Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – July 20, 2005

REPORTS

Item No. 4 **Exchange District Business Improvement Zone - Land Dedication Reserve**
File EP-2

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 12, 2005, the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee recommended:

1. That funding to assist with the construction of a bike compound (corral) in the Exchange District, in the amount of $8,000.00, be allocated from the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Land Dedication Reserve to the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone.

2. That the criteria of the Council Policy for the Land Dedication Reserve Fund be waived for any expenditures which do not qualify.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

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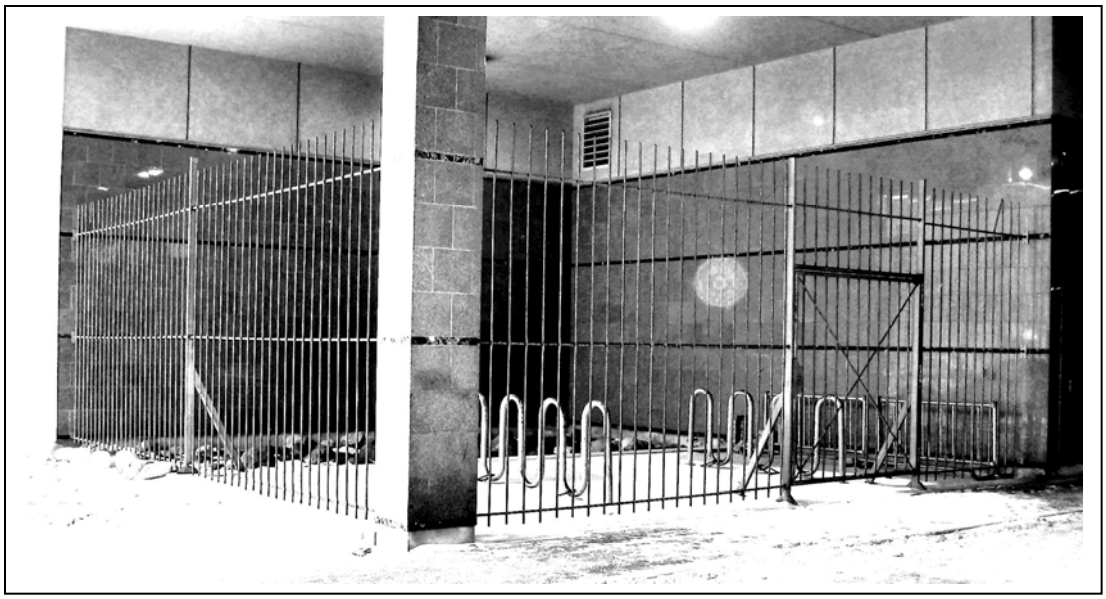


EXCHANGE DISTRICT BIKE CORRAL PROPOSAL

Submitted by: Brian Timmerman
Director of Operations
Exchange District BIZ

Introduction:

The Exchange District Business Improvement Zone (BIZ) is interested in an active partnership with the City of Winnipeg with regards to environmental, health and safety issues. The City of Winnipeg is committed to becoming a leader in municipal environmental and sustainable development issues. The Exchange District BIZ is committed to cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions, traffic congestion and contributing to a healthy lifestyle for regular users of the Exchange District. Alternative transportation is always encouraged by the City of Winnipeg for the users of downtown. One such form of alternative transportation is a bicycle. There are unfortunately many obstacles to using bicycles as an alternative method of transportation in the downtown. The fear of property theft and a safe place to keep bicycles prevent many people from choosing to bike to work. The Exchange District does not have any secure facilities that enable people to feel comfortable about leaving their bikes downtown. In the summer, any person who bikes to work in the Exchange must leave their bike locked to street signs, light poles, parking meters, etc. This leaves bikes vulnerable to theft, resulting in more people choosing to drive to work.

Proposal:

The BIZ proposes that a bike compound (corral) be erected in the Exchange District. In keeping with the historical flavour of the district this compound would be made of wrought iron. Users would have keyed access to the corral, and would secure their bikes to racks inside using their own locks. The corral would accommodate up to 32 bikes, which would in turn take 32 vehicles out of the Exchange District each day. Users would pay a nominal fee of approximately $5.00 per month. This fee would allow for ongoing maintenance of the structure and administrative costs.

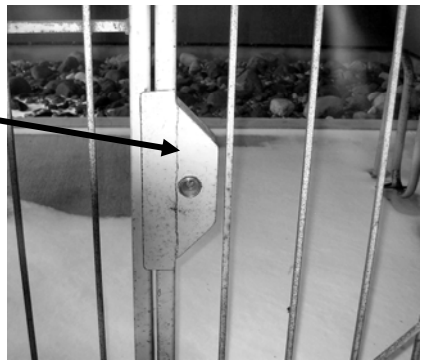
The Exchange District BIZ is seeking a commitment from the City of Winnipeg in securing the capital costs of the project of $8,000.00 and the space(Old Market square) for the structure to be placed in a visible and accessible location. Utilizing city space that is either currently unusable or simply known as " dead" space would save on having to pay rent for the corral.

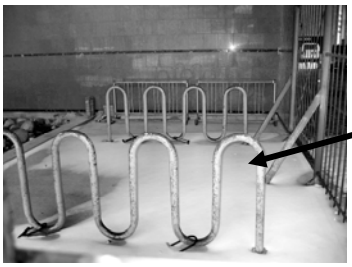
In partnership with the City of Winnipeg, the Exchange District BIZ is committed to the ongoing maintenance of the corral, which would include the upkeep for the physical structure along with the administrative portion regarding the corral usage. The Exchange District BIZ is also committed to the promotion of the corral for regular users of the Exchange.

Bike Corral:

The corral would be built of wrought iron and painted black to prevent rusting. The material and appearance allows for an esthetically pleasing enclosure, which would be in keeping with the district. The corral would be built in 4 sections which would allow for an easy setup and take down, should the need arise. Dimensions of the corral would be 20 feet by 18 feet and 8 feet in height. The corral would have a 4-foot wide gate and secured with a reinforced dead bolt locking mechanism. The enclosure would have bike racks painted to match the corral. The bike racks would have the ability to park 32 bikes.

Locking mechanism





Bike racks inside corral

Conclusion:

Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision (By-law No. 7630/2000) states in section: 1A-06 Encourage Accessibility To and Within the Downtown the following policy statements:

The City shall encourage accessibility to and within the downtown by:

***1.supporting cycling and other alternative modes of transportation to and within the downtown*;**

2.managing the provision of long-term parking in the downtown in a way, which encourages the use of alternative modes of transportation and the reduction of automobile congestion.

A bike corral clearly meets the needs and vision that the City of Winnipeg has for a cleaner, greener and safer city. By meeting the goals of it's own policy statements the City of Winnipeg is demonstrating it's commitment to the citizens of Winnipeg.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration;

Brian Timmerman, Director of Operations
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