

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – OCTOBER 24, 2005

KEELE VALLEY LANDFILL SITE CLOSURE REPORT

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services in consultation with the Keele Valley Implementation Committee and the Director of Parks Development recommends:

1. That Council receive this report for information; and,
2. That staff continue to monitor the Keele Valley closure implementation plan.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the rehabilitation options and action plan strategies for the Keele Valley Landfill Site and further, to review the existing agreement regarding rehabilitation of the Keele Valley Landfill Site to ensure suitable uses.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Committee of the Whole directed staff to provide an update on the closure strategy and implementation plan.

The following summary was developed through a report submitted by J.H. Stevens, Planning and Development Consultants and in discussions with Mr. Lou Chiardullo, Manager – Landfills, regarding the status of the Keele Valley Landfill and Avondale Closure Plans:

General

- a) Toronto KVL final Closure Report continues to be a number of months away, with no estimated timing for its submission to the Ministry;
- b) Vaughan Councillors were advised at last KVL Liaison Committee meeting that this was simply a function of complexity of reports and overall priorities, not a reflection of KVL status a closed to land filling;
- c) Report, when complete, will include an end use plan and will include a landscape plan;
- d) The Closure Plan will be a revised report to address Vaughan's comments;
- e) Revised report to also include the closure report for Avondale.

End Use Plan and Landscaping

- a) End use plan to show existing roads, topography, existing vegetation and planned vegetation on the site;
- b) Currently tree planting is continuing with input from TRCA;
- c) TRCA pleased with progress - approximately 85% success rate;
- d) Tree planting on south east slope completed by TRCA;
- e) Tree planting on west slope and central portion of site undertaken Spring 2005;
- f) Planting plan still not prepared - will be provided as part of Closure Plan;
- g) Future planting areas will include an increase in tree size - currently just planting seedlings but future phases will include larger trees;
- h) Plans, which have been completed or are in progress, provide for 30, 3m x 50m belts of planting, which are topsoiled, rototilled and snow fenced for protection. Trees planted within these areas include ash, black cherry, silver maple and shrubs such as sumac, snowberry, silverberry and choke cherry.

Avondale

- a) Decision made to also include Avondale Closure in the Keele Valley Closure report rather than separate report as originally intended;
- b) Avondale site has been rehabilitated as per MNR license, which will form the basis for the Avondale End Use Plan;
- c) All buildings now removed; all compost area removed;
- d) Fencing around compost area removed;
- e) Asphalt grindings on roads throughout site have been removed;
- f) Asphalt pad at north central part of the site may remain subject to MNR rehabilitation plan;
- g) Topsoil placement and grading complete - hydro-seeding completed early September 2005;
- h) Closure report will include programme for monitoring of leachate and landfill gas north of Vaughan's landfill although monitoring undertaken to date has never shown a migration of leachate or methane gas to the north;
- i) Closure plan for Avondale will not integrate Vaughan's plans for North Maple Park, possibly this could change depending upon Vaughan's acquisition of Avondale;
- j) City of Toronto will be in a position within the next month to submit documentation to the MNR requesting surrender from the license.

Technical Issues

- a) MOEE is providing detailed review of all the technical issues such as monitoring leachate plumes; gas migration etc. and reviewing the long-term care plan for monitoring and responding to issues as they arise;
- b) York Major Holdings also involved in this aspect due to concern over impact on golf course of any remediation, which may be required.

Next Steps

- a) Continue to monitor progress;
- b) Review of draft final Closure Plan when received from the City of Toronto.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

Staff is continuing to monitor the closure plan and regular updates and discussions take place at the Keele Valley Liaison Committee meetings.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

Marlon Kallideen
Commissioner of Community Services