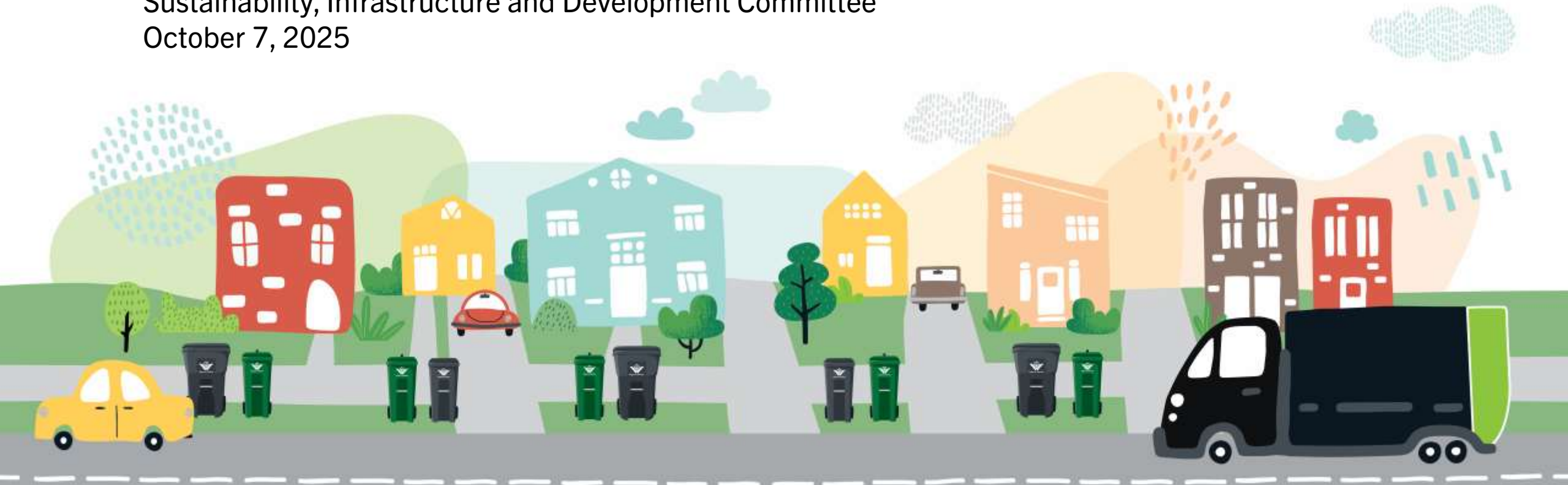


# Updates from Waste Management

Presented by: Olivia Kwok, Director, Waste Management

Sustainability, Infrastructure and Development Committee  
October 7, 2025



## Curbside Waste Collection Changes Implementation Update (EES-WMS-25-003)

Updates on the upcoming 2026 curbside collection changes, outlines progress on education and outreach, cart rollout, and program supports.



## Curbside Waste Collection Implementation

- Engaged with over 15,000 people at over 200 community and pop-up events from March to the end of August
- Cart selection was from June 30 to September 5
  - Over 16,500 small garbage carts selected
  - One-time no-cost garbage cart exchange in Fall 2026
- Assisted Waste Collection and Medical Exemption programs available to support residents with accessibility or medical needs



# Curbside Waste Collection Implementation

- Cart deliveries begin late fall 2025
- Using old garbage containers and Green Bins after March 2026:
  - Reuse them as storage for soil, mulch, sports equipment, pet food or other household goods
  - Reuse green bins as yard waste containers (yellow sticker required)
  - Drop-off location for unwanted green bins



## Downtown Waste Collection and Sani-Cans Update (EES-WMS-25-004)

Updates on the Downtown waste collection changes for 2026, and the designated downtown public space garbage litter container (sani-cans) collection service.



## Downtown Waste Collection

- Working group formed to gather on-going input on collection days, number of carts per business, set out locations, challenges, and other considerations
- Observational audit of Downtown areas conducted
- Carts will reduce issues such as multiple containers and sorting for recycling, and ripped bags and litter



# Public Space Garbage Litter Container (Sani-can) Collection

- Region staff met with BIA representatives and area municipality staff to review sani-can collection practices
- Currently, the Region collects 57 sani-can containers, while area municipalities collect 113 sani-cans within their designated downtown areas
- The Region will continue to work with area municipalities to develop a long-term strategy to manage sani-cans within their respective downtown areas





## **Blue Box Transition Update (EES-WMS-25-005)**

Recommendations on next steps following the Blue Box Program transition to the Province of Ontario's producer responsibility model on March 2, 2024.

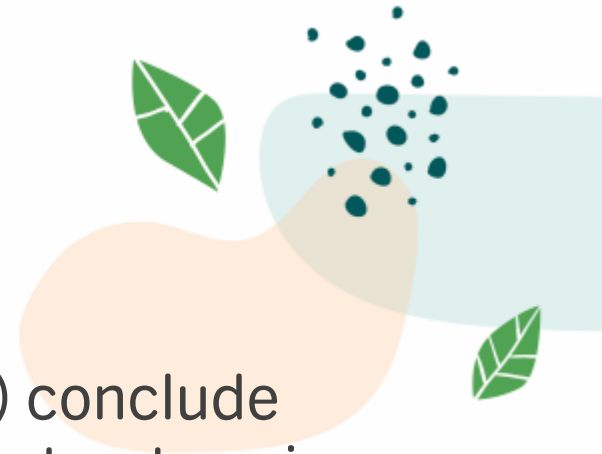
# Blue Box Transition

- The Region can provide drop-off services at the Waste Management sites effective January 1, 2026
  - Ensures continuity in service for users of the sites and encourages diversion of recyclables from the landfill
  - Service enhancement will be considered during the 2026 Plan and Budget process (approx. \$300,000)
- September 4, 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) announced updates to the Blue Box Regulation Amendments
  - Updates to public space recycling, recycling targets, and eligible sites



# Blue Box Transition - Recommendations

- a) That all contractual arrangements with Circular Materials (CM) conclude effective December 31, 2025, in alignment with the current contract expiry.
- b) That recycling service at the Cambridge and Waterloo Waste Management public drop-off sites for approximately \$300,000 per year be included as a service enhancement consideration during the 2026 Plan and Budget process.



**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**

