

What We Heard

Engagement Summary

APPENDICES

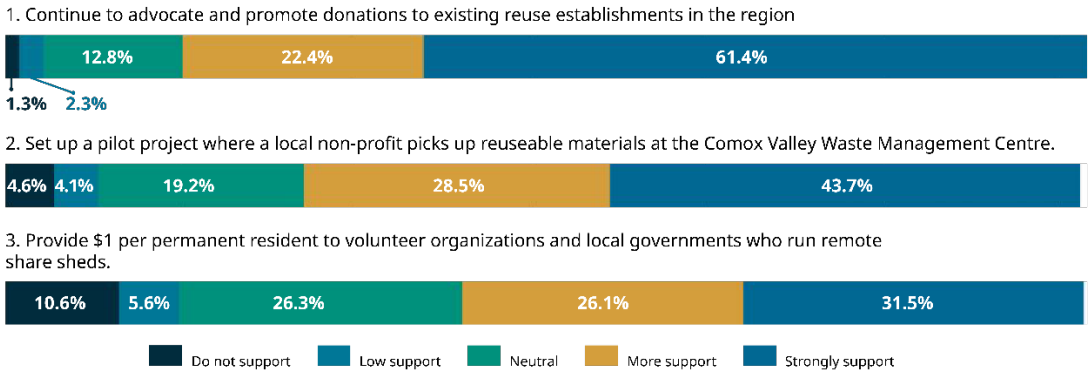
Comox Strathcona
Waste Management

ONLINE FEEDBACK

The comments below represents the level of support for each action and an overview of the written comments connected to each strategy in the online survey.

Strategy 1: Support Reuse Initiatives

Level of Support for Actions (619 responses)

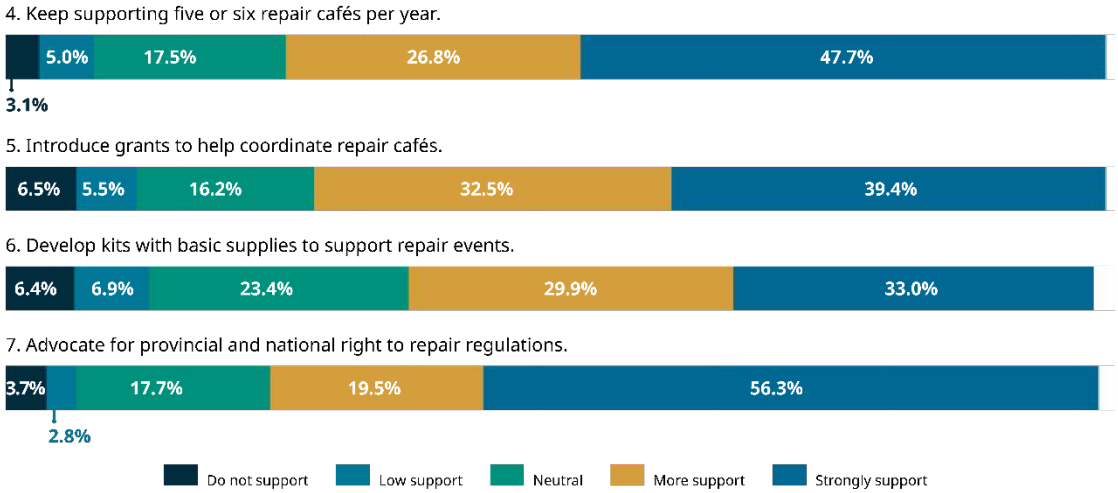


Comment Summary (154 comments)

- Support for a variety of reuse options: Open and support free stores, share sheds, and reuse centres with proper space, maintenance, and staffing. Some suggestions for centralized reuse centres.
- Support for non-profits: Offer funding and partnerships for non-profits managing reuse programs and reduce their disposal costs.
- Educate and engage: Promote awareness of reuse options, school participation, and community swap or repair events to build a reuse culture.
- Reduce waste at the source: Hold producers accountable for packaging, promote repair and refill options, and invest in innovative waste-reduction technology.
- Pilot projects: Interest in pilot projects such as reusable materials collection, energy-from-waste options, and bulk distribution partnerships.

Strategy 2: Encourage Repair

Level of Support for Actions (621 responses)

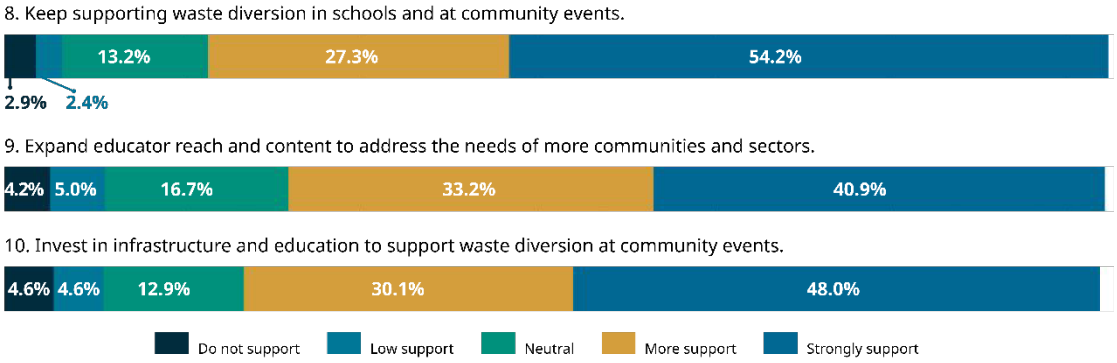


Comment Summary (116 comments)

- Right-to-repair: Strong backing for laws requiring manufacturers to make products durable, repairable, and affordable to fix.
- Education and skills: Support for schools and community programs teaching repair and reuse.
- Repair cafés: Requests for more frequent, well-promoted cafés in accessible and rural areas, with tool-sharing or permanent spaces.
- Funding concerns: Mixed views – Support for producer funding, modest public funding, and opposition to new taxes.
- Community and environment: Repair seen as reducing waste, creating jobs, and fostering local resilience.

Strategy 3: Encourage Waste Diversion Through Education and Outreach

Level of Support for Actions (621 responses)

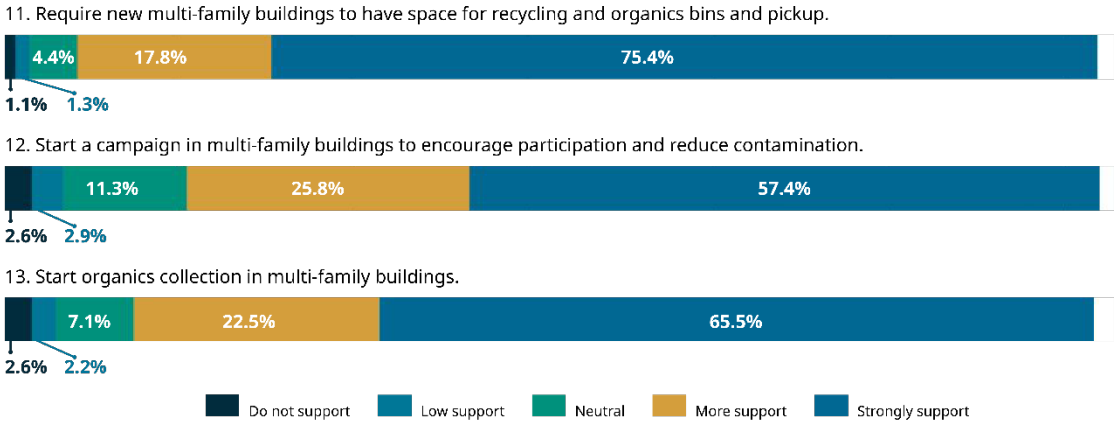


Comment Summary (116 comments)

- Practical education:
- Education is essential, especially starting young in schools, but should not burden teachers; use guest programs or tours.
- Adults need practical recycling and composting education, not just more “programs.”
- Landfill tours and education about proper disposal are valued.
- Ease of Infrastructure: Infrastructure, enforcement, and convenience drive behaviour change more than awareness alone. Make recycling easy with clear signage, colour-coded bins, and curbside pickup.
- Set an example: Community and business events should model zero-waste practices.
- Community involvement: Posters, tables at markets/fairs, and recognition/competitions between communities recommended.
- Grant funding: Fund through grants not higher taxes and promote product lifecycle responsibility and waste reduction.

Strategy 4: Improve Multi-family Waste Reduction and Diversion

Level of Support for Actions (621 responses)

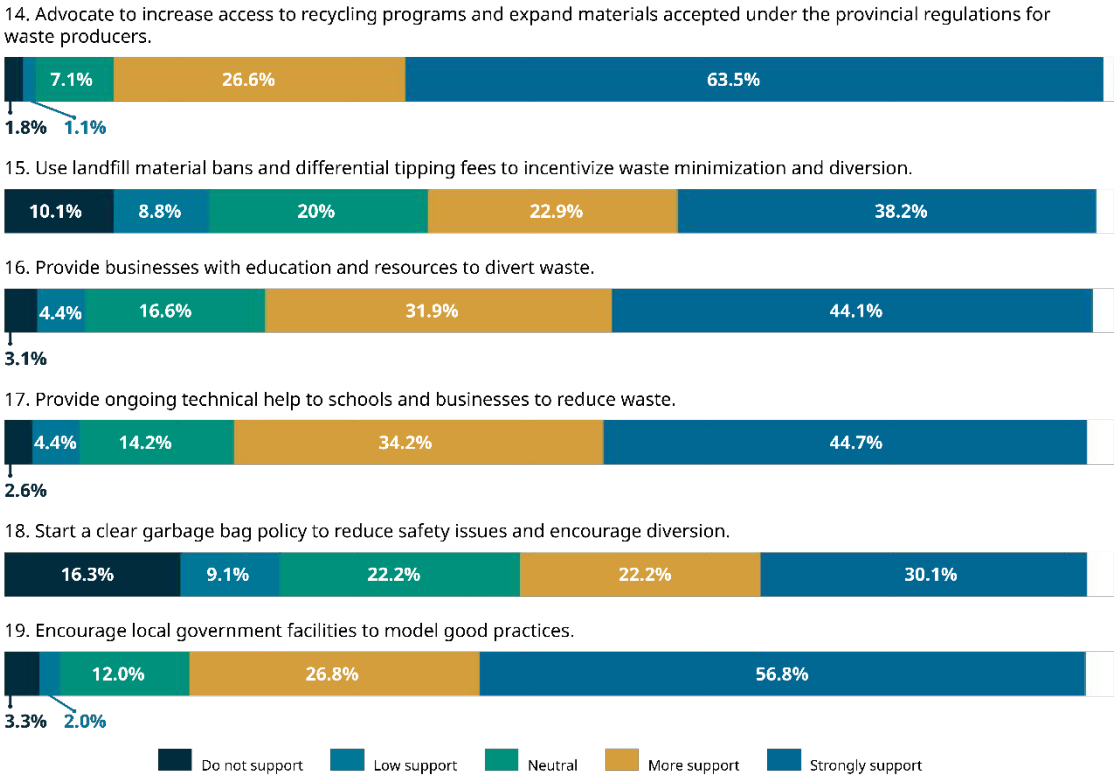


Comment Summary (126 comments)

- Composting: Strong support for organics collection in multi-family buildings; residents see it as overdue and essential to reduce landfill waste. Concerns about pests, odours, and cleanliness; rat-proof bins, frequent pickup, and maintenance are critical.
- Yard waste: Strong support for yard waste drop-off sites, and branch/yard pick up to prevent burning.
- Contamination and compliance: Education and enforcement needed to prevent contamination and ensure compliance; clear, simple instructions preferred.
- Costs and space: Cost and infrastructure must be addressed—avoid property tax hikes and ensure all housing types can participate.
- Equity and access: Every resident, regardless of housing type or location, should have organics and recycling options.

strategy 5: Improve Industry, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) Waste Reduction and Diversion

Level of Support for Actions (621 responses)

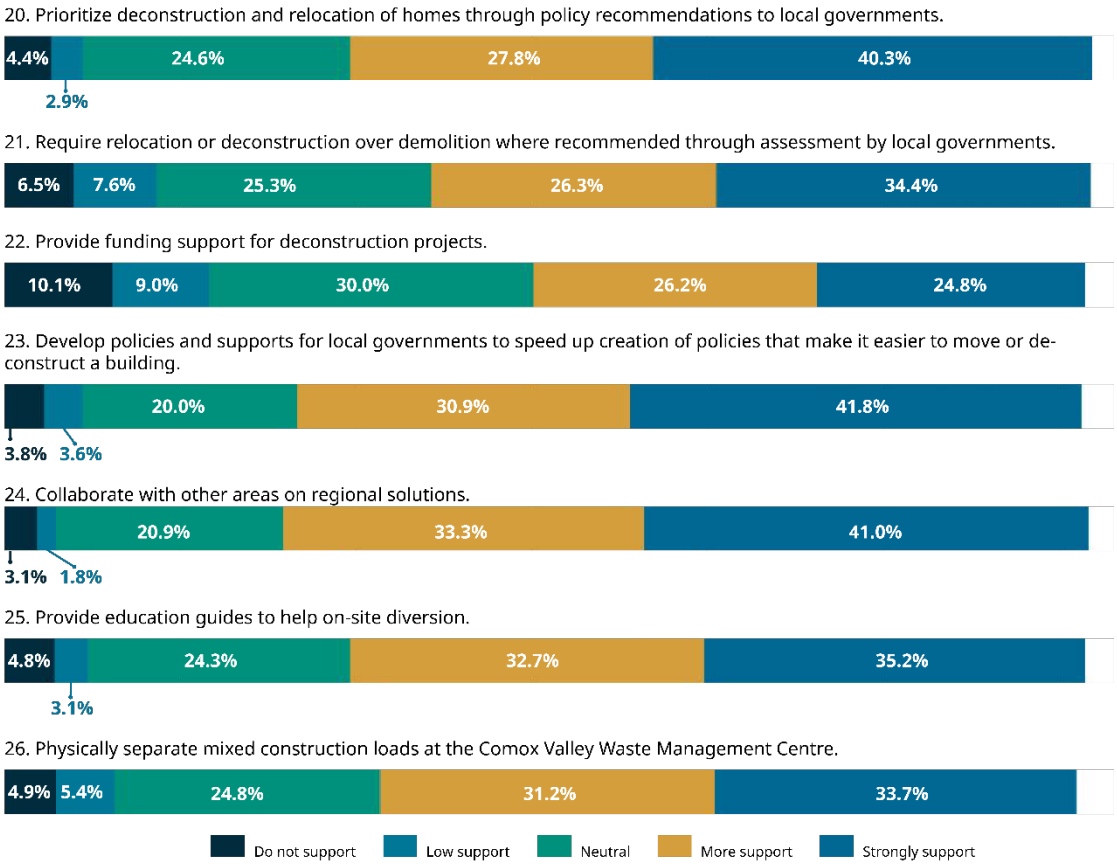


Comment Summary (125 comments)

- Illegal dumping and enforcement: Landfill bans, clear bag rules, or higher fees can drive illegal dumping. Enforce restrictions and make disposal options accessible.
- Accountability for industry and large producers: Strong support for producer responsibility, “cradle-to-grave” policies, and holding manufacturers accountable for non-recyclable products. Large businesses and institutions should lead by example.
- Accessibility, convenience, and cost: Recycling and disposal options need to be easier, cheaper, and more available, especially in rural areas. Curbside pickup desired for glass, soft plastics, flexible plastics and styrofoam. Clear garbage bags are viewed as costly, impractical, and a privacy issue.
- Increased materials recycled: Construction and agricultural plastics need proper sorting and recycling options.
- Increase infrastructure and demonstrate success: Public education, incentives, and practical infrastructure are key to effective diversion. Programs must show tangible success to rebuild public trust in recycling systems.
- Systemic change over punitive approaches: Shift focus from bans and penalties to reducing harmful materials, encouraging reuse, and making recycling efficient. Support collaborative, results-based solutions rather than increasing rules or costs.

Strategy 6: Improve Construction, Renovation, and Demolition Reduction and Diversion

Level of Support for Actions (619 responses)

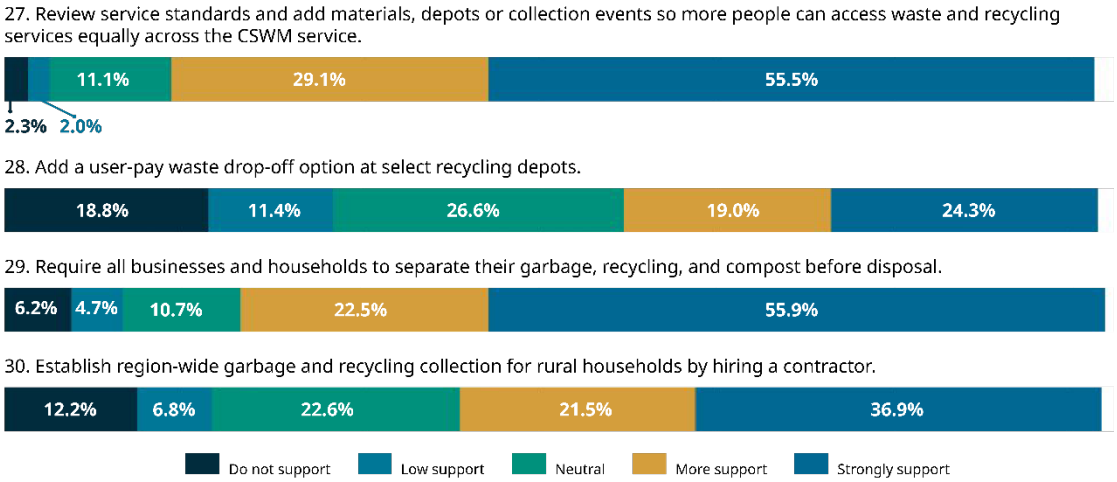


Comment Summary (96 comments)

- Cost and economic concerns: Many worry deconstruction rules increase costs, delay housing, and reduce affordability; support only if cost-neutral or incentive-based.
- Regulations and logistics: Broad support for material reuse, salvage, and local reuse depots, but building codes and logistics make reuse difficult.
- Simplified process: Deconstruction is seen as complex; call for faster permitting, better coordination, and more local recycling or disposal options.
- Education and industry responsibility: Education and clear industry responsibility is essential. Contractors should separate waste and cover related costs.
- Encourage sustainable design: Employ mass timber, less concrete and other sustainable construction methods and balance reuse with energy efficiency.
- Practical solutions: Desire for practical, locally driven, affordable solutions over heavy regulation.

Strategy 7: Support Equitable Access to Services

Level of Support for Actions (619 responses)

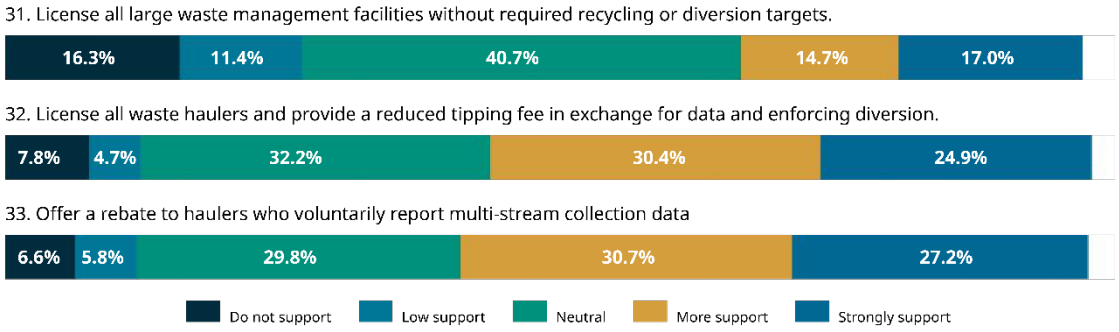


Comment Summary (159 comments)

- Cost and fairness: Many opposed user-pay systems or added taxes, fearing higher costs would penalize low-income or senior residents. Requests for cost transparency, sliding scale fees or including costs in property taxes instead of separate charges.
- Curbside collection
- Rural residents want choice and independence; many already self-manage waste and resist paying for unused services.
- Other rural participants need accessibility and convenience to drive participation. They support curbside collection, more drop off depots in Area C, Black Creek and other rural areas and annual bulky item pickups or community clean up days.
- Seniors, disabled residents, and those without vehicles also need easier options.
- Organics collection: General support for organics collection but concern about bears and pests. Resistance to household-mandated compost/waste separation in some communities.
- Expanded depot hours: Requests for expanded garbage and recycling depot hours, easier access to drop-off sites, and better coverage for rural areas. Some residents willing to pay extra for improved service.
- Support for local haulers: Residents prefer local or regional haulers to keep jobs and money within communities and oppose large, foreign waste companies.
- Remove barriers, support incentives: People favor easy, affordable systems with consistent standards, education and incentives (rebates, credits) to encourage participation rather than complex rules or new fees.

Strategy 8. Advance Solid Waste Tracking

Level of Support for Actions (613 responses)



Comment Summary (63 comments)

- Mixed support: Some support licenses and regulations for haulers/facilities but only if paired with strong oversight. Others fear licensing adds bureaucracy, reduces service options, and may increase illegal dumping.
- Lack of clarity on use / effectiveness: Many respondents were unclear about the purpose or utility of data collection. Some see potential value (geo-referenced collection data to address problem sources). Others view it as intrusive, confusing, or unnecessary.
- Education and incentives: Strong support for education-based approaches rather than mandatory compliance. Grassroots, community-based initiatives seen as more effective than licensing or data enforcement. Incentivize good behavior among haulers and individuals instead of enforcing heavy regulations.

COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY (OCTOBER 2025)

The following represents a summary of the questions and responses heard at municipal council meetings in October 2025. While there are some questions that are community specific, others concerns were heard from a number of communities.

Key Themes Across the Region

- Contamination and education: Plastic contamination, unstaffed depots, and signage remain priorities.
- Landfill & construction and demolition management: Airspace conservation, lifespan extension, reuse, and sorting are critical.
- Capacity and resources: Staffing, contractors, and facility limits impact rollout.
- Community tailoring: Small/remote communities require phased, supported approaches.
- Policy coordination: Regional bylaws, zoning, and development permits ensure consistency.

Town of Comox (October 1, 2025)

- Household organics: Plastic bags are main contaminant; reduces compost quality.
- Industry, commercial and institutional composting: Voluntary; large businesses hesitant, small businesses receptive.
- Multi-family / stratas: Guidance provided via CSWM staff; new buildings easier to mandate.
- Diversion audit: Comox's overall diversion change was less dramatic than Courtenay's because Comox already had a food waste pilot program. Courtenay saw 40% reduction in single-family garbage, and 20% increase in organics over yard waste pick up alone. Contamination is higher in cart-based pickups (like Comox and Courtenay) than in manual pickups (like Cumberland and Campbell River).
- Deconstruction staffing: plan suggests hiring 0.6 FTE added regionally to support initiatives.

Village of Cumberland (Oct. 6, 2025)

- Landfill lifespan at the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre: Cells 1–3 last to 2047; Cell 2 expansion now ongoing. Cell 3 will have a smaller footprint. The master plan includes consideration for developing an additional land area to the south, which would involve covering the historical, unlined Field Sawmill landfill (on the left side of the entrance road). These future cells would require new applications and permits.
- Extension strategies: Garbage shredding and diversion models to improve compaction and lifespan.

- Bylaw support: The expectation is that the CVRD will package up the necessary bylaws for the municipalities to adopt to ensure consistency and save staff time, which is something developers desire.
- Construction and demolition waste: Sorting areas planned with potential user fees or private services.
- New Multi-family waste requirements support: These provisions can be included in the development review process, like in zoning or development permit bylaws, similar to how parking spaces are calculated. This sets expectations for developers by allocating the correct amount of space for garbage containers and ensuring truck access.
- Reuse pilot: Items recovered for non-profits; avoids staff conflicts and scavenging.
- Waste-to-energy: Not feasible due to low tonnage

City of Campbell River (Oct. 7, 2025)

- Landfill costs: ~$34/$m^3$ airspace used; diversion preserves scarce landfill space.
- Deconstruction: $200 fee mainly for data; non-profit partnerships considered.
- Construction and demolition waste management: Separation challenges limit diversion elsewhere.
- Waste-to-energy: Flexible in future, not currently planned.
- Facility data: Low organics uptake; business composting options expanding.

City of Courtenay (Oct. 15, 2025)

- School organics programs: The 20% mark is for single-family homes only; the total is higher. Progress was made with the Superintendent over the summer, but implementation is stuck due to a lack of staff resources delegated for the work. They are still actively pushing for it.
- Multi-family / business organics: Barriers include high cost for haulers, current Recycle BC reporting not reflecting true service, and high contamination rates in multi-family units which results in penalties. The easiest route is mandating it for new buildings. re: organics: The facility has limited capacity (permitted for 14,500 tonnes, currently processing about 11,500 tonnes). We are starting with voluntary programs for large generators like grocery stores. Mandatory implementation is not yet possible as the total anticipated volume exceeds current processing capacity, and we are seeking external capacity options.
- Funding Mix – General taxation and user tipping fees: The budget is funded by about $11 million in tipping fees (covering operational costs) and about $5.5 million in taxation (covering debt service for past capital projects like landfill closures/construction and future reserves). This separates major fixed costs from variable user-pay services, though everyone ultimately pays for garbage through various methods.
- Facility Capacity: Upgrades required to expand beyond current permit.

APPENDIX 2: COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

Village of Zeballos (Oct. 21, 2025)

- Small community challenges: Recognize limited staff/resources over the course of a 10-year phased plan.
- Deconstruction / specialty waste: CSWM leads policy work to be a resource for municipal partners; accessibility for specialty items like oil cardboard are being reviewed and improved.
- Depot contamination: Unstaffed depots upgraded to staffed; improved signage and education.

Village of Sayward (Oct. 21, 2025)

- Share sheds / free stores: Funding initiative includes Sayward if approved.
- Landfill lifespan: The current lined landfill, Cell 2 in Cumberland is relatively new and is expected to last until 2037. The approved expansion (Cell 3) could extend life until 2047, but the total lifespan depends heavily on the diversion efforts and waste management discussed today.
- Increased infrastructure & recycling: Depot overflow addressed; single depot travel time deemed adequate but staff welcome Council's feedback for further consideration.

APPENDIX 3: ENGAGEMENT SITE

Website



Home / Weigh In On Waste

Step 3: Evaluating Options

The Comox Strathcona Waste Management team is updating its Solid Waste Management Plan.

An SWMP is a long-term plan for managing and reducing waste in the region – and it requires input from the community to determine the best steps forward.

Step 3 where the rubber hits the road. Community input helped to form the goals and principles, and a technical evaluation has identified strategies and actions to get there.

We need you to **review the strategies and actions**, along with their **costs and impacts**, and **share your input**.

Here's how you can get involved:

- Attend an event to learn more and share your thoughts
- Review information and complete the online survey - *now closed*
- Post questions below for the project team to answer

+ How does the CSWM manage waste?

+ Overarching Goal

+ Who contributes to waste?

+ What's in our waste?

+ Costs



Closed

Weigh In On Waste Survey

The survey is now closed. Thank you to everyone who participated by providing feedback on the shortlisted strategies and actions. Your input will help guide how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next decade.

Prize draw winners will be contacted directly.

Share your feedback today!

Questions, & Answers | Videos | Guiding Principles | Project News

Don't Waste Your Questions!

We're on Step 3 of the Solid Waste Management Plan

Learn about how we got here.

Learn About Step 1

Learn About Step 2



SWMP Project Timeline

Step 3 Strategies and Options (2024-2025)

- Generate strategies to achieve desired objectives
- Evaluate financial and resource implications
- Collect feedback from the community about strategies and actions. Fill out the survey here.

Learn more about the earlier engagement of Step 3

See more

Weigh In On Waste Events

Thank you to everyone who attended one of the 20 Weigh In On Waste Events. Prize draw winners will be contacted directly.

- Saturday, Sept. 6, Black Creek Fall Fair,
- Sunday, Sept. 7, Quadra Island Harvest Happenings
- Saturday, Sept 13, Denman Island Farmers Market
- Sunday, Sept. 14, Hornby Island Fall Fair
- Thursday, Sept. 18, Union Bay Community Hall
- Friday, Sept. 19, Cortes Island Farmers Market
- Saturday, Sept. 20, Comox Mall
- Sunday, Sept. 21, Comox Community Centre
- Monday, Sept. 22, Cumberland Masonic Hall
- Friday, Sept. 26, Campbell River Home Show
- Saturday, Sept. 27, Campbell River Home Show
- Sunday, Sept. 28, CR Compost Facility
- Thursday, Oct. 2, CVRD Electoral Area Open House
- Friday, Oct. 3, Zeballos Recycling Depot
- Saturday, Oct. 4, Sayward Farmer's Market
- Saturday, Oct. 4, CV Waste Management Centre
- Tuesday, Oct. 7, Discovery Foods, Oyster River
- Thursday, Oct. 9, Tahsis Recycling Depot
- Friday, Oct. 10, Gold River Transfer Station
- Wednesday, Oct. 15, Driftwood Mall

Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Information about the committee and its members.

Start Learning Now

Who's Listening



Sarah Willie
Manager of Solid Waste Planning & Policy Devl.
Phone: 250-334-6016
Email: cswm@comoxvalleyrd.ca

More Resources

Document Library

Solid Waste Management Plan Renewal Process

2012 CSWM Solid Waste Management Plan
PDF (5.37 MB)

Step 1 What We Heard Summary Report
PDF (9.11 MB)

Step 2 What We Heard Summary Report
PDF (15.00 MB)

Weigh In On Waste!

Have your say on shortlisted strategies and actions to help guide how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next decade.

Have Your Say on Shortlisted Strategies and Actions

We are updating our Solid Waste Management Plan to guide how garbage, recycling, and other waste is handled in our region for the next 10 years. Over the past two years, we've worked with community, staff and experts to develop eight shortlisted strategies and 33 actions that will help us manage our waste.

Now it's your turn. Your feedback on the shortlisted strategies and actions will help us understand your priorities and improve waste services where you live.



Tell Us About You

Where do you live? Please choose one of the following communities where you live or do business in so we can better understand the feedback from each region.

01. Please choose from one of the following areas:

Select one answer only
◯ Comox Valley Regional District
◯ First Nations Communities
◯ Strathcona Regional District
◯ I don't live in the Comox Strathcona Waste Management Service Area
◯ Other

02.Communities within the Comox Valley Regional District

Select one answer only
◯ City of Courtenay
◯ Village of Cumberland
◯ Town of Comox
◯ Canadian Forces Base - Comox
◯ Royston - Electoral Area A
◯ Denman Island - Electoral Area A
◯ Hornby island - Electoral Area A
◯ CVRD Electoral Area A - Baynes Sound (excluding Royston, Denman and Hornby)
◯ CVRD Electoral Area B - Lazo North
◯ CVRD Electoral Area C - Puntledge - Black Creek
◯ I do not live in the Comox Valley Regional District
◯ Other

03. Communities within the Strathcona Regional District

Select one answer only
◯ City of Campbell River
◯ Village of Gold River
◯ Village of Sayward - Sayward Valley
◯ Village of Tahsis
◯ Village of Zeballos
◯ SRD Electoral Area A - Kyuquot / Nootka
◯ SRD Electoral Area B - Cortes Island
◯ SRD Electoral Area C - Quadra Island, Discovery Islands, Mainland Inlets
◯ SRD Electoral Area D - Oyster Bay - Buttle Lake
◯ I do not live in the Strathcona Regional District
◯ Other

04. First Nations Communities

Select one answer only
◯ Ehattesaht/Chinehkint First Nation
◯ Homalco First Nation
◯ Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k:tles7et'h' First Nations
◯ Klahoose First Nation
◯ K'ómoks First Nation
◯ Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation
◯ Nuchatlaht Tribe
◯ Tlowitsis First Nation
◯ We Wai Kai First Nation
◯ Wei Wai Kum First Nation
◯ Other

05. Where do you live?

Maximum of 100 characters

A Bit More...

Please tell us more about your home or business.

06. Are you answering primarily as a resident, or the owner / operator of a business within the Comox Strathcona Waste Management service area? (choose one)

Select one answer only
◯ Resident
◯ Business owner / operator
◯ Other

07. What type of home do you live in? (choose one)

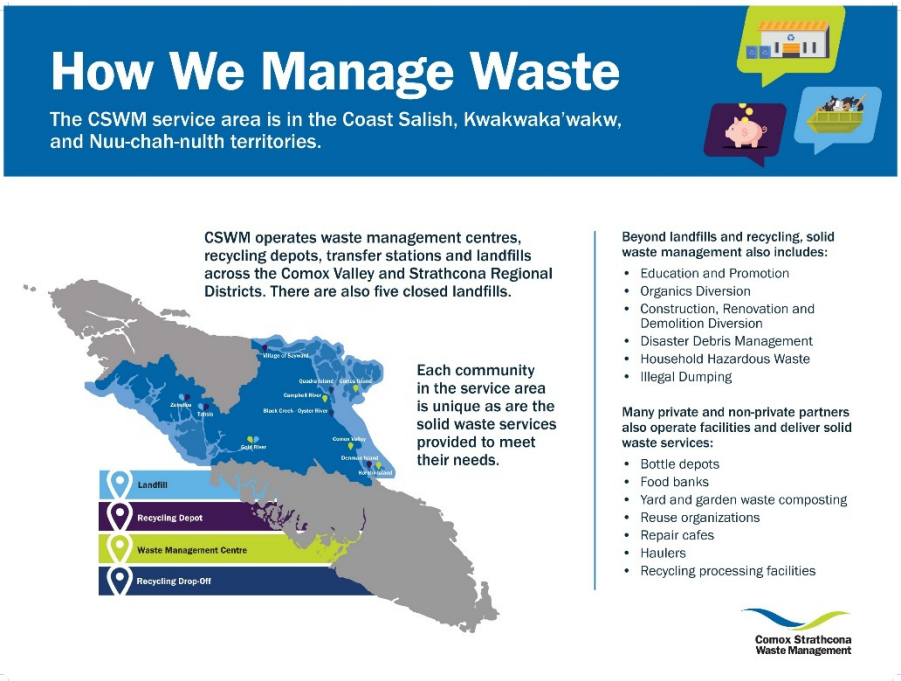
Select one answer only
◯ Single-family home or duplex
◯ Townhome or rowhouse
◯ Apartment or condominium
◯ Secondary dwelling (suite in a home, carriage house, laneway home, etc.)
◯ Manufactured or mobile home
◯ Other

08. What type of business do you own/operate? (choose one)

Select one answer only
◯ Commercial (retail, restaurant, grocery stores, etc.)
◯ Industrial (construction/demolition, warehouses, manufacturing, distribution hubs)
◯ Hospitality (hotels, resorts, private vacation rentals)
◯ Professional services (medical, dental, legal, accounting, consulting, etc.)
◯ Institutional (schools, colleges, hospitals, local government)
◯ Construction and demolition
◯ Tradesperson (electrician, plumber, drywaller, etc.)
◯ Waste-related business (waste hauler, facilities, etc.)
◯ Other

Background

Before we get started, take a minute to review a few slides that explain the region we serve, our goals, what's in our waste and the costs of waste reduction. Scroll down to see each slide.







Shortlisted Strategies & Actions

Please take a minute to review the overall strategies that have been proposed based on community benefit, cost, diversion potential and operational impact.

Then, in the following questions, you'll be able to rate your level of support for individual actions, which contribute to the overall strategy. You'll also be able to provide brief feedback on the strategy and its supporting actions.

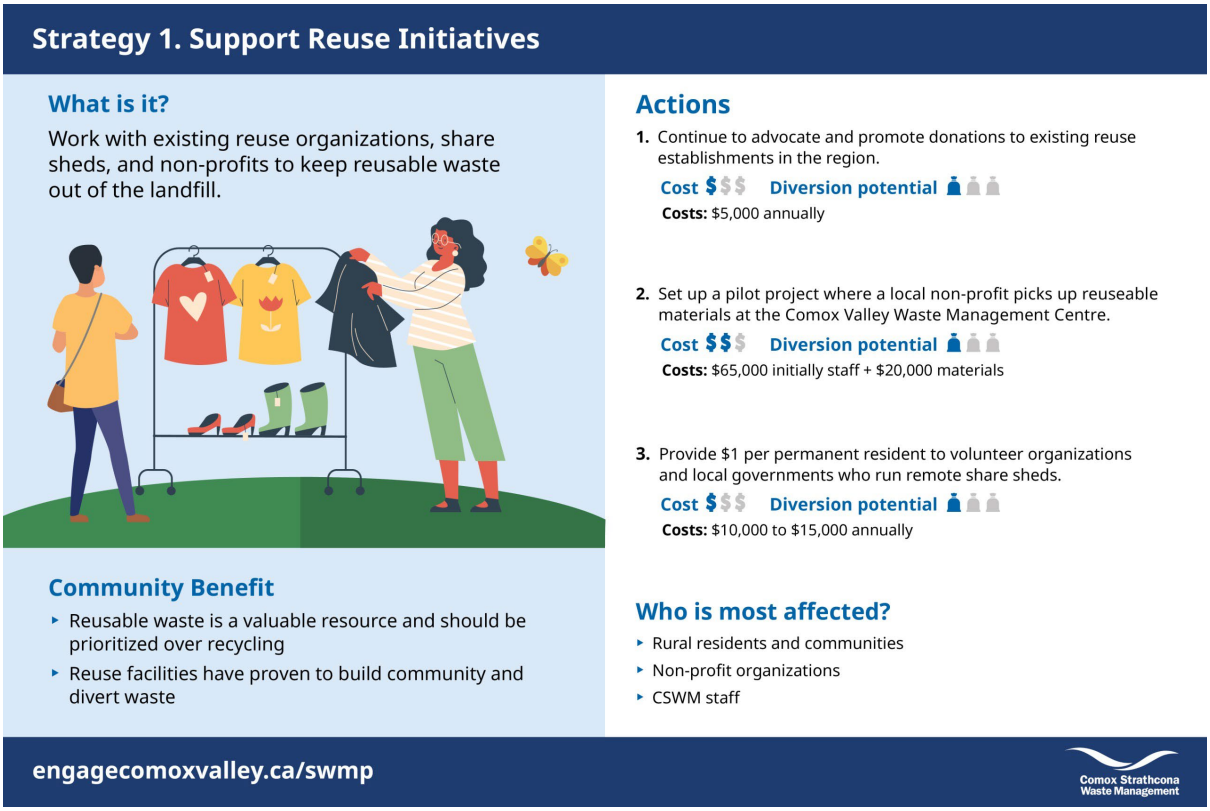
Let's get started!



Strategy 1: Support Reuse Initiatives

Work with existing reuse organizations, share sheds, and non-profits to keep reusable waste out of the landfill.

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



1. Continue to advocate and promote donations to existing reuse establishments in the region
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

2. Set up a pilot project where a local non-profit picks up reuseable materials at the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
3. Provide $1 per permanent resident to volunteer organizations and local governments who run remote share sheds.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

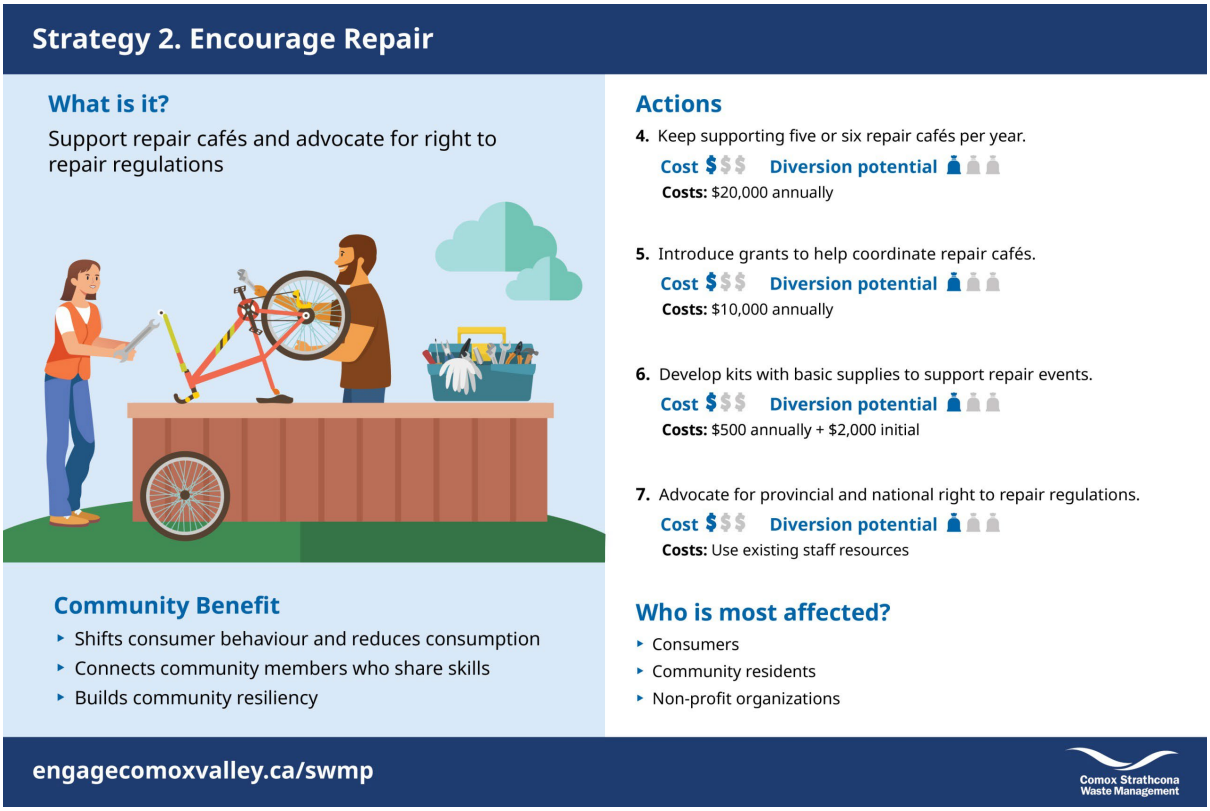
Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Maximum of 255 characters

Strategy 2: Encourage Repair

Support repair cafés and advocate for right to repair regulations.

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



4. Keep supporting five or six repair cafés per year.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
5. Introduce grants to help coordinate repair cafés.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

6. Develop kits with basic supplies to support repair events.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
7. Advocate for provincial and national right to repair regulations.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

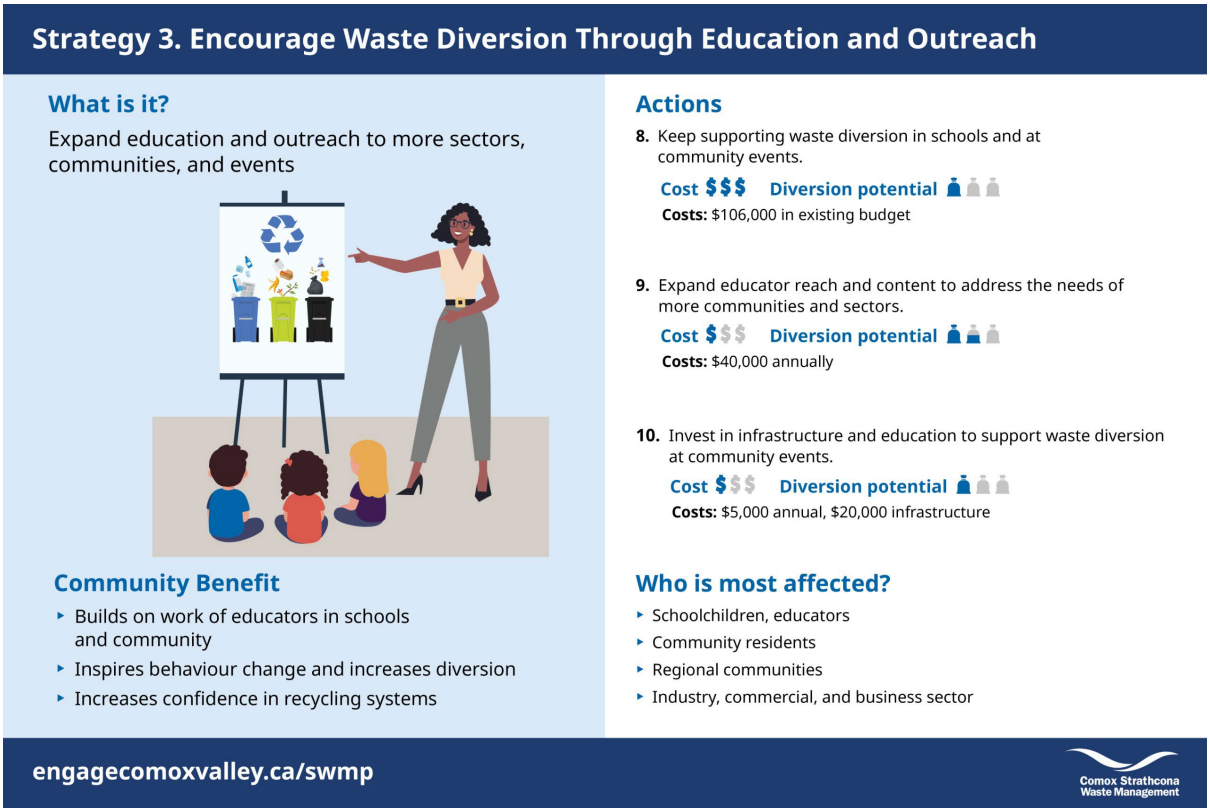
Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Maximum of 255 characters

Strategy 3: Encourage Waste Diversion Through Education and Outreach

Expand education and outreach to more sectors, communities, and events

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



8. Keep supporting waste diversion in schools and at community events.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

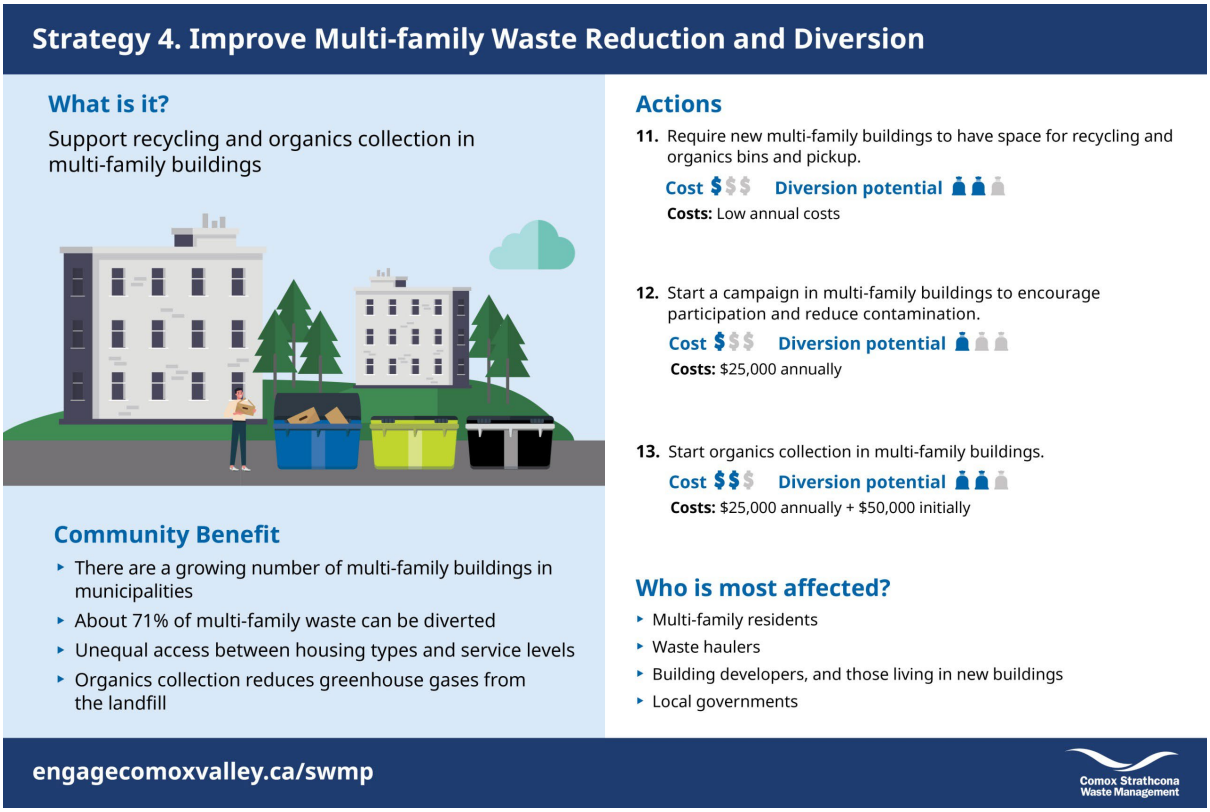
9. Expand educator reach and content to address the needs of more communities and sectors.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
10. Invest in infrastructure and education to support waste diversion at community events.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Strategy 4. Improve Multi-family Waste Reduction and Diversion

Support recycling and organics collection in multi-family buildings.

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



11. Require new multi-family buildings to have space for recycling and organics bins and pickup.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

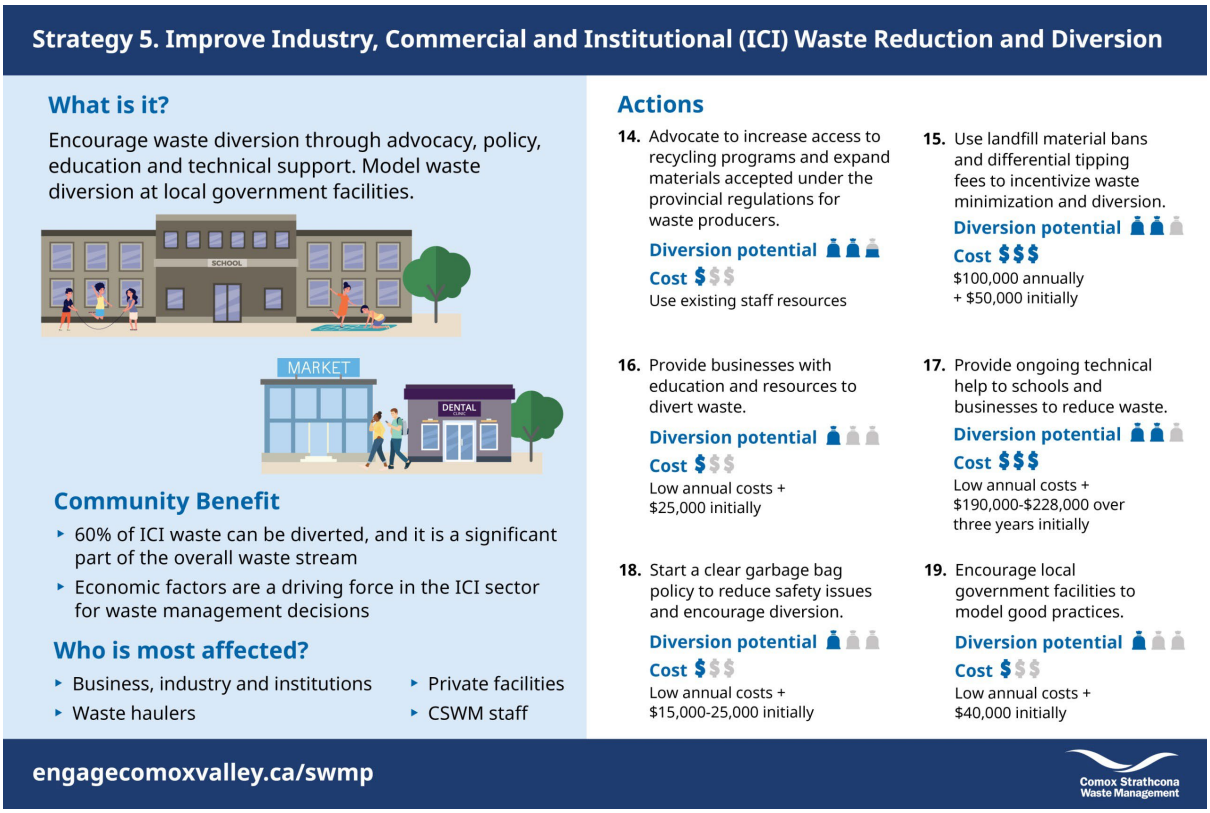
12. Start a campaign in multi-family buildings to encourage participation and reduce contamination.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
13. Start organics collection in multi-family buildings.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Maximum of 255 characters

Strategy 5: Improve Industry, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) Waste Reduction and Diversion

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



14. Advocate to increase access to recycling programs and expand materials accepted under the provincial regulations for waste producers.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

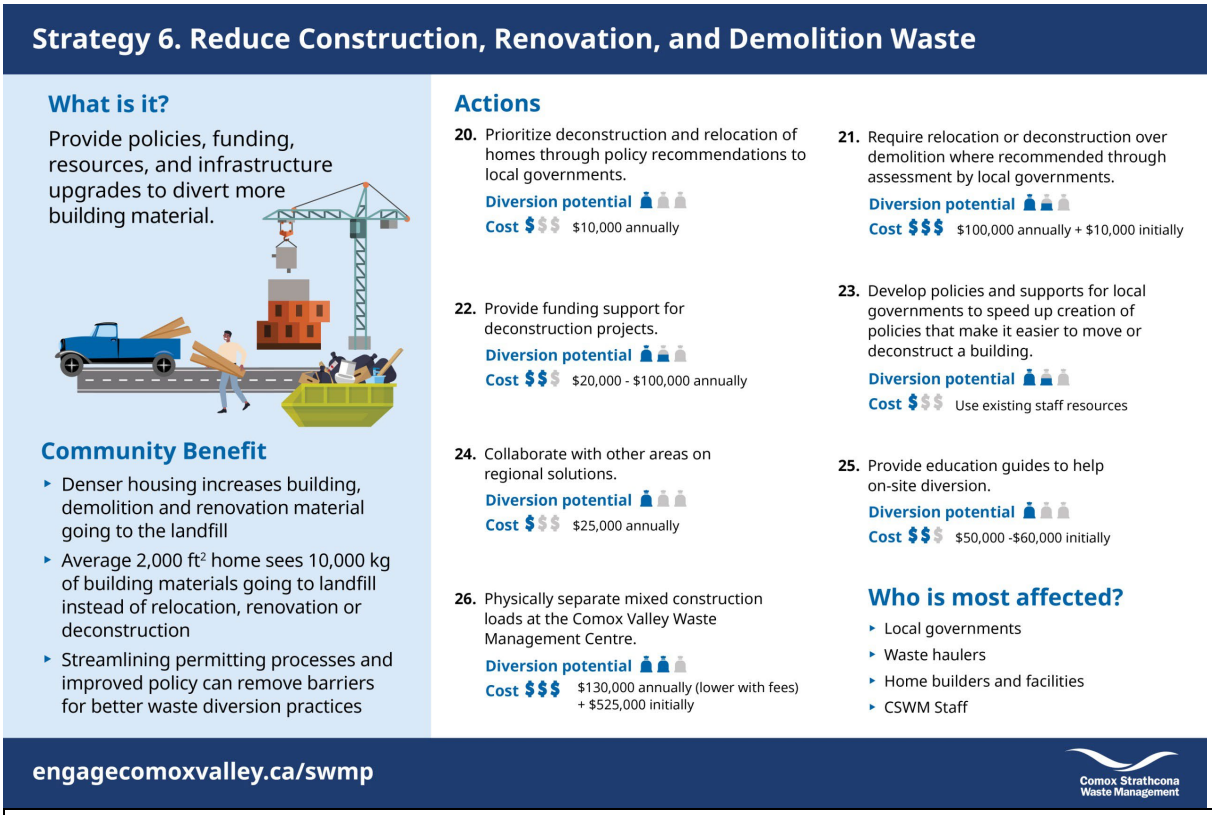
15. Use landfill material bans and differential tipping fees to incentivize waste minimization and diversion.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
16. Provide businesses with education and resources to divert waste.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
17. Provide ongoing technical help to schools and businesses to reduce waste.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
18. Start a clear garbage bag policy to reduce safety issues and encourage diversion.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

19. Encourage local government facilities to model good practices.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Strategy 6. Reduce Construction, Renovation, and Demolition Waste

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



20. Prioritize deconstruction and relocation of homes through policy recommendations to local governments.

- ◯ Do not support
- ◯ Low support
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ More support
- ◯ Strongly support

21. Require relocation or deconstruction over demolition where recommended through assessment by local governments.

- ◯ Do not support
- ◯ Low support
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ More support

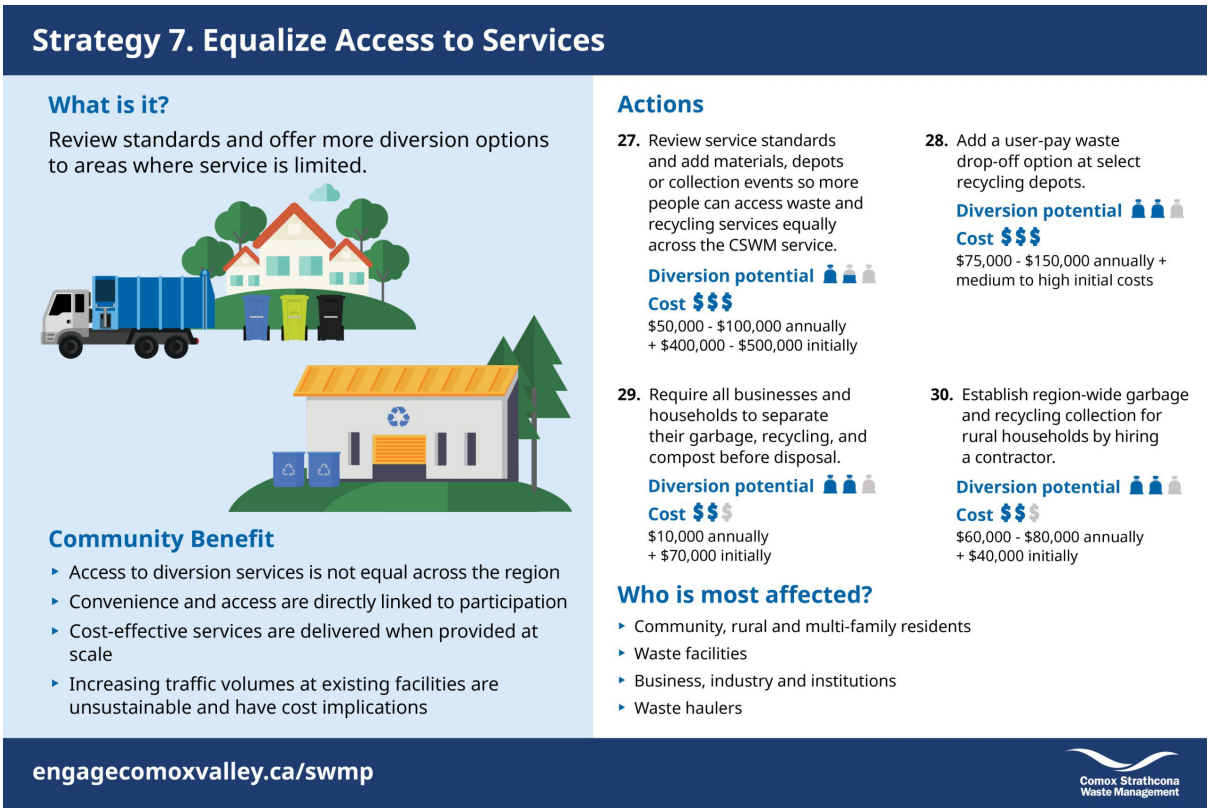
◯ Strongly support
22. Provide funding support for deconstruction projects.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
23. Develop policies and supports for local governments to speed up creation of policies that make it easier to move or deconstruct a building.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
24. Collaborate with other areas on regional solutions.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
25. Provide education guides to help on-site diversion.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

26. Physically separate mixed construction loads at the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Strategy 7: Equalize Access to Services

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



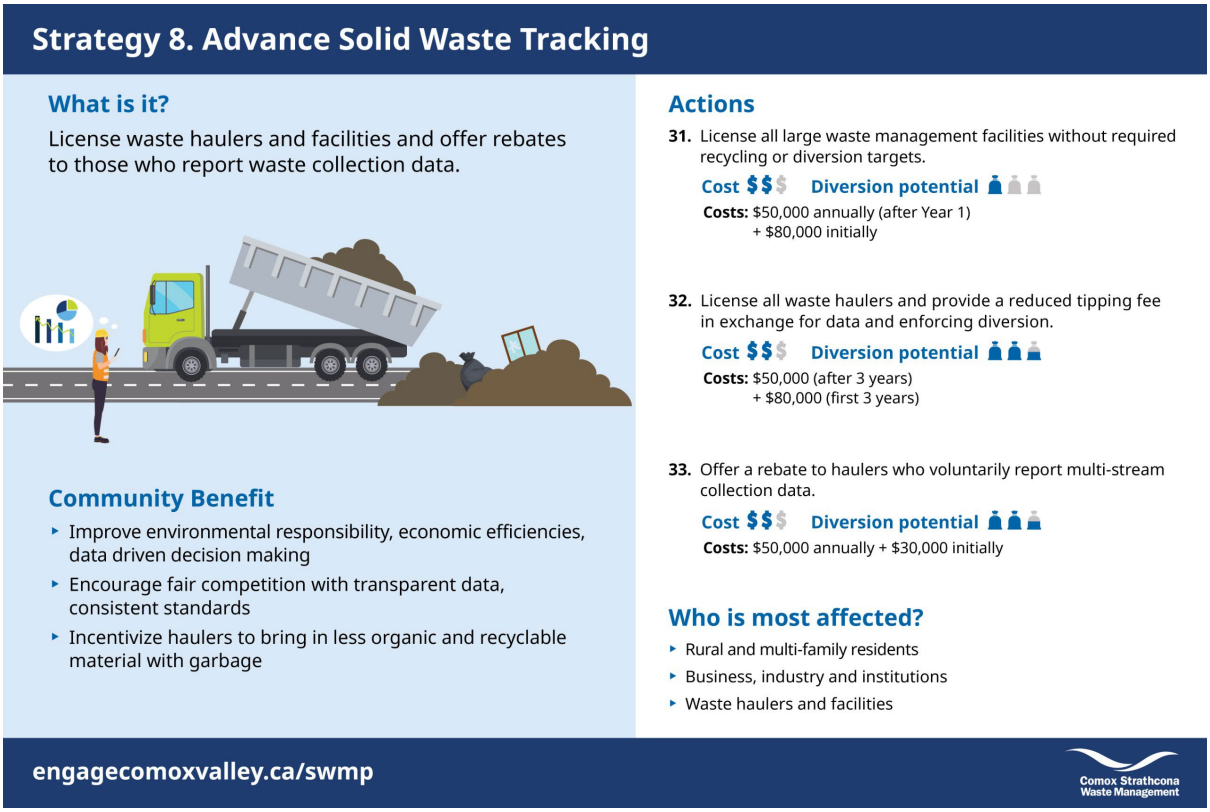
27. Review service standards and add materials, depots or collection events so more people can access waste and recycling services equally across the CSWM service.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
28. Add a user-pay waste drop-off option at select recycling depots.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

29. Require all businesses and households to separate their garbage, recycling, and compost before disposal.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
30. Establish region-wide garbage and recycling collection for rural households by hiring a contractor.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Strategy 8: Advance Solid Waste Tracking

Referring to the image, please indicate your level of support for the following actions, from do not support to strongly support:



31. License all large waste management facilities without required recycling or diversion targets.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

32. License all waste haulers and provide a reduced tipping fee in exchange for data and enforcing diversion.
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support
33. Offer a rebate to haulers who voluntarily report multi-stream collection data
◯ Do not support
◯ Low support
◯ Neutral
◯ More support
◯ Strongly support

Do you have any additional feedback about this strategy or the supporting actions and how they would work in your community?

Wrap Up

Thank you for providing your input!

We have a few optional questions before you go. These questions help us reach out to more residents and community members.

How did you hear about this survey? (choose all that apply)

Select all that apply
☐ Word of mouth
☐ Social Media
☐ Poster
☐ Media (radio, tv, print, or websites)
☐ Local government website
☐ Community newsletter or publication
☐ Advertisements
☐ Event
☐ Other

Enter to win $100 in grocery store gift certificates!

This survey is anonymous. You do not need to provide your name or contact information to complete the survey.

However, if you would like to be entered into a draw for one of two $100 grocery store gift certificates, please enter your name and contact information below.

First Name

Last Name

Email address

Daytime phone number

Selected winners will be contacted after the survey closes on October 16 with list of available stores to choose from.

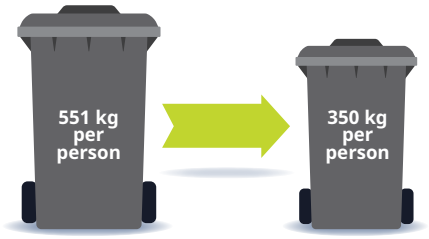
Presentation Boards

Solid Waste In The CSWM

The goal is to produce less garbage.

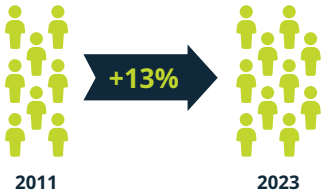
On average, each person in the service area generates 551 kg of waste annually. The provincial target is 350 kg per person.

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.



Who contributes to waste?

- **Residential** — Houses, Condominiums
- **Industrial** — Aquaculture, Forestry
- **Institutional** — Hospitals, Schools
- **Business** — Retail Stores, Restaurants
- **Construction and Demolition** — Builders, Haulers



More people means more waste.

Since 2011, the population in the region grew by 13% — and is forecast to continue to grow over the next 20 years.

With growth, construction and demolition waste also continues to increase.

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

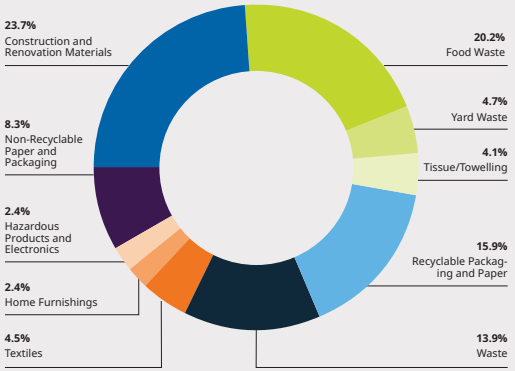
What's In Our Waste

51% of waste going into the landfill could be diverted through recycling or composting.

The more we divert from the landfill, the longer it will be an asset to the community, protecting the environment, and saving money.



2017 Waste Composition Study Results



This data was gathered by opening up garbage bags and sorting through trash that came to CSWM facilities, not recycling bins.

Compostables	29.0%
Construction and Renovation Materials	23.7%
Recyclable Packaging and Paper	15.9%
Waste	13.9%
Miscellaneous	9.3%
Non-Recyclable Paper and Packaging	8.3%
	100%

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Presentation Boards

What Could This Cost?

The future economic value of diversion is derived from saved landfill space and conserved resources.

Diverting waste saves money by:

- Extending landfill life and delaying costly borrowing
- Reserving landfill space for TRUE waste, not misplaced resources
- Reducing methane emissions from decomposing organics in landfills

Elected officials have directed us to keep these actions within 3-5% of our $15.4M (2024) annual budget. We've also prioritized actions funded directly by waste generators. However, any proposed operating budget increases would need to come from tipping fees and taxes. If fully tax-funded, the increase would cost about $7.50 per year for a $670,000 home.

Landfills are valuable

Modern landfills are engineered facilities with groundwater protection, methane control, and require decades of monitoring. They cost tens of millions to build, and their value is the "airspace" available.

- Building landfill airspace costs $34 per m3 (not including the cost to fill it!)
- Diverting 750 m^3 (or 10 school buses) of landfill space through recycling or organics saves $25,500



What do you mean by $$$ or 👜👜👜 ?

To make the information easier to understand, we've provided a low, medium or high rating for cost and diversion for each action. Here's how we've defined each rating.

	Costs (annual and initial costs)	Diversion Potential (tonnes of waste diverted)
$ $ $ or 👜	Less than $25,000	500 or less
$ $ $ or 👜👜	$25,000 - $150,000	500 to 3,000
$ $ $ or 👜👜👜	$150,000 or more	More than 3,000

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Next Steps

Community input is key to our solid waste management plan update

What's next?

We are now in Step 3 of a four-step process: Evaluating Options

1. **Initiate the process** *2022*
2. **Set the Plan Direction** *2022–2023*
3. **Evaluate Options** *2024–2025*
4. **Prepare and Adopt the Plan** *2026*

Learn more about the 8 strategies and 33 proposed actions and provide input for our advisory committee and board as we prepare a draft plan next year. Share your feedback today or online until October 16.

How did we do?

What input do you have on the proposed strategies and actions to reduce waste in your community?



Share more online at
engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp

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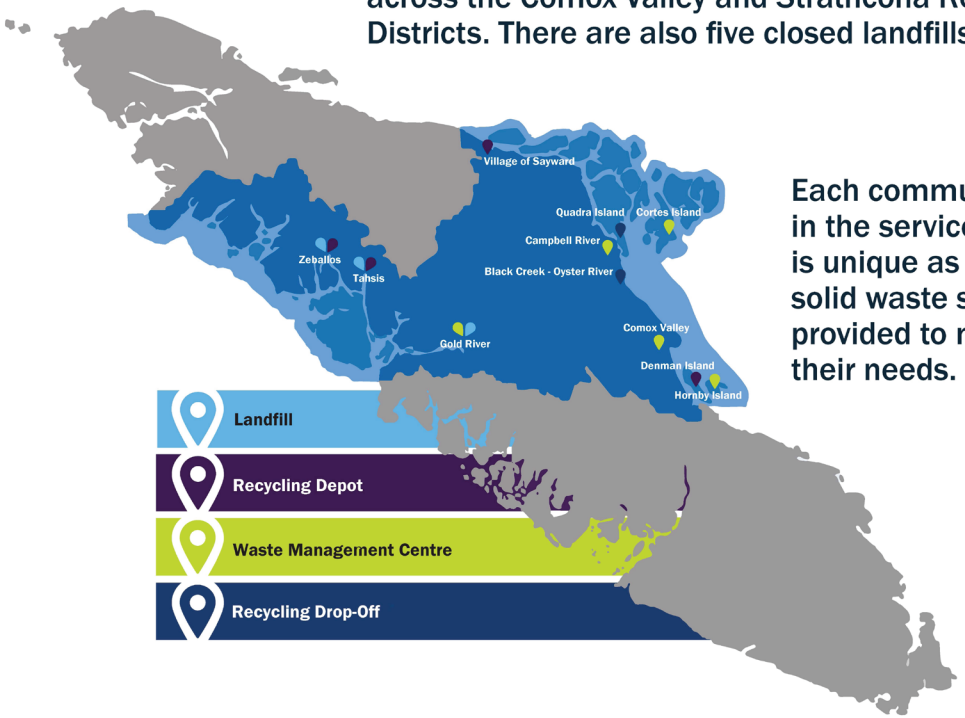
Presentation Boards

How We Manage Waste

The CSWM service area is in the Coast Salish, Kwakwaka'wakw, and Nuu-chah-nulth territories.



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.



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

Beyond landfills and recycling, solid waste management also includes:

- Education and Promotion
- Organics Diversion
- Construction, Renovation and Demolition Diversion
- Disaster Debris Management
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Illegal Dumping

Many private and non-private partners also operate facilities and deliver solid waste services:

- Bottle depots
- Food banks
- Yard and garden waste composting
- Reuse organizations
- Repair cafes
- Haulers
- Recycling processing facilities

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Presentation Boards



Presentation Boards

Strategy 1. Support Reuse Initiatives

What is it?

Work with existing reuse organizations, share sheds, and non-profits to keep reusable waste out of the landfill.



Community Benefit

- Reusable waste is a valuable resource and should be prioritized over recycling
- Reuse facilities have proven to build community and divert waste

Actions

1. Continue to advocate and promote donations to existing reuse establishments in the region.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: $5,000 annually

2. Set up a pilot project where a local non-profit picks up reuseable materials at the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: $65,000 initially staff + $20,000 materials

3. Provide $1 per permanent resident to volunteer organizations and local governments who run remote share sheds.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: $10,000 to $15,000 annually

Who is most affected?

- Rural residents and communities
- Non-profit organizations
- CSWM staff

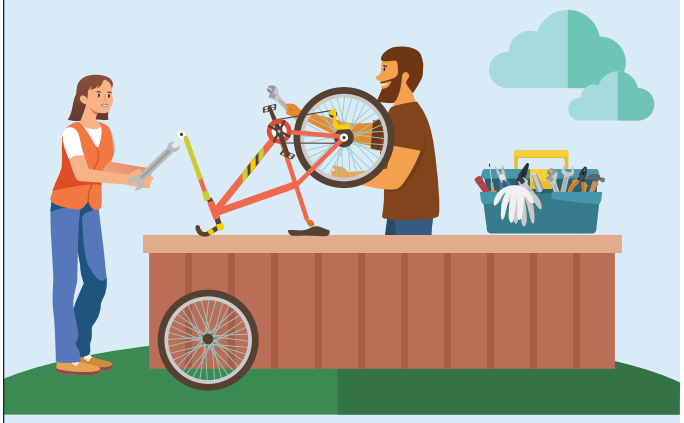
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Strategy 2. Encourage Repair

What is it?

Support repair cafés and advocate for right to repair regulations



Community Benefit

- Shifts consumer behaviour and reduces consumption
- Connects community members who share skills
- Builds community resiliency

Actions

4. Keep supporting five or six repair cafés per year.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: $20,000 annually

5. Introduce grants to help coordinate repair cafés.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: $10,000 annually

6. Develop kits with basic supplies to support repair events.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: $500 annually + $2,000 initial

7. Advocate for provincial and national right to repair regulations.

   Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

   Costs: Use existing staff resources

Who is most affected?

- Consumers
- Community residents
- Non-profit organizations

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Presentation Boards

Strategy 3. Encourage Waste Diversion Through Education and Outreach

What is it?

Expand education and outreach to more sectors, communities, and events



Community Benefit

- Builds on work of educators in schools and community
- Inspires behaviour change and increases diversion
- Increases confidence in recycling systems

Actions

8. Keep supporting waste diversion in schools and at community events.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $106,000 in existing budget

9. Expand educator reach and content to address the needs of more communities and sectors.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $40,000 annually

10. Invest in infrastructure and education to support waste diversion at community events.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $5,000 annual, $20,000 infrastructure

Who is most affected?

- Schoolchildren, educators
- Community residents
- Regional communities
- Industry, commercial, and business sector

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Strategy 4. Improve Multi-family Waste Reduction and Diversion

What is it?

Support recycling and organics collection in multi-family buildings



Community Benefit

- There are a growing number of multi-family buildings in municipalities
- About 71% of multi-family waste can be diverted
- Unequal access between housing types and service levels
- Organics collection reduces greenhouse gases from the landfill

Actions

11. Require new multi-family buildings to have space for recycling and organics bins and pickup.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: Low annual costs

12. Start a campaign in multi-family buildings to encourage participation and reduce contamination.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $25,000 annually

13. Start organics collection in multi-family buildings.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $25,000 annually + $50,000 initially

Who is most affected?

- Multi-family residents
- Waste haulers
- Building developers, and those living in new buildings
- Local governments

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Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Presentation Boards

Strategy 5. Improve Industry, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) Waste Reduction and Diversion

What is it?

Encourage waste diversion through advocacy, policy, education and technical support. Model waste diversion at local government facilities.



Community Benefit

- 60% of ICI waste can be diverted, and it is a significant part of the overall waste stream
- Economic factors are a driving force in the ICI sector for waste management decisions

Who is most affected?

- Business, industry and institutions
- Waste haulers
- Private facilities
- CSWM staff

Actions

14. Advocate to increase access to recycling programs and expand materials accepted under the provincial regulations for waste producers.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $

Use existing staff resources

15. Use landfill material bans and differential tipping fees to incentivize waste minimization and diversion.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $

$100,000 annually + $50,000 initially

16. Provide businesses with education and resources to divert waste.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $

Low annual costs + $25,000 initially

17. Provide ongoing technical help to schools and businesses to reduce waste.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $

Low annual costs + $190,000-$228,000 over three years initially

18. Start a clear garbage bag policy to reduce safety issues and encourage diversion.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $

Low annual costs + $15,000-25,000 initially

19. Encourage local government facilities to model good practices.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $

Low annual costs + $40,000 initially

Strategy 6. Reduce Construction, Renovation, and Demolition Waste

What is it?

Provide policies, funding, resources, and infrastructure upgrades to divert more building material.



Community Benefit

- Denser housing increases building, demolition and renovation material going to the landfill
- Average 2,000 ft^2 home sees 10,000 kg of building materials going to landfill instead of relocation, renovation or deconstruction
- Streamlining permitting processes and improved policy can remove barriers for better waste diversion practices

Actions

20. Prioritize deconstruction and relocation of homes through policy recommendations to local governments.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ $10,000 annually

21. Require relocation or deconstruction over demolition where recommended through assessment by local governments.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ $100,000 annually + $10,000 initially

22. Provide funding support for deconstruction projects.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ $20,000 - $100,000 annually

23. Develop policies and supports for local governments to speed up creation of policies that make it easier to move or deconstruct a building.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ Use existing staff resources

24. Collaborate with other areas on regional solutions.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ $25,000 annually

25. Provide education guides to help on-site diversion.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ $50,000 -$60,000 initially

26. Physically separate mixed construction loads at the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre.

Diversion potential

Cost $ $ $ $130,000 annually (lower with fees) + $525,000 initially

Who is most affected?

- Local governments
- Waste haulers
- Home builders and facilities
- CSWM Staff

Presentation Boards

Strategy 7. Equalize Access to Services

What is it?

Review standards and offer more diversion options to areas where service is limited.



Community Benefit

- Access to diversion services is not equal across the region
- Convenience and access are directly linked to participation
- Cost-effective services are delivered when provided at scale
- Increasing traffic volumes at existing facilities are unsustainable and have cost implications

Actions

27. Review service standards and add materials, depots or collection events so more people can access waste and recycling services equally across the CSWM service.

Diversion potential

Cost $$$

$50,000 - $100,000 annually
+ $400,000 - $500,000 initially

28. Add a user-pay waste drop-off option at select recycling depots.

Diversion potential

Cost $$$

$75,000 - $150,000 annually + medium to high initial costs

29. Require all businesses and households to separate their garbage, recycling, and compost before disposal.

Diversion potential

Cost $$$

$10,000 annually
+ $70,000 initially

30. Establish region-wide garbage and recycling collection for rural households by hiring a contractor.

Diversion potential

Cost $$$

$60,000 - $80,000 annually
+ $40,000 initially

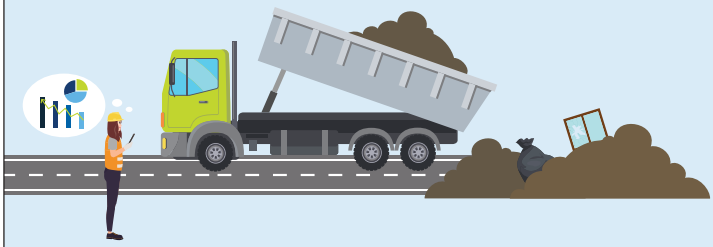
Who is most affected?

- Community, rural and multi-family residents
- Waste facilities
- Business, industry and institutions
- Waste haulers

Strategy 8. Advance Solid Waste Tracking

What is it?

License waste haulers and facilities and offer rebates to those who report waste collection data.



Community Benefit

- Improve environmental responsibility, economic efficiencies, data driven decision making
- Encourage fair competition with transparent data, consistent standards
- Incentivize haulers to bring in less organic and recyclable material with garbage

Actions

31. License all large waste management facilities without required recycling or diversion targets.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $50,000 annually (after Year 1)
+ $80,000 initially

32. License all waste haulers and provide a reduced tipping fee in exchange for data and enforcing diversion.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $50,000 (after 3 years)
+ $80,000 (first 3 years)

33. Offer a rebate to haulers who voluntarily report multi-stream collection data.

Cost $$$ **Diversion potential**

Costs: $50,000 annually + $30,000 initially

Who is most affected?

- Rural and multi-family residents
- Business, industry and institutions
- Waste haulers and facilities

Print Ads



Open House and Home Show

September 26 – 28

Weigh In On Waste

Have your say on how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next decade.

Attend an event in your community:

- Campbell River Home Show, Sportsplex
  1800 Alder Street South
  September 26, 1 – 6 pm
  September 27, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
- Campbell River Compost Facility
  6300 Argonaut Road
  September 28, 11 am – 2 pm
  Compost sales available!
  $20 per cubic metre or a trunk-full!
  Hand shoveled loads only, cash sales.

Participate in person or online for a chance to win a $100 grocery store gift certificate!

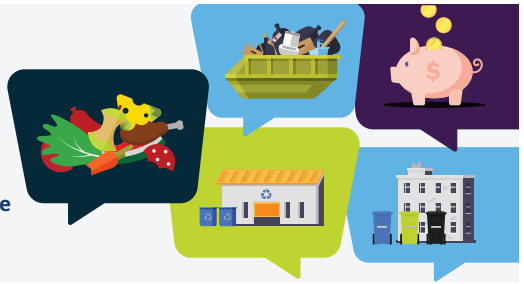
Survey open until October 16.

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

For information, visit **engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp**

Weigh In On Waste

Help Us Shape A Better Future For Solid Waste



There's still time to win!

Have your say on shortlisted strategies and actions to guide how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next 10 years.

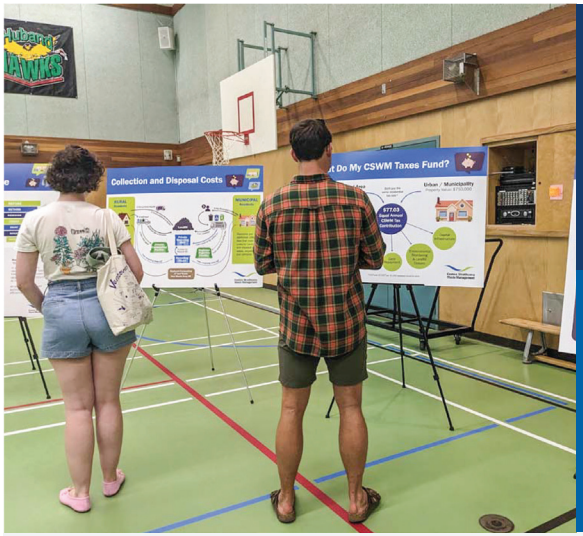
Visit our website and find out how to participate in person or online for a chance to win prizes!

Survey open until October 16
engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

For information, visit **engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp**

Print Ads



10
October
9am – 12pm

Gold River Transfer Station

100 Hilke Road,
Gold River

Weigh In On Waste Event

Have your say on shortlisted strategies and actions to help guide how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next decade.

Participate in person or online for a chance to win prizes!
Survey open until Oct. 16.

engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp

Comox Strathcona Waste Management



4
October
10am – 1pm

Sayward Farmers Market

1257 Sayward Road,
Sayward

Weigh In On Waste Event

Have your say on shortlisted strategies and actions to help guide how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next decade.

Participate in person or online for a chance to win prizes!
Survey open until Oct. 16.

engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Digital sign ad

Weigh In On Waste

Help Us Shape A Better Future
For Solid Waste



Complete the survey by Oct. 16 to be eligible to win.

cswm.ca/swmp

Comox Strathcona
Waste Management

Social Media



15
october

Pop by our booth at the Driftwood Mall
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Comox Strathcona Waste Management



07
september

Join us at Harvest Happenings
10 am - 3 pm

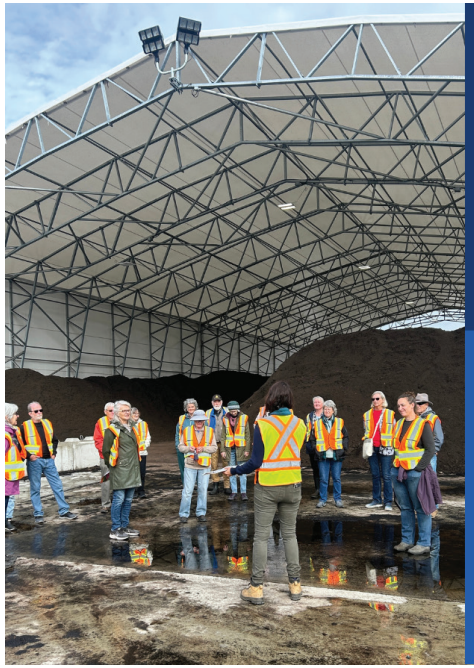
Comox Strathcona Waste Management



06
september

Join us at Black Creek Fall Fair
10 am - 4 pm

Comox Strathcona Waste Management



26-28
september

Join us at an Fri/Sat at the Campbell River Home Show OR at the Compost Facility on Sunday

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Postcard

Waste Reduction Strategies



1. Support reuse
2. Encourage repair





4. Support multi-family waste separation
3. Educate and reach out to communities





5. Reduce industry, commercial and institutional waste



6. Reduce construction, renovation and demolition waste

7. Equalize access to services







8. Track solid waste





Comox Strathcona Waste Management



Have Your Say

Weigh in on shortlisted strategies and actions to help guide how garbage, recycling and other waste is managed for the next decade.

Participate in person or online for a chance to win a $100 grocery store gift certificate!

Survey open until October 16.

engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp

Comox Strathcona Waste Management