

WASTE WATCH OTTAWA

New Councillor Briefing:

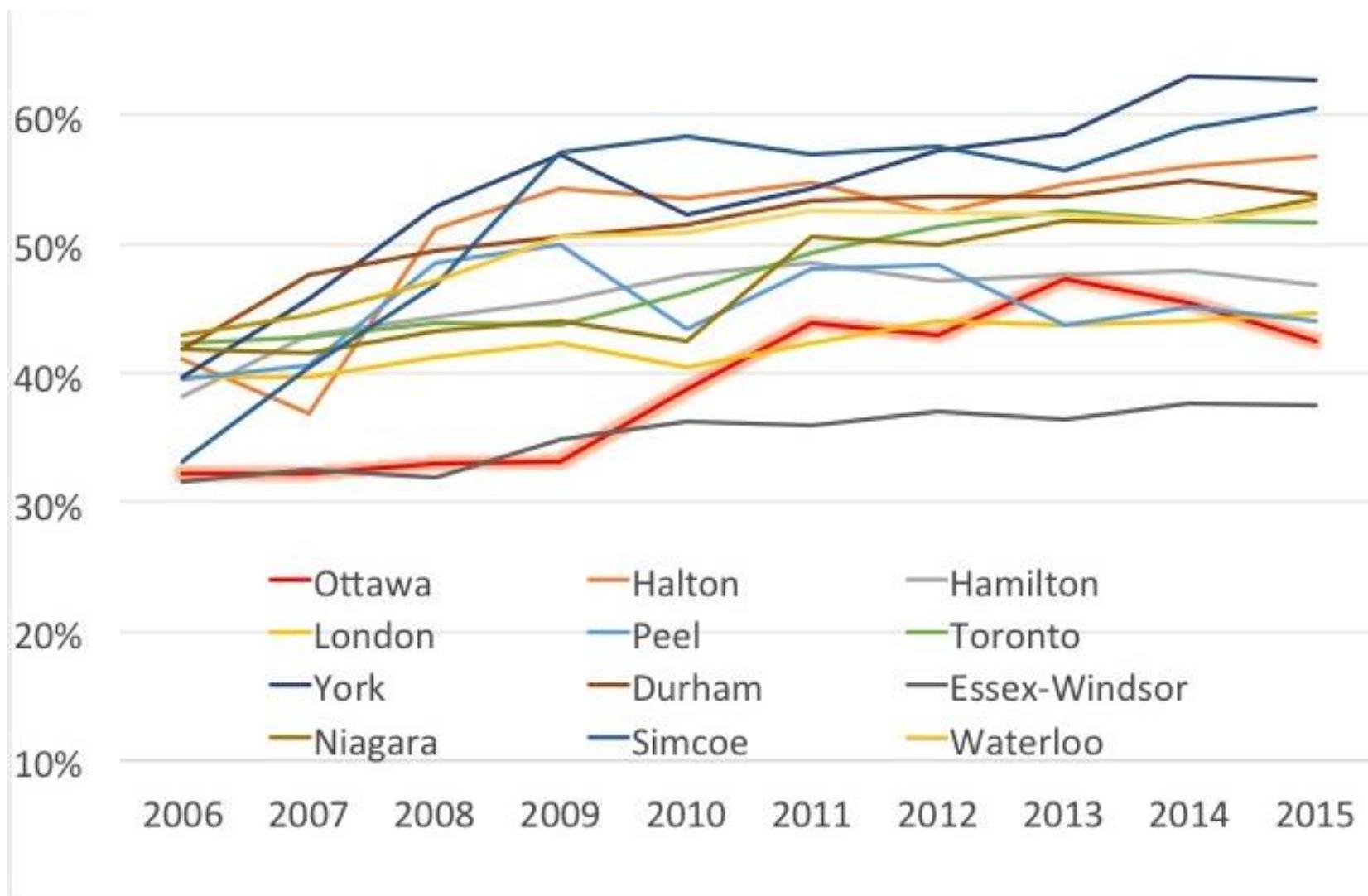
Improving Ottawa's Poor Residential Waste Diversion Performance

November 15, 2018

KEY FINDINGS OF WWO SEPTEMBER 2017 REPORT

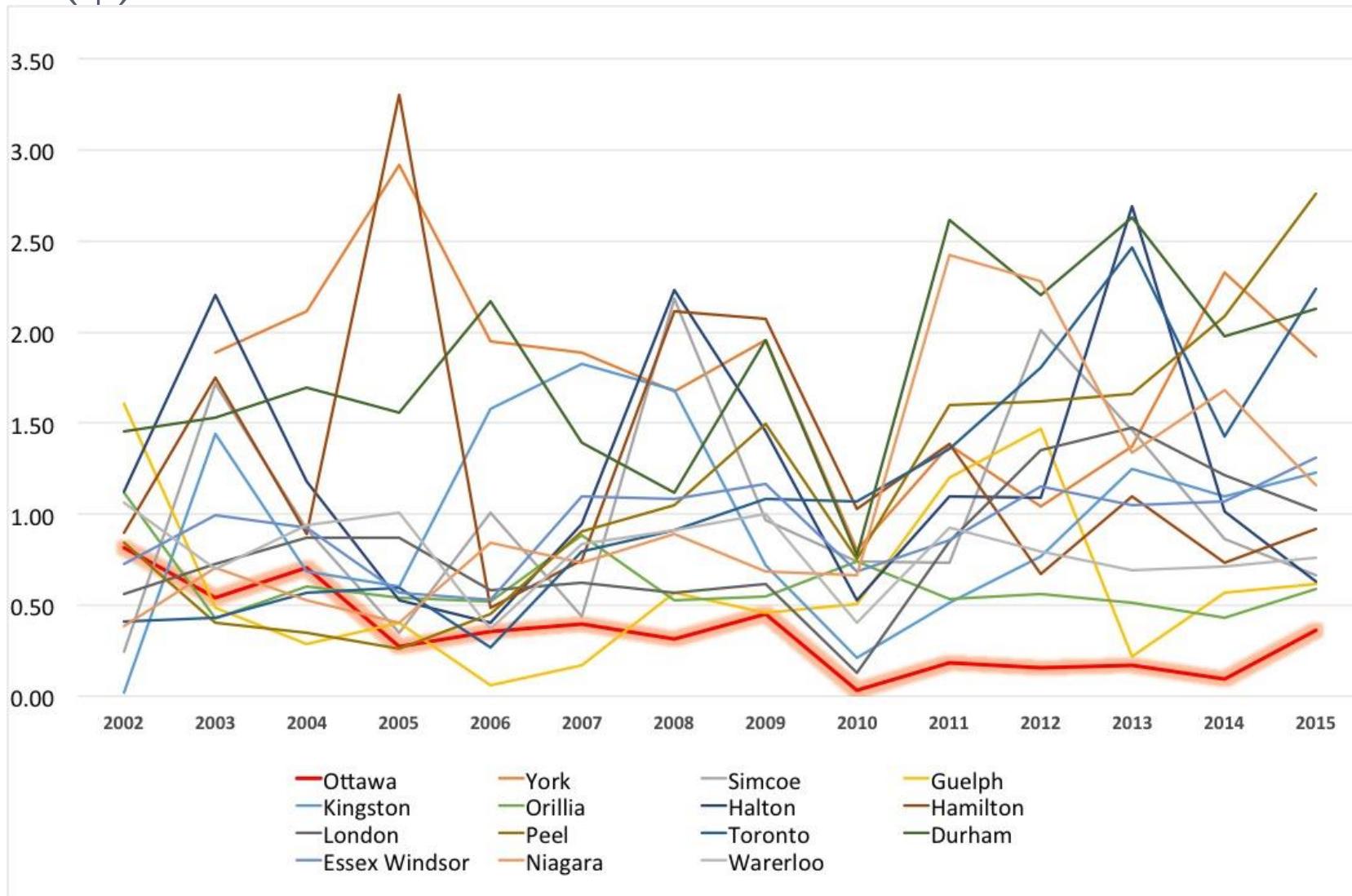
- Ottawa's recycling and green bin waste diversion performance falls well below that of comparable large Ontario municipalities
- Ottawa spends considerably less on waste diversion promotion and education
- There are significant problems with the green bin program
- More waste is going to disposal than is desirable and this is unnecessarily compromising the capacity and life expectancy of the City's Trail Road landfill site

LOW PERCENTAGE OF WASTE DIVERTED

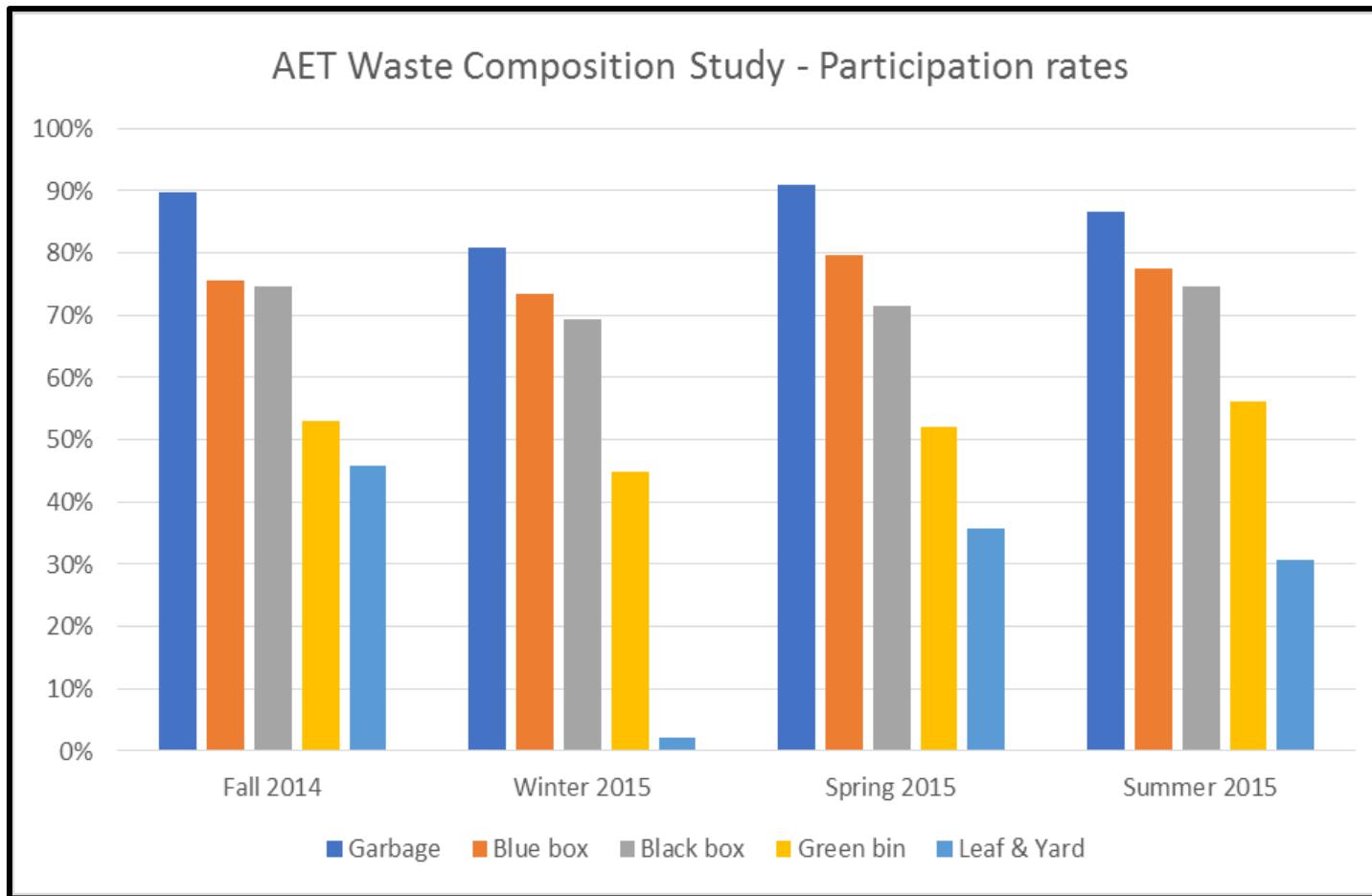


PROMOTION AND EDUCATION SPENDING

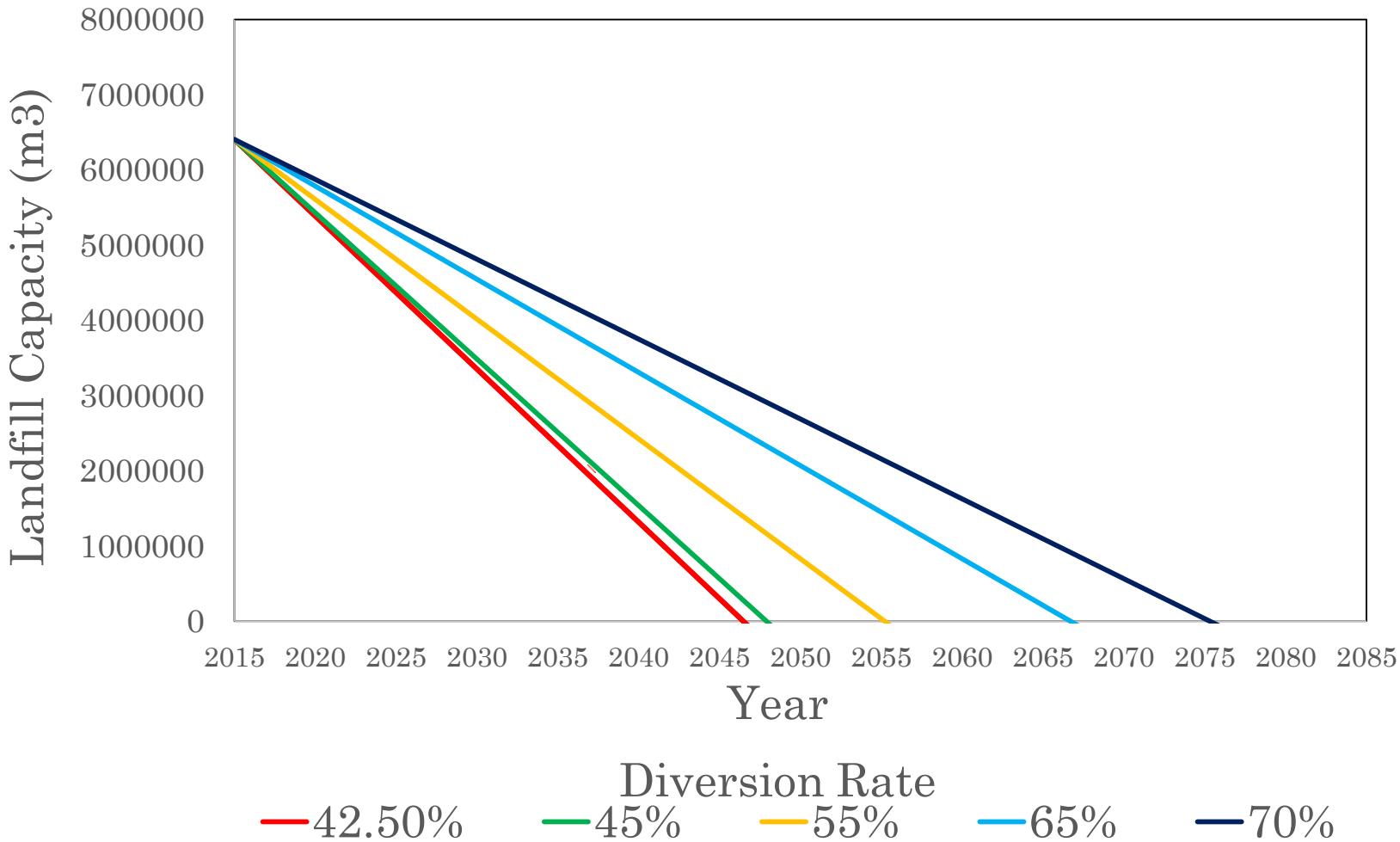
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POOR RATES OF GREEN BIN PARTICIPATION



TRAIL ROAD LIFE EXPECTANCY WITH IMPROVED WASTE DIVERSION



WHY WORK TO IMPROVE WASTE DIVERSION NOW?

- Every increase of 1% in the rate of waste diversion means an extra 1 year of life expectancy for the Trail Road landfill site beyond the currently estimated closure date of 2045
- Environmental and political challenges of selecting and siting a new landfill site or any residual waste management system could take at least 10 years
- A replacement for Trail Road, which could cost over \$250m, and may be very difficult or impossible to find, certainly within the boundaries of the City
- Everything should therefore be done to husband landfill capacity for the long term

A ROAD AHEAD – PLANNING AND ACTION FOR ENHANCING EXISTING PROGRAMS

- Focus on improving the existing programs rather than major new initiatives
- WWO's September 2017 report cited over 20 options for improving the City's waste diversion performance in 6 general areas:
 - green bin organics
 - blue and black box recycling
 - multi-residential buildings
 - garbage
 - promotion and education
 - waste reduction.

WWO 6 POINT WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DIVERSION STRATEGY (1)

Key priorities and actions recommended for early adoption by the new Council - distributed to all ward and mayoralty candidates in August:

- Set a target to divert 65% of waste to recycling and composting by the end of the new council term in December 2022;
- Rescind the previous Council's decision to allow non-compostable plastic bags in the green bin;
- Triple spending on promotion and education for the recycling and green bin programs;

WWO 6 POINT WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DIVERSION STRATEGY (2)

- In multi-residential buildings, require green bin composting and make a stronger concerted effort to improve recycling program performance;
- Plan to implement
 - A partial or full user pay system for garbage,
 - A clear garbage bags program, and
 - A reduction in the number of bags/bins of garbage that can be set out bi-weekly for collection
- Act now to engage residents in constructive consultations and action

PROVINCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Possible revisions to the funding and operation of recycling programs
 - Previous government initiative to move to 100% packaging stewards/industry funding and operation (on the B.C. model)
 - Supported by AMO but currently stalled
- Previous government organics diversion strategy
 - Mandated organics collection and composting
 - Focus on industrial, commercial and institutional sectors where little is happening at the moment
 - Ban on disposal
- Some rumours that the new government is interested in pursuing revisions to recycling and the organics strategy – timing unclear

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Thank you



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