

Municipality of East Ferris

Report to Council

Report No.: R-2026-09

Date: April 14, 2026

Originator: Antoine C. Boucher, Municipal Engineer

Subject: **Tender EF-2026-01: Curbside Waste Collection**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris does not award tender EF-2026-01: Curbside Waste Collection to any of the proponents who submitted a bid;

AND THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris authorizes staff to begin providing in-house curbside waste collection services once the required three (3) months notice to our current provider expires;

AND FURTHER THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris authorizes staff to proceed with hiring an equipment operator and purchasing the waste collection truck and accessory equipment.

BACKGROUND

On Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026, Tender EF-2026-01: Curbside Waste Collection was sent by invitation to potential bidders, posted on our municipal website, and was advertised in the North Bay Nugget on Saturday, March 7th, 2026. The Tender closed on Tuesday, April 7th, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. On the closing date, a public opening was held at 3:15 p.m. in the municipal office in the presence of Mayor Rick Champagne, Deputy Clerk Monica Hawkins, and Director of Public Works and Engineering Antoine Boucher. Dale Carmichael, Miller Waste, was the only member of the public in attendance for the opening.

Two (2) tender packages were requested, and a total of two (2) bids were received. One (1) addendum was issued.

ANALYSIS/OPTIONS

Bidders had the opportunity to provide a bid in accordance with current collection days, and optional bid in the event they would have a second proposal that would result in savings to the municipality by alternating collection days. Green for Life (GFL) submitted one (1) price for current collection days, whereas Miller Waste submitted a bid for current collection days and optional bid altering the collection days/routes to three (3) days per week.

Bids received were for a 3-year contract commencing on May 1, 2026, and ending on April 30, 2029, with an optional 2-year contract extension.

Bid results are as follows (excluding all taxes):

Contract Year	Green for Life (Option 1)	Miller Waste (Option 1)	Miller Waste (Option 2)
Year 1	\$ 323,574.16	\$ 467,059.05	\$ 364,400.10
Year 2	\$ 339,752.87	\$ 481,070.82	\$ 375,332.10
Year 3	\$ 356,740.51	\$ 495,502.94	\$ 386,592.06
Optional Extension			
Year 4	\$ 374,577.54	\$ 510,368.03	\$ 398,189.82
Year 5	\$ 393,306.42	\$ 525,679.07	\$ 410,135.52
Average 5-Year	\$357,590.30	\$495,935.98	\$386,929.92

The actual cost for curbside collection services in 2025, excluding all taxes, was \$89,011.56.

GFL submitted the lowest bid. The cost proposed for the 1st year of service is \$323,574.16 which amounts to an approximate increase of 365% over 2025. After year 1, the annual cost included in the bid submission increases by 5% per year. The average annual cost for the first 5-year term amounts to \$357,590.30 or a total of \$1,787,951.50. If we use a 5% increase over a 10-year term, the average annual cost would be \$406,988.10 per year or a total of \$4,069,881.01.

The 2026 budget for curbside collection was increased by 11.4%; therefore, we do not have enough funds in the budget to accept any of the bids.

Based on the results of the bids received above, it is evident that the cost to contract waste collection services have significantly increased over the last few years. Furthermore, looking at the five (5) year projected costs, the feasibility of contracting out curbside waste collection becomes doubtful. Staff enquired with surrounding municipalities regarding the cost for curbside waste collection services, and they are confirming similar trends. It is therefore unlikely to consider re-tendering waste collection in anticipation of lower bids.

An alternative to contracting out curbside collection is to provide such services in-house. Although most municipalities contract-out waste collection services, some municipalities historically had in-house waste collection services in the past, some currently provide this service (for example Powassan), and we may see a trend in the future with others returning to in-house.

The costs of in-house versus contracted waste collection are influenced by many factors but based on the analysis shown below, the cost appears to be much less. There is little objective data about customer service associated with in-house versus contracted waste collection services; however, the Municipality of East Ferris has not always been satisfied with the service offered by contractors.

Potential advantages of contracted waste collection services include:

- Outsource operational challenges to contractor – maintaining current staff and vehicle fleet complement.
- Human resource issues and training are the contractor’s responsibility.
- Avoid significant “up-front” capital costs for vehicles.

Potential advantages of in-house waste collection:

- Greater flexibility to make service changes.
- More responsive to customer and community expectations.
- Direct control of services, and better management of landfill site.
- Better coordination while managing winter events.

In-house waste curbside collection would require the purchase of a new garbage truck and accessory equipment (radio, GPS, camera, auto-lube), and incur annual operating costs for licensing, fuel, insurance, maintenance and additional staff. We would need to hire one (1) additional operator.

It is estimated that should we bring curbside waste collection services in-house, the annual average cost for the first 5-year term would be \$234,316.14 or a total of \$1,171,580.72. For the first 5 year-term, when compared to GFL, we would realize savings of \$616,370.78. For the 2nd five year-term, the average annual cost would be \$193,058.19 or a total of \$965,290.96 over 5 years. For the second 5 year-term, when compared to GFL, we would realize savings of \$1,316,638.56. The savings realized in the 2nd five-year term are greater than the initial five year-term due to purchasing the truck and paying it off over the first 5 year-term. Over a ten-year term, should we bring the services in-house, our cost is estimated to be \$2,136,871.68 versus GFL's contracted cost of \$4,069,881.01 – savings of \$1,933,009.33 over ten years or \$193,300.93 annually.

The capital purchase of a new garbage truck with accessory equipment is approximately \$354,000. When financed over a 5-year term, the cost is approximately \$405,000 or \$81,200/year. All analysis contained in this report assumes that a waste collection truck has a useful life of 10 years, and that the Municipality will keep the truck and provide waste collection services for a minimum 10-year period.

Staff contacted various garbage truck dealers in Ontario and received confirmation that a few new models are currently available and/or in transit, therefore the consideration of in-house waste collection is a feasible option.

Based on the above findings, the recommendation is to proceed with in-house curbside services.

Respectfully Submitted,



Antoine C. Boucher, P. Eng.
Municipal Engineer

I concur with this report and recommendation,



Jason H. Trottier, HBBA, MPA, CPA, CMA
CAO/Treasurer