Agenda - Council - June 29, 2005

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - June 7, 2005

Item No. 16 Naming of Private Streets
File SC-3.14

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 22, 2005, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submits the following to Council:

1. That the By-law formalizing the authority of Community Committees to assign street names to roadways on private property and on Provincial rights of way, as outlined in the report from the Director of Planning, Property and Development dated May 24, 2005, be enacted.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - June 7, 2005

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 22, 2005, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 7, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Re: **Naming of Private Streets**

For submission to: **Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development**

Original report signed by: **Director of Planning, Property and Development**

Report date: May 24, 2005

Recommendation(s):

That Council enact the attached draft By-law that will formalize the authority of Community Committees to assign street names to roadways on private property and on Provincial rights of way.

REPORT SUMMARY

Key Issues:

- Community committees have taken responsibility for naming so-called "private" streets for many years and the attached draft By-law would formally authorize this practice.

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General implications:

X	**None**
	For the organization overall and/or for other departments
	For the community and/or organizations external to the City of Winnipeg
	Involves a multi-year contract

Comment(s):

-

Policy implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Environmental implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Human resources implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Financial implications:

X	**Within approved current and/or capital budget**
	Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s):

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REASON FOR THE REPORT:

Only Council can enact By-laws.

HISTORY:

Clause 500(c) of *The City of Winnipeg Act* gave the City express authority to name streets on either public or private property. It did not set out that this needed to be done by by-law.

Over time, a practice was adopted by which Council passed by-laws naming streets on public rights of way while community committees named so-called "private" streets.

In 2003, *The City of Winnipeg Charter* came into force. Section 129 of the *Charter* gives the City authority to pass by-laws respecting the naming of streets. Existing practices were not altered following enactment of the *Charter*.

DISCUSSION:

There are two basic categories of so-called "private" streets or roads. The first category consists of roadways built by the owners of property entirely on their property. These "streets" remain private property and are open to the public only to the extent permitted by the owner. Because their construction and maintenance are the sole responsibility of the owner of the property, they may not have been constructed and may not be maintained to standards employed by the City. Examples of this category include roadways within major industrial complexes and within large residential condominium complexes.

The second category consists of service roads that parallel major thoroughfares and are in fact built on the same rights-of-way as the thoroughfare. To date, the only service roads that have been "named" by the City are located on the Perimeter Highway right-of-way. However, in theory, the City could conclude that it would be useful to assign street names to service roads paralleling major thoroughfares within the City as well.

There are a number of reasons why it is useful to assign street names to "private" streets:

- Naming a private street and identifying addresses on a street permits more rapid and accurate identification of a site by emergency personnel (Winnipeg Police Service, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service);
- The City's building permit system is based on a street address and without a street name it is not possible to provide a street address so that a building permit can be issued;
- Naming is a convenience for residents and businesses for deliveries and mailing through Canada Post.

By controlling the name assigned to a private street, the City is better able to ensure that no other street will bear the same name. This prevents confusion by residents, emergency responders and the general public.

The practice of having community committees assign street names to private streets or roads has been effective and efficient. The *Charter* does not require that street names must be assigned by by-law. However, the new language in the Charter suggests that community committees' authority to do so could be strengthened by a by-law explicitly giving them this power. The attached by-law accomplishes this.

Financial Impact Statement Date: May 24, 2005

COMMENTS:

The recommendation in this report is that Council enact a By-law that will formalize the authority of Community Committees to assign street names to roadways on private property and on Provincial rights of way. There is no financial impact associated with this recommendation.

"Original signed by"
Mike McGinn, CA
Manager of Finance

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT, THERE WAS CONSULTATION WITH AND CONCURRENCE BY:

Legal Services Division, Corporate Services Department
City Clerk's Department

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Planning, Property and Development Department
Division: Development and Inspections
Prepared by: C.D. Torpey
PPD File #: Street Names

cc: U. Goeres, Legal Services
C. Freeman, City Clerks

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