



# REPORT

To: Solid Waste Committee

Report Number: ENV-SWC-045

From: Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Manager

Date: June 3, 2021

**Subject: 24 Hour Access Pilot at Manned Transfer Stations**

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## **RECOMMENDATION #1:**

That the Solid Waste Committee recommend that the Regional Board approve a 12 month pilot program beginning in July of 2021 at the manned transfer stations located in Moberly Lake and Prespatou, which allows for residents to dispose of household bagged waste outside of operating hours, free of charge.

## **RECOMMENDATION #2:**

That the Solid Waste Committee recommend that the Regional Board authorize that a report be provided to the May 2022, Solid Waste Committee meeting which summarizes the 24 hour access pilot successes and challenges.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

Equality of access to solid waste services in the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) has been part of the Regional Solid Waste Management plan since 2008. The current collection network within PRRD consists of 3 Landfills, 16 manned transfer stations, and 13 unmanned transfer stations.

At landfills and manned transfer stations, users have the ability to dispose of multiple types of waste streams depending on the site (landfill, tier 1, tier 2). Currently, users are only able to access the sites during posted business hours. Additionally, at PRRD manned sites, residents are required to pay tipping fees for materials calculated based on either a weight or a volume basis, depending on the site.

At unmanned sites, users can only dispose of a single waste stream, household bagged waste, which is accepted 24 hours a day at no cost. Disposal of household bagged waste is universally available to all users, regardless of disposal site designation.

Staff would like to begin a 12-month pilot, starting July of 2021, to help take a first step towards harmonizing service across the regions collection network, through 24 hour access to bagged waste disposal services at two manned transfer stations, Moberly Lake and Prespatou.

The manner of collection at each site will differ slightly, and a brief description of each site has been provided below.

### **Moberly Lake TS**

This site was selected as it has the smallest footprint of any of the manned transfer stations (approximately 26m x 58m or 0.36 acres<sup>1</sup>). For this site, a drop box system will be utilized. The drop box will use three ¾ yard tilt trucks, housed within an enclosed frame. Each tilt truck will have an access

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<sup>1</sup> Rolla TS 0.64 acres, Cecil Lake 1.73 acres, Tomslake 2.25 acres

door that will limit the size of waste that can be deposited, only allowing bagged waste. The drop box will be located inside the compound fence, with the doors accessible to residents outside of the compound.

At the start of each shift, the site attendant will wheel the tilt trucks over to the compactor and count the number of bags that were deposited outside of operating hours. For comparison, bags deposited during business hours will also be counted.

### **Prespatou TS**

This site was selected due to the large space available outside of the fenced compound. For this site, a 30 yard “bear bin” will be utilized. The bear bin has 3 access doors along the side of the bin for users to place their waste inside. The size of the doors will help limit the amount of bulky items that can be deposited. Once a bin is full, it will be hauled to the North Peace Regional Landfill for disposal.

This collection method will allow the tonnage to be tracked. Compactor tonnage collected during business hours will be tracked and compared to the after hour bin usage.

The pilot program is intended to identify resident usage patterns and preferences. Through the duration of the pilot, each site will also be monitored for use and abuse; this will be summarized in the update report for the May 2022 Solid Waste Committee meeting for consideration and next steps.

### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Solid Waste Committee provide further direction.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

A breakdown of anticipated costs to establish each pilot site are summarized below:

#### **Moberly Lake Transfer Station:**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Purchase truck carts	\$2,700
Drop Box Construction	\$1,000
Fence Modification	\$1,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,700</b>

\$5,000 was budgeted for the pilot at Moberly Lake in the 2021 budget process.

#### **Prespatou Transfer Station:**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Bear Bin Rental (12 months)	\$3,552
Tipping Fee (1 per month)	\$4,440
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,992</b>

**Loss of Tipping Fee Revenue:**

Because tipping fees cannot be applied to the material collected through this pilot, the PRRD will see a loss in potential tipping fee revenue. Similar to the clean-up campaigns, we could potentially see an increase in tonnage that arrives to the site due to the pilot.

As background information, tipping fee revenue collected in 2020 from each site is provided below:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Household Waste Tonnage</u>	<u>Bagged Waste Tipping Fee Revenue Collected</u>	<u>Contractor Operating Costs</u>
Moberly Lake	109.13 tonnes	\$7,082	\$75,663
Prespatou	44.23 tonnes <sup>2</sup>	\$2,432	\$90,344

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

None at this time.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

Tipping fees are collected at landfills and manned transfer stations in accordance with Solid Waste Regulation and Fees Bylaw No. 2065, 2013. As this pilot offers service outside of operating hours, when no site personnel is available, the site essentially becomes an unmanned site. Therefore, the bylaw does not apply. However, if a resident comes to the site during business hours, they will have to pay the appropriate tipping fees.

In the future, if a pilot is established where tipping fees are not going to be collected at manned sites during business hours, an exception would have to be added in under the current Solid Waste Regulation and Fees Bylaw No. 2065, 2013 to list the sites and time period that fees will not be collected.

<sup>2</sup> In total, Prespatou handled 104.578 tonnes and collected \$3,984 in tipping fee revenue when the other waste streams are added.