

SOLID WASTE OPTIONS Submission Form

office use

Title _____ First Name _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Town _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Group or organisation you are representing (if applicable) _____

Would you like to speak to your submission at the public hearing? Yes No

Council's consultation process is public and your comments will be available for public inspection. Your submission won't be returned to you. If you require a copy, please make one before submitting.

TIPS to a clear submission 1. Print legibly. 2. Use simple language 3. Be clear and concise

MY SUBMISSION

My preferred option is (please tick only one):

Option 1 - Build a transfer station, and transport waste to a commercial landfill.

Option 2 - Develop another landfill cell next to the current cell. This option also requires a Transfer Station.

Why?

Anything else?

Drop your submission in to the Council offices in Putāruru or Tokoroa or to the Dog in Tīrau or mail to Freepost Authority Number 201, SOLID WASTE OPTIONS, South Waikato District Council, Torphin Crescent, Tokoroa, 3420

Have your say! Wednesday 5 December to Thursday 31 January, 4pm

SOLID WASTE OPTIONS... HAVE YOUR SAY!

To protect our whenua (land) for a sustainable future, we need to address the immediate future management of all the solid waste services in the South Waikato.

This document describes the options available for the future management of waste in our district. It covers collection, disposal, recycling and reduction.

- We have four key objectives regarding the future of waste:
- Provide best value to ratepayers and landfill users
 - Reduce the total amount of waste to landfill
 - Maximise the total amount of material diverted from landfill
 - Provide support to South Waikato Achievement Trust (SWAT) for the re-use and recovery of materials

The last two decades have seen a significant change in the way that waste is viewed and managed both nationally and globally.

The focus is now on reducing waste at every step, with waste disposal considered to be a last option. This is reflected in national and local legislation. We need to stop more waste going to landfill and recover more through recycling and re-use.

This is why we are providing stakeholders, ratepayers and the South Waikato community with this consultation document. It outlines two key waste disposal options - do we build a new landfill or transport our waste out of the district.

Council staff, together with engineering and waste consultants have developed a preferred option. This is option 1 (over the page) - Build a Transfer Station and transport solid waste out of the district to a commercial landfill.

A range of criteria were used in the development of these options including reducing environmental impact, best value for ratepayers and best practice regarding waste management and minimisation.

Our preferred option is seen as an effective way of managing our responsibilities well in a way that doesn't overburden ratepayers.

But we want to know what you think.

"OUR COMMUNITY EXPECT, AND DESERVE, THE RIGHT TO ENSURE A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE BY REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF RESOURCES WE THROW AWAY, RE-USING AND RECYCLING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE, AND THINKING ABOUT THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT EVERY TIME WE SHOP."



<p>HE AHA (WHAT)</p> <p>The future management of the district's waste is a significant solid waste issue facing our community and Council. Possible solutions have been developed based on current best practice, industry knowledge and our legal obligations.</p>	<p>HE AHA AI (WHY)</p> <p>The Tokoroa landfill will be full by 2020, so we need to plan now for where our solid waste goes after that. Our resource consent is also expiring around the same time.</p>	<p>NGĀ PAINGA (BENEFITS)</p> <p>We need to establish a sustainable future for our community through recycling and waste minimisation.</p> <p>We need to reduce the environmental impact on land.</p> <p>We need to be cost effective for ratepayers.</p>	<p>HE KŌRERO WHAKAHOKI (FEEDBACK)</p> <p>We're consulting on two options, see inside document for more information.</p>	<p>NGĀ PATAI (QUESTIONS)</p> <p>Questions, please email info@southwaikato.govt.nz - write: Solid Waste Consultation in the subject bar. Or contact Ted Anderson or Andrew Pascoe on 07 885 0340.</p>
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WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- READ** the options for Solid Waste
- THINK** about what they mean for you
- WRITE** down what you think in your submission

Solid Waste Consultative Process – follow up to Long Term Plan
Have your say! Wednesday 5 December to Thursday 31 January, 4pm

NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA - OPTIONS

We're asking you!

OPTION 1 - TRANSPORT WASTE OUT

HE AHA - WHAT

Transport waste by truck to a large commercial disposal site. This option requires a Transfer Station to be constructed at Newell Road (the current landfill site).

NGĀ PIKI - ADVANTAGES

- Reduced environmental impact on land within the district.
- Solution is best value to ratepayers and the best options in terms of ongoing risk management.
- No long term liability or environmental issues. Because we no longer have a landfill site, once the waste is loaded onto the truck, our responsibility is gone (no carbon credit concerns, no nuisance, odour, vermin, leachate management).
- Reduced safety concerns and legislative constraints.
- Council doesn't require a resource consent from Waikato Regional Council for new Transfer Station at Newell Road.
- Transfer Station preferred site in Newell Rd has low environmental impact, existing infrastructure, nearby location, already in use and the community is already familiar with the location.
- Provide support to South Waikato Achievement Trust (SWAT) for the re-use and recovery of materials.

NGĀ HEKE - DISADVANTAGES

- Minimal control over fuel costs and landfill charges (could/ will be offset by securing long term contracts).
- Less efficient having two locations (Transfer Station and Croad Place Recycling Centre) with material needing to be transported between sites. A one-stop-shop for users would probably be more convenient, however the Croad Place site is not big enough for both facilities.

NGĀ UTU WHAKAHAERE - STAGING & COSTS

	Long Term Plan (LTP)		Option 1 - Transport Out		Option 2 - Build Landfill	
Capital Expenditure						
Transfer Station construction#	2019-20	\$550,000	2019-20	\$1,957,000	2019-20	\$1,957,000
New landfill consent and construction#2	2019-20	\$4,300,000	-	-	2021-22	\$4,902,000
Estimated average annual operating cost over five years#3		\$2,165,000		\$2,400,000		\$3,098,000
Rate impact#4						
Expected average rate revenue increase (%) over five years		0.19%		0.30%		0.62%

Cost estimates clarified since the LTP, increased significantly.

#2 Design and construction of the new landfill includes consent fee estimates plus inflation.

#3 Includes depreciation and interest on loan for the new assets. The transport out option costs are similar to what is included in the LTP.

#4 The percentage increase each option has on our total rates revenue. This is not an indication of how it will affect individual ratepayers because the capital value of individual properties, among other things, impact what each ratepayer will pay. This rate impact is based on a funding split of 85% from fees and 15% from rates.

OPTION 3 There was a possible third option that Council outlined for the community in its Long Term Plan - building a new regional landfill facility. This is no longer an option due to lack of interest or need from other councils in the region.

OPTION 2 - DEVELOP ANOTHER LANDFILL

HE AHA - WHAT

Construct a new landfill next to the existing one. This option also requires the construction of a Transfer Station for health and safety reasons.

NGĀ PIKI - ADVANTAGES

- Local waste will remain in local landfill.
- Not reliant on increasing transportation costs.

NGĀ HEKE - DISADVANTAGES

- Council remains responsible for all risks, including health and safety, financial, environmental, and operational.
- As a consequence of the high-profile safety concerns and the legislative constraints, a Tokoroa Transfer Station is required, irrespective of which option is preferred for the final disposal.
- Current industry advice is that any new landfill cell would need to be receiving a minimum of 60,000 tonnes per year to be financially viable. Tokoroa currently is forecast to receive approximately 12,000 tonnes.
- The cost to design and construct a new landfill cell that meets modern environmental standards has been previously estimated at \$4,150,000, plus \$350,000 for resource consent.
- Resource consent requirements stringent - and no guarantee that we would be successful.
- Potential minor loss of lease income from farms.
- Under the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), the cost of carbon credits for small landfills is an important consideration because small landfills cannot capture gas emissions. Since we can't capture gas emissions, we need to buy carbon credits and these currently cost \$25 per unit and are rising. The impacts of the ETS is a significant risk to both Council and the community.

LANDFILL FEES & CHARGES - INCREASES COMING

Two issues have arisen regarding the current fees & charges associated with the landfill. The first involves carbon credits and the second is the changing waste management environment.

CARBON CREDITS

Council has to purchase carbon credits by legislation to cover the landfill gas emissions (based on tonnes). Carbon credits are purchased on the open market and have rapidly increased from \$8.40 per unit in 2016 to \$25 per unit. This cost is likely to continue to rise.

As a result of the rapid increases, Council has not adequately budgeted for this in the 2018-19 financial year. We have a shortfall of \$120,000, which we need to recover.

CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

The changing health and safety environment, requirements associated with landfill practices and our management processes has resulted in a shortfall of \$1 million which needs to be recovered.

HOW DO WE RECOUP THESE COSTS?

There are two income streams that fund the landfill - rates and user charges. We can do one of three things:

1. Increase rates for everyone in the District. However, rates have been set for the year - we can change these, but it is a lengthy and costly process.

2. Ignore the shortfall. This is not a favoured solution as it is not financially prudent in the long term.
3. Increase fees & charges. These increases are shown in the tables below. This puts most of the increase on landfill users as opposed to every ratepayer.

In looking at the possible solutions Council believes there is only one viable solution - to increase fees & charges.

Increases	Current year	From 1 March 2019 until landfill closes
Landfill fee (\$) (incl GST)	\$156/tonne	\$249/tonne
Landfill fee (% increase)		60%
% increase per year based on \$249/tonne	If option 1 (transport out)	If option 2 (build landfill)
2019-20	0%	0%
2020-21	0%	8%
2021-22	0%	8%
2022-23	1%	7%
2023-24	2%	7%

Detail for the future

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Ministry for the Environment has produced Guidance Principles: Best Practice for Recycling and Waste Management Contracts to assist local government when procuring contracts for waste management and recycling.

The past two decades has seen a national shift from numerous small landfills to fewer large landfills (327 landfills in 1995, to 43 landfills in 2017). This reduction is driven by an increased focus on environmental performance and the costs to achieve this.

A Transfer Station is where waste materials are dumped by commercial and domestic customers and are then transported to a landfill, recycling processors or other disposal site.

SOUTH WAIKATO ACHIEVEMENT TRUST

The South Waikato Achievement Trust (SWAT) do a fantastic job of receiving and processing the district's recyclable products for national and global markets. SWAT also provides jobs for disadvantaged and marginalised members of our community.

They are growing e-waste recovery and together with Council is looking at further into the resource recovery industry to ensure we recycle, re-use and re-purpose as much waste as possible.

SWAT is considering increasing the scope of their role in Council's waste minimisation plans, and is confident that with Council's support, they can create more jobs and reduce waste.

The Croad Place site that is managed by SWAT is of sufficient size to expand into resource recovery but not big enough for a Transfer Station too.

FUTURE OF KERBSIDE RUBBISH AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

For health and safety reasons, many Councils are moving away from rubbish and recycling collections requiring manual labour, in favour of wheelie bins and automated lift collection trucks.

Wheelie bins are generally accepted as environmentally friendly. One wheelie bin used for fifteen years can replace 750 plastic rubbish bags! Other benefits include better hygiene, weather proofing and vermin proofing.

Given the current drive from central government towards becoming plastic-free, Council must consider changing from single-use plastic bags for waste collection

We are considering a two-bin system which would likely consist of a 120 litre or 80 litre rubbish bin emptied weekly, plus a 240 litre recycling bin fortnightly, and the existing crate for glass fortnightly starting from July 2020. A lot more work and community discussion is required before any decision is made.

So at this time, this is a heads up that change is on the horizon for the future of kerbside and recycling collections. Council will engage further with community on this issue.

FOR MORE AN ONLINE SUBMISSION FORM, VISIT WWW.SOUTHWAIKATO.GOV.T.NZ - OUR COUNCIL - CONSULTATION

