

Community Feedback - Waste Minimisation Strategy

No	Community Member	Comment	Officer Feedback
1	1	I think it is looking good. I really like the introduction and the concept of the waste hierarchy.	Noted
2	1	The Action Plan seems to be filled with too many feel good & general statements. The writer(s) know what they mean but the new reader finds it a bit banal.	Will review
3	1	The weakest actions are in Objective 3. Seems to me there are more creative ways to bring community pride in public spaces than just focussing on litter, bins and signage and illegal dumping. Seems reactive to a problem rather than preventive. Engage more with the community on a creative (rather than punitive) solution to dumping, graffiti, littering. Engage more with shops/supermarkets on the trolley dump scourge.	Will be incorporated into action 3.6
4	2	While there is a lot in your draft document about education and on-going activities, I think the council has missed a brilliant opportunity here to change the system by adopting a more European style of collection system with centralised neighbourhood points and many more categories of waste. This would both save the council many dollars in the long term as well as minimise large garbage trucks spending hours on our streets.	Noted. Not appropriate system in Australia
5	3	The lack of recycling of decent hard waste products such as couches, tables and chairs etc. is a concern.	Will be incorporated into action 1.3, 1.4, 2.4, 4.5

6	4	There appears to be inaccuracies e.g. China Sword program you've used the standard media untruth line they have banned acceptance of plastic for recycling. They have not they have simply enforced the rule that it must be the plastics and not the contamination we send. The rule has been 0.3% since 2013 we simply flouted it and lax inspection their end meant it carried on. The new enforced rule is 0.5-1% contamination so in actual fact is more than we should have been sending in the past. Australia averages something like 6-10% contamination so the fault purely lies with us trying to send our waste mixed in with our recyclables.	Will review and update
7	4	Omitted several the Victorian Waste Management Policies, Waste Management Policy (Used Packaging Materials), EPA publication 383 Guidelines for preparation of waste management plans	Will review
8	4	Co mingle collection is outdated look to Europe where the multi box system is prevalent and results in higher quality recycle and by default a higher value product.	Noted. Not appropriate system in Australia
9	4	How about fining people for contamination?	Will be explored as part of Action 3.2
10	4	If we wish to help reducing potential costs for acceptance of recycling there needs to be a circular economy i.e a market for the recycled product. Yarra must include purchasing decision in this policy to buy recycled product where possible.	Will be incorporated into action 4.7 & 5.7
11	4	Education, education, education get it out there that contamination is not acceptable.	Actions 1.5, 1.6 & 3.2, is expected to address this issue
12	5	The five objectives are wishy washy political speak. Please fix them up.	Will review
13	5	If you try to paint a rosy picture of how fantastic our recycling has been going so far what's the motivation for change or review	Will review
14	6	Set up a booth at the farmers market talking about the hungry bin worm farm program	Where possible and appropriate, this approach will be taken

15	6	Where possible do face to face marketing and use electronic devices. Mail drops are wasteful.	Where possible and appropriate, this approach will be taken
16	6	Encourage no alcohol events in the community. The impact of intoxicated people, they get drunk, throw there bottles and cans in the bushes, buy takeaway products made of plastic and litter the streets.	Not the role of Local Government
17	6	Encourage more businesses that sell bulk foods at a reasonable price	Actions 1.3 & 5.9 is expected to address this issue
18	6	Discourage big business like Coles. Everything is packaged, even the fruit. Ban Coles from packaging their fruit and veg in plastic. Ban coles from using plastic bags for fruit and veg collection, switch to paper.	Add another to address this - Actions 5.11
19	6	Encourage more people to shop at the farmers market, it is actually cheaper than coles and better quality.	Actions 1.5, 1.6 is expected to address this issue
20	6	I love the Yarra Council and I know you guys do an amazing job.	Noted
21	7	It was great to be sent the draft summary. It was fantastic to see that a larger number that expected responses occurred.	Noted
22	7	It is hard to know how realistic the set targets are with the uncertainty that is present in the recycling market. There doesn't seem to be a strategy around the potential impact of this and how City of Yarra will be managing this in the future.	Will be incorporated into action 5.2, 5.3 & 5.4
23	7	Given the lack of Australian options for recycling and the likelihood that these stockpiles will end up in landfill increased focus on education strategies for waste minimisation and creative options for repair and reuse in the City of Yarra to complement the Clifton Hill recycling drop off centre could be options. Additionally should there be more than one drop off centre in the whole of City of Yarra?	Will be incorporated into action 1.3, 1.4, 2.4, 4.6
24	8	I would like Yarra to consider banning all single-use plastics (e.g. straws, take-away containers, plastic bags, etc.) I think we could be the first council in Victoria to do it!	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11

25	9	Excellent report, seems to cover all the issues. Thanks for getting community input, and kudos to whoever put in the hard work to draw this up.	Noted
26	10	Leave things as they are.	Noted
27	11	I have read the draft Waste Minimisation Strategy and question what strong actions are being taken by Council to reduce waste in Yarra. I would have liked to see an outline of steps will be taken to address this issue, particularly in the wake of China's decision not to continue accepting waste from Australia.	Will be incorporated into action 5.2, 5.3 & 5.4
28	11	Council's like Bass Coast have already implemented significant changes, for example organic waste collection for all households. I have observed the sheer volume of rubbish that is put out by my neighbours and I am angered by this.	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 4.8 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue
29	12	I am pleased with the outcomes of the Council's strategy as reported	Noted
30	13	I think people need more education on why they should sort their rubbish properly and send as little as possible to landfill.	Actions 1.5, 1.6 & 3.2, is expected to address this issue
31	13	I would like to see Yarra adopt a no plastic bags policy.	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
32	13	Could Yarra be doing more to encourage Op Shops, recycling of furniture, something like a special shopping precinct for pre-loved clothes and furniture like they have in Scandinavia.	Will be incorporated into action 1.3 & 1.4
33	13	Yarra supply smaller rubbish bins	Will be explored as part of action 2.1
34	13	We all need to be re-thinking our lives but cultural change is hard.	Noted
35	14	Can you consider providing each household a "kitchen caddy" and roll of compostable bags to collect all their food scraps in- this can then either go in the green waste bin, or in their own compost bin?	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 4.8 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue

36	15	<p>The Waste Minimisation Strategy seems to be more about the "Recycle" end of the waste reduction spectrum and with little innovation on the pointy end of waste reduction.</p> <p>It is good to see "Refuse" being added to the waste reduction spectrum, but more innovative education and modelling strategies are urgently needed.</p>	Will be incorporated into Actions 1.3, 1.4, 2.4, 4.5, 4.6 & 5.1 -
37	15	<p>Reducing Plastic bags: with the state government banning plastic bags and campaigns to reduce and ban single use and other plastic bags, there is strong potential for City of Yarra to take a lead role in reducing plastic bag consumption.</p>	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
38	15	<p>As home to one of the largest IKEA stores in Victoria, Yarra could work with IKEA (with possible financial support from them) and Victoria Gardens to raise awareness of waste minimisation. The streets of Yarra are often littered with discarded items from IKEA.</p>	Will review
39	15	<p>The development of Men's Sheds could be ramped up in Yarra, meeting a range of community policy aims.</p>	Actions 1.3, 1.4 & 2.4 is expected to address this issue
40	15	<p>With a strong creative community, strategies could be put in place to reward and foster a culture of creative responses to waste reduction, including delivery of iconic shopping solutions as alternatives to plastic bags such as promoting shopping with bicycles, funky local shopping bags, shopping jeeps, etc.</p>	Will be incorporated into action 1.3, 1.4 & 5.11
41	16	<p>First and most importantly employ enough people to ensure the streets, waterways & household bins are cleared. Good on u keep surveying, there's always change & need.</p>	Noted
42	16	<p>I'm thrilled Yarra considering waste electricity & local powerhouses, keep up the necessary work, thanks</p>	Noted

43	17	Yarra, You guys are great, wonderful and I love you... but "making series of small, ethical purchasing decisions while ignoring the structural incentives for companies' unsustainable business models won't change the world. If we had directed even a third of that pot of money (the typical markup on green cleaning products) toward lobbying our governments to ban the toxic chemicals we're so afraid of, we might have made a lot more progress by now.	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
44	18	no single use plastics in any City of Yarra workplaces (or events) - so that you're modelling best practices in more ways than you already do.	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
45	18	businesses encouraged to support City of Yarra moratorium on single use plastics (ie. ban all single use plastics from being used in retailers for food storage/take-away/delivery/retail	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
46	18	City of Yarra's support for adoption (or adoption process overhaul) as a way to give us sustainable population growth (we're currently adopting from overseas because it's so much harder within Australia)	Not the role of Local Government
47	18	All City of Yarra food events, offices, employees' lunches, sponsors, etc have a 'no meat', 'no meat and dairy', 'no meat, dairy and eggs' or 'no animal products' policy as part of sustainable food practices.	Not the role of Local Government
48	19	City of Yarra does a great job leading the way for Victoria with refugees, it would be great if sustainability wasn't just tokenism or the mythical green consumerism... but I did find some other myths that might help support great policies. Many thanks!	Noted
49	20	This submission is a very positive step forward. We need to manage our own waste and improve the recycling, reusing opportunities.	Noted
50	21	First of all well done on a thorough research job on the policy.	Noted

51	21	I would like to see concrete plans to encourage waste free commerce in the area, such as a direct program that retail and hospitality businesses can sign up to that will help them go zero waste.	Actions 1.3 & 5.9 is expected to address this issue
52	21	Using the combined market size of City of Yarra retailers, bulk orders could be made for recycled packaging that could bring the costs down, and branding the program in store could be a positive way of spreading the message.	Actions 4.7 & 5.7 is expected to address this issue
53	22	I am not sure why we are all waiting for assessment of the NSW CDL impact when we have so much good evidence from South Australia. It is a much cleaner state! So much less litter.	Will review
54	22	There doesn't seem to be anything about industrial composting which is needed if we are going to use compostable plastics instead of fossil fuel plastics.	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 4.8 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue
55	22	Love the proudly plastic free campaign idea! it would be great if Yarra led the way and banned cafes from using throwaway cups and plastic straws. How good would that be! Very happy to contribute to that campaign however I can!	Noted
56	22	How about a litter collection kit. Reusable rubber glove and reusable bag and tongs - to promote everyone to keep their streets clean. I always pick up what I can.	Will be incorporated into action 3.5
57	22	Really support food scrap collection as we only have a balcony garden and struggle to use all our scraps in the garden beds.	Noted
58	22	What about a tiffin service to reduce plastic produced through Uber eats etc.	Actions 5.10 is expected to address this issue
59	23	I would like to look at local responses to waste management. Is there an opportunity to support local employment opportunities by composting and recycling locally.	Actions 4.6, 4.8 & 5.9 is expected to address this issue
60	23	Can we support local business that are recycle waste?	Will be incorporated into action 4.7, 5.7 & 5.9
61	24	The organic waste collection trial sounds great and I hope this is able to continue and expand.	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 4.8 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue

62	24	I'm interested in seeing how 'Richmond Repair Corner' fits in and needs to be publicised more for people to know and help reduce/reuse.	Will be incorporated into action 1.3, 1.4, 2.4, 4.6
63	24	I'd like to see more support and knowledge offered to cafes/take away restaurants to help them reduce disposable packaging, along with consumers.	Actions 5.4 & 5.10 is expected to address this issue
64	24	I'd like to see more opportunities for Yarra community to know about the garbage chain (how and where it travels) and forums for them to gather and collectively contribute.	Will be incorporated into action 1.1
65	25	With the number of small dwellings / apartments increasing in city of Yarra people do not have spaces to make their own compost bins / areas nor use compost materials however the community would respond to supporting collection of organic waste separate to our current 2 bin sorting collection.	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 4.8 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue
66	25	Our current waste collection is a very poor and outdated system - you would have a strong commitment from the community to separate their household waste in greater divisions for better recycling purposes.	Noted. Not appropriate system in Australia
67	26	I'd like to see more emphasis on how waste is collected from both the physical separation to the mechanism for residential collection. It's disappointing there is no suggestion that are true rethink and opportunity is not being taken in terms of the collection process.	Noted. Not appropriate system in Australia
68	26	There is no reward but self satisfaction. Evidence clearly suggests that without consequences an education campaign will be of some but limited effectiveness. Why are there no incentives or disincentives as part of this strategy.	Action 3.2 is expected to address this issue
69	27	The lack of collection points for recyclables is not addressed. Council should use each of it's town halls, libraries, etc. as collection points for suitable recyclables (Phones, batteries, corks, etc.). Periodic recyclable collection days/week could be established to allow residents who have collected items to deliver them to a local collection point.	Action 4.6 is expected to address this issue

70	27	The "pollution" caused by O-Bikes have not been discussed	Noted
71	27	There deliverables are weak, ambiguous and insufficient. "Evaluate", "Continue to deliver", "Work with", "Encourage", "Review" all suffer from lack of substance. Fewer but clearer targets with clear measures of success would be preferred to pages and pages of vague "best efforts" type deliverables.	Will review
72	27	Can Council explore having less bins in our open space? By establishing the idea if you bring rubbish you take it away through education and other "Innovative" means. It's not clear to me that this sort of opportunity will be considered?	Will be explored as part of action 3.1.1 & 4.3
73	28	The Clifton Hill depot is an excellent facility and we are lucky to live in the next street. Other parts of the municipality should have access to similar facilities, so that all Yarra residents can be encouraged to take more responsibility for their own recycling.	Action 4.6 is expected to address this issue
74	28	The main focus has to be on educating the community about sustainable purchasing.... reducing packaging and single-use products, and reminders of the high cost of waste disposal.	Noted
75	28	Waste management has to become a community responsibility, not a Council responsibility.	Noted
76	28	And continue the promotion of creative ideas for waste reduction and publicity for local businesses, residents and organisations that demonstrate sustainable practices.	Noted
77	29	Food waste pickup would be great to be a whole council service.	Actions 1.2, 2.1 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue
78	29	Advocating to reduce overpackaging in our products and items being imported.	Actions 4.7 & 5.7 is expected to address this issue
79	29	Advocating for business to be responsible for litter of packaging (i.e. McDonalds rubbish)	Actions 4.7 & 5.7 is expected to address this issue

80	29	Yarra businesses being required to accept people bringing their own containers to buy products - i.e. butcher/green grocers/take away food shops	Actions 5.10 is expected to address this issue
81	29	Proper ban on plastic bags rather than lip service!	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
82	29	Support more food swapping	Will be explored as part of action 1.2
83	29	Give incentive to businesses to have bulk products ie like CERES but at affordable cost	Actions 1.3 & 5.9 is expected to address this issue
84	29	Support neighbourhood food co-ops	Will be explored as part of action 1.2
85	29	Incentives for having less waste and therefore not needing bin service every week or go to fortnightly bin service for everyone	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 4.8 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue
86	30	We support the decision to trial a combined food organics and garden organics (FOGO) system which, as well as food waste, has the capacity to capture the garden waste that residents are currently putting in their general bins	Actions 1.2, 2.1 & 5.1 is expected to address this issue
87	30	We commend this strategy for its strong focus on waste reduction and the fact that waste minimisation is the focus, with a “greater emphasis on how we purchase, consume and use resources”.	Noted
88	30	Council to lobby state government implement a stronger regulatory approach on waste reduction, including the banning of single-use plastics such as shopping bags, drinking straws and plastic take-away food containers	Add another action to address this - Actions 5.11
89	30	Council to lobby state government to utilise the millions of dollars that are currently accumulating in the Sustainability Fund, which is expected to rise to \$531 million this financial year	Actions 5.6 is expected to address this issue
90	30	Council to shift the responsibility onto businesses to deal with the waste they produce	Actions 4.2 is expected to address this issue
91	30	Council to lobby state government to introduce a container deposit scheme	Actions 5.8 is expected to address this issue

92	30	State to provide funding for local governments to reduce the amount of food waste going to landfill, noting that Yarra residents often do not have the capacity to undertake composting in their households.	Actions 5.6 is expected to address this issue
93	30	We commend officers for this waste strategy and urge council to fully fund the Waste Minimisation Strategy 2018–2022 so that it can deliver these essential actions.	Will be considered as part of budget processes