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For Immediate Release

2007 York Region Solid Waste Budget

NEWMARKET – York Regional Council today approved The Regional Municipality of York's 2007 *Business Plan and Budget* which includes nearly \$52 million dollars for Solid Waste Management.

A total of \$38.7 million is allocated for Operational costs and includes:

- \$8.8 million to implement the Source Separated Organics – Green Bin – program to the remaining seven municipalities, resulting in the diversion of an additional 29,000 tonnes of organic material from landfill
- \$1.7 million for Yard Waste programs
- \$2.3 million for Blue Box programs



A total of \$12.8 million is allocated for Capital costs and includes:

- Site selection and design concepts for a Community Environmental Centre in the City of Vaughan
- Continuation of the development of the Durham York Residual Waste Environmental Assessment
- Expansion and design consultation for York Region's Materials Recovery Facility where Blue Box items are processed
- Design creation for a Community Environmental Centre in the Town of Richmond Hill

Included in the \$38.7 million in operating costs is the implementation of the Green Bin program for all York Region residents by September 2007.

Other Solid Waste Management objectives for 2007 include the renewal of necessary landfill contracts, advocacy for decreased packaging and promotion and education to York Region residents about diversion programs.

York Regional Council is dedicated to increasing waste diversion and last fall committed to diverting 65 per cent of waste from landfill by 2010.

In partnership with our nine local municipalities, York Region has created the *Joint Waste Diversion Strategy* - a report outlining how the Region will increase its current diversion rate over the years to come.

Solid Waste Management is the Regional branch responsible for planning, financing and delivering environmentally-sound solid waste diversion and disposal that ensures public health and safety. This includes food waste and Blue Box processing, management of public drop-offs and transportation and disposal of municipally-collected waste.

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For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit www.york.ca

Media Contact: Ken Turriff, Corporate Communications, York Region
Phone: (905) 830-4444 / toll-free 1-877-464-9675, Ext. 1226
Cell: (905) 251-6415 / Email: ken.turriff@york.ca