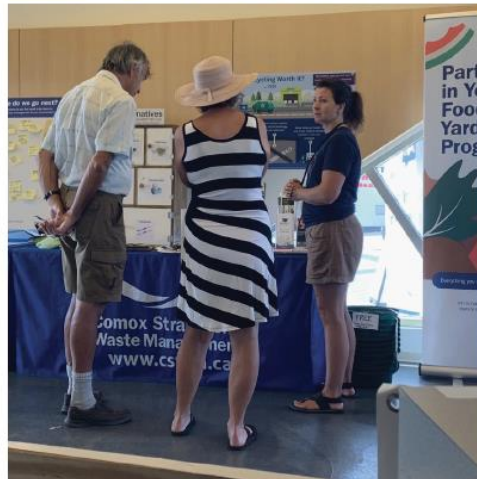
To ensure that the CSWM solid waste service are financially sustainable and delivered equitably across the region, recognizing and leveraging the unique challenges and cultures of our rural and remote communities.



To learn more about our goals and guiding principles you can visit our project webpage:

www.engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp

What We Have Heard So Far...



Step 2: Canada Day – Feedback

- Improve options for recycling soft plastics, glass and Styrofoam
- Improved recycling options and waste management support for hospitals, businesses, schools, and homeless population.
- Explore options for recycling or reuse of dog waste.
- Rethink packing, i.e.: stop wrapping fruits and vegetables in plastic, stop individually packaging everything. Regulate the type of packaging/ wrapping – make it recyclable.
- More frequent recycling pickup, or larger containers, multiple sites that make it easier for people to recycle.

Step 2: Canada Day – Feedback

- Toolkit for businesses that show better recycling and waste reduction practices.
- Provide alternative options for seniors who are unable to drive to the depot.
- Recommend a drop off repair outlet (i.e. seamstress who can repair clothing and then donate it) so items don't end up in the landfill.
- Allow a second yard waste cart.

Step 3: Strategies and Options

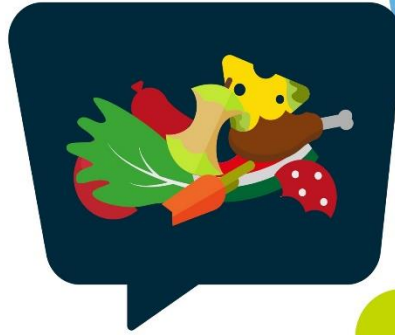


Step 3: Strategies and Options - 2024

- Generate strategies to achieve desired objectives
 - Landfill Tour in Cumberland – September 14th
 - Organics Facility Open House in Campbell River – September 21st
- Evaluate financial and resource implications
- Advisory and Board to consider long list of strategies.
- Bring ideas and options to the public for consideration through in-person and online consultation in 2025



Questions?



Weigh In On Waste



2017 Waste Composition Study Results

