Minute No. 491
Report – Executive Policy Committee – June 22, 2005

Item No. 1 Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear Response Teams
File PE-1

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the City of Winnipeg enter into an agreement to participate with the Province of Manitoba regarding the establishment of Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear (CBRN) Response Teams.

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

Reports – Executive Policy Committee – June 22, 2005

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Katz,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 22, 2005, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

RE: Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear Response Teams

FOR SUBMISSION TO: Executive Policy Committee

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: Chief Administrative Officer

REPORT DATE: June 13, 2005

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That The City of Winnipeg enter into an agreement to participate with the Province of Manitoba regarding the establishment of Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear (CBRN) Response Teams.

REPORT SUMMARY:

Key Issues: Provide personnel from both Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service and Winnipeg Police Service to be included in the formation, training, and potential response activities of a Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear Response Team, with the Province of Manitoba.

Implications of the Recommendation(s): The City of Winnipeg will become a partner in the response to CBRN events in Winnipeg and potentially the surrounding area.

General implications:

- ☐ **None**
- ☐ **For the organization overall &/or for other departments**
- ☒ **For the community and/or organizations external to the City**
- ☐ **Involves a multi-year contract**

  Comment(s): The City of Winnipeg will become better prepared to respond to CBRN events; thus providing improved operational response, and in turn limiting the impacts to the health and safety of our residents.

Policy implications:

- ☒ **No**
- ☐ **Yes** **Comment(s):**

Environmental implications:

- ☒ **No**
- ☐ **Yes** **Comment(s):**

Human Resources implications:

☐ **No**

☒ **Yes** **Comment(s):** WFPS and WPS personnel will be required to attend training and respond if/when a CBRN event occurs.

Financial implications:

☒ **Within approved current and/or capital budget**

☐ **Current and/or capital budget adjustment required**

Comment(s): There is no financial impact associated with this report.

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

Approval is required to enter into formal agreement with an outside agency, particularly different levels of government.

HISTORY:

Under Manitoba's Emergency Measures Act, local authorities are required to prepare and adopt emergency preparedness plans and programs. The Act authorizes local authorities to enter into mutual aid agreements or discussion with respect to the establishment, development and implementation of emergency plans and operations.

Following the 1997 flood, the City commissioned KPMG Consulting and they noted problems of inter-organizational coordination during flood response and recommended that the City work with emergency service partner organizations to clarify roles and responsibilities and develop a coordinated, community approach to local emergency management.

Emergency Plans are always in a state of review, but particular attention has been given to the City since the September 11th event. The City of Winnipeg has the skilled personnel to respond to a variety of events and does call upon the vast number of supporting provincial and federal departments to assist when required.

Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear (CBRN) risk around the world has been elevated to new highs. Such a risk requires a specialized strategic response by trained responders from various agencies and levels of government, under a unified command.

DISCUSSION:

On January 7, 2003 and again in May 12, 2005; the Emergency Measures Organization wrote to the Chief Administrative Officer regarding the establishment of teams for emergency response in Chemical / Biological / Radiological / Nuclear (CBRN) situations.

As part of its Budget 2001 enhancements for national security, the Government of Canada has announced the availability of equipment and training for first responders. The Federal Government has begun to deliver specialized training on CBRN response, through its facilities in Ottawa and in Suffield, Alberta.

A representative from each of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, Winnipeg Police Service and Emergency Preparedness Program have been members of a steering committee. Provincial and Federal Committee members will include representatives from: Office of the Fire Commissioner, Emergency Measures Organization, Conservation – Environment Sector, Department National Defense, Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness, and Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The committee is developing a concept for one or more teams, plus a back-up team, to be fully trained and equipped for CBRN response.

The concept involves the team(s) having the capability to respond to CBRN situations throughout the province. Team(s) will be multi-disciplinary, representing hazardous materials responders, police services, fire and rescue, emergency medial services, and unified incident command.

In April of 2003, a report was written and approved to enter into discussions with the Province of Manitoba regarding the formation of CBRN Teams. Since this report, there have been ongoing discussions; and a variety of issues have been agreed upon. It is in the best interest of the safety of citizens that the City of Winnipeg participates on the CBRN Teams.

CBRN is unlike the "NORMAL" Emergency; response will be across municipal boundary and will require assistance from various agencies in all levels of government.

The City of Winnipeg is best served by partnering with the Province of Manitoba, Emergency Measures Organization and Office of the Fire Commissioner. Such partnerships will ensure our first responders (Police and Fire Paramedic) receive CBRN Level I training at minimum and future training updates.

It is clearly evident the City of Winnipeg's capabilities in most first responder areas make it a prime part of CBRN Response Team membership.

The aim of the City's Emergency Preparedness Program and 'Emergency Plan' is to protect the health and safety of its inhabitants, and maintain and restore essential services. Entering into

agreement with the Province of Manitoba relating to CBRN Response Teams will add significant capabilities and resources to the emergency response here in Winnipeg. The same benefits will be realized in all emergency programs within all levels of government across the province.

A coordinated emergency response promotes faster recovery, reduced personal suffering and community disruption, and lower emergency costs.

Financial Impact Statement

Date: June 13, 2005

Project Name:
CBRN Report

First Year of Program: 2005

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

(Original signed by R. Abeysekera)
Manager of Finance & Administration
Corporate Services Dept.

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

Annitta Stenning, Chief Emergency Coordinator
Wes Shoemaker, Fire Paramedic Service Chief
Alan Scott, Winnipeg Police Service Inspector
Randy Hull, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Legal Services

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Prepared by: Randy Hull, 986-4691
File No.