REPORT OF THE

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

DATED JULY 4, 2000

On motion of Councillor Angus, Clause 5 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, dated July 4, 2000, was considered.

Strategic Infrastructure Reinvestment Policy (SIRP) Implementation Committee Report

File S-7 (Vol. 4)

50 - 5. ***Note: In accordance with Section 61.5 of the Procedure By-law, the Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council grant an extension of time of 60 days for consideration of the matter.***

Moved by Councillor Angus,
That an extension of time be granted.

Carried.

REPORT OF THE

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

DATED OCTOBER 31, 2000

On motion of Councillor Angus, the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, dated October 31, 2000, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Councillor Angus,

That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2 and 3, be adopted.

Councillor Gerbasi requested that Clause 1 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

The motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, Clauses 2 and 3 was put and declared carried.

2001 Transit Fares
File TT-2 (Vol. 12)

51 - 1. On March 15, 2000, Council approved in principle the Transit Department's 2001 and 2002 operating budgets, which included a five cent fare increase to both regular and reduced cash fares (including Handi-Transit), effective January 1, 2001. Likewise, pursuant to the directive from the Chief Administrative Officer, the Transit Department submitted its business plan for 2001 to 2003, including an updated operating budget that requires a five cent fare increase to both regular and reduced cash fares (including Handi-Transit), effective January 1, 2001.

The Transit Department receives its operating funding from three sources – system generated (transit fares, advertising, etc.), the Province of Manitoba, and the City of Winnipeg. The operating budget for 2001 has been developed on the assumption that funding from the Province will not change from the $16,339,000.00 provided in 2000. It should be noted that the City has undertaken discussions with the Province on the recommendations contained in the "Direction to the Future – The Guide to Better Transit for Winnipeg" report adopted by Council on February 23, 2000. These recommendations include new funding arrangements and a fare setting policy that, if agreed to by the Province, would see a significant increase in its operating grant. At this time, no commitment has been made by the Province to provide additional funding for the City's public transit service.

The target provided to the Transit Department in developing its 2001 operating budget included a small increase in the City's tax-supported grant. At $27,047,482.00, this represents a 0.4% increase over the previous year. Increases for wages and salaries have been incorporated, accounting for contractually agreed to rate increases (CUPE), as well as a provision for possible wage and salary adjustments for those employees covered by bargaining units whose contracts have expired. Conversely, passenger revenue estimates have been reduced from that included in the 2000 operating budget, which projected 39 million passengers being carried. Because of financial pressures, the City took an optimistic view on ridership numbers in developing its 2000 budget. At best, it is not likely that this assumption will be achieved, and it is expected that ridership will be approximately 500,000 short of this target.

These are the primary factors for the proposed $1.23 million required from the 2001 five cent fare increase. While the City continues to operate a service that is the most efficient of the major transit systems in the country, annual cost increases are inevitable and must be borne by the funding partners and the system users.

It should be noted that in addition to the proposed fare increase, the budget already approved in principle for 2001 anticipated the use of $325,000.00 in retained earnings. It is expected, however, that the Transit Department's retained earnings will be exhausted by the end of 2000. The budget already includes the use of $875,000.00 from retained earnings in 2000, and high diesel fuel prices experienced throughout 2000 have left the Department with a significant shortfall that will be offset by the remaining retained earnings. Relying on this measure in the future is not an option at this time.

The proposed five cent fare increase effective January 1, 2001, as outlined below, will provide the City with an estimated $1.23 million in additional revenue.

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

Fare Category	2000	Proposed 2001
Adult – Regular		
Cash	$ 1.60	$ 1.65
Ticket (Sheet of 10)	15.50	16.00
Weekday Pass	14.00	14.40
Super Pass	15.50	16.00
Monthly Pass	59.70	61.60
Post-Secondary Monthly Pass	47.75	49.30
Handi–Transit		
Cash	1.60	1.65
Ticket (Sheet of 10)	15.50	16.00
Monthly Pass	59.70	61.60
Reduced – Regular		
Cash	1.30	1.35
Ticket (Sheet of 10)	9.50	10.00
Super Pass	9.50	10.00
Monthly Pass	36.60	38.50

A history of Winnipeg Transit fares over the past 16 years, together with a listing of average fare comparisons for nine major Canadian cities for the year 1999 have been provided, a copy of which are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

The Standing Policy Committee on Public Works recommends:

I. That effective January 1, 2001, regular and reduced cash fares (including Handi-Transit) be increased by five cents, and that ticket and pass prices also be increased proportionately.

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

Moved by Councillor Angus,

Adoption of the clause.

The Speaker called the Deputy Speaker, Councillor Lazarenko, to the Chair to participate in the debate.

Council recessed at 11:58 a.m., and reconvened at 1:35 p.m., same members present, the Speaker in the Chair.

Councillors De Smedt and Lubosch entered the meeting after Council had reconvened.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Lazarenko, Angus, Clement, De Smedt, Gerbasi, Prystanski, Steeves, Vandal, Eadie, His Worship Mayor Murray and Councillor O'Shaughnessy. 11

Nay: Councillors Lubosch, Smith and Steek. 3

and the motion for the adoption of the clause was declared carried.

2001 Water and Sewer Utility Rates
File WW-2.3 (Vol. 15)

52 - 2. On October 31, 2000, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works considered an administrative report dated October 10, 2000, relative to the 2001 Water and Sewer Utility Rates. Consistent with the ten year financial plan for 2000 – 2009, an increase in the water rate is proposed, which will be offset by a corresponding decrease in the sewer rate.

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

WATER AND SEWER PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

As part of its Financial Plan to ensure the future predictability of rates and continued financial stability, the Water and Sewer Utilities adhere to the following principles of operation:

1. Self-Supporting Utilities - The Utilities do not receive subsidies from the mill rate.

2. Cost of Service Rates - Customers pay Water and Sewer rates, which represent the operating and capital costs of providing the Utility services.

3. Debt Servicing - The Utilities' revenues are sufficient to service the Utilities' long term debt.

4. Working Capital Reserves - Water and Sewer Utilities - The Water and Sewer Utilities maintain working capital reserves to protect the Utilities' financial position and prevent significant rate fluctuations that may otherwise result from a decline in consumption or major unforeseen expenditures. On an annual basis, the Utilities strive to maintain a minimum combined working capital position of 11% of the combined Water and Sewer sales.

5. Ten Year Financial Plan - Water and Sewer Utilities - Rates in the Water and Sewer Utilities are planned over a ten year time frame to mitigate the effects of year over year fluctuations and to coincide with the longer term infrastructure development and renewal planning.

6. 10% Transfer to the General Revenue Fund - The Water and Sewer Utilities transfer 10% of the sales revenue (net of transfer to capital reserve funds) as a reasonable return to the City on its investment in the Utilities.

7. Additional Transfers to the General Revenue Fund - The Water and Sewer Utilities transfer funds to the Fire Hydrant and Land Drainage programs in the General Revenue Fund. These transfers fund 100% of the costs of these programs, with the exception of the debt servicing costs in the Land Drainage program. In recent years additional support has also been provided for global savings initiatives.

8. Capital Reserve Funds - The Utilities establish reserves to fund major capital projects. The "pay-as-you-go" capital program is much cheaper than traditional debt financing which equates to lower rates for our customers.

WATER AND SEWER RATE STRATEGY

The Water and Waste Department is adhering to the 2000 rate plan as adopted by Council on November 17, 1999. Accordingly, there will be no change in the 2001 combined rate.

Rate Projections Should Not be Viewed as a Ten-Year Rate Freeze

The ten year rate plan, which is a continuation of the 2000 strategy, should not be viewed as a ten year rate freeze. There are several assumptions built into the rate plan and actual results could be much different than plan. These variables are:

- Sales Volume - If actual consumption is less than plan, this could cause a rate increase. Conversely, actual consumption greater than plan could effect a rate decrease.

- Capital Expenditure - Many items can influence the capital program expenditure, including changes in market price, introduction of new technology, introduction of and compliance with new legislation, etc.

- Economic Development - The City's economic climate can have significant impact on the Utilities' financial plan. The addition or deletion of a major customer could effect a change in rates due to the consumption and sales revenue associated with the Utilities' large volume users. Currently, the 50 largest volume users account for approximately 10% of the combined water and sewer sales revenue.

- New Legislation - Environmental and public health concerns are effecting more stringent standards in the water and wastewater industry. The introduction of new legislation could cause increased rates through the operating and capital costs associated with compliance.

- Rate Structure - The ten year projections do not contemplate any changes to the existing rate structure. Earlier this year, Council decided not to adopt the cost-of-service model but the Water and Waste Department will report back on this issue in conjunction with the 2002 rates. Cost-of service rates and winter-cost averaging would result in rate redistribution among various customer classes (1997 Sewer Rate Study).

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

- Property Tax Reassessment - The City is reassessing City-owned properties. A reassessment of the North End Water Pollution Control Center (NEWPCC) indicates that property taxes could rise by $5 million on this property alone. A reassessment of all Utility-owned properties is underway and could have cost implications of $10 million. The Water and Waste Department supports fair taxation of its properties but will propose, and have assumed in the ten year rate plan, that these changes be cost-neutral to the Utilities.

COMBINED WATER AND SEWER RATES

The 2001 Block 1 water rate will increase by 1.8%, which is entirely offset by a decrease in the sewer rate, with no impact on the residential customer. Similarly, Block 2 and Block 3 customers will see the combined rate remain the same in 2001. For the fifth consecutive year, the fixed quarterly charge will not increase. After 2001, the customer's utility bill will not increase only if the major assumptions built into the rate plan are realized.

The water rate plan provides for the capital, debt and operating costs associated with the construction and operation of a water treatment plant. Before year end, it is expected that Council will make a decision whether or not to proceed with the construction of a water treatment plant. Should Council decide to not treat Winnipeg's water supply, the Water and Waste Department will submit a revised rate report along with recommendations concerning the funds that will have accumulated in the Water Treatment Reserve Fund, estimated to be approximately $33.5 million by the end of 2000.

The sewer rate plan provides for the Large Volume Sewer Discount program that was introduced on July 1, 2000. This program consists of a discount of 30% on the annual sewer services (normal sewer rate and/or overstrength wastewater surcharge) in excess of $100,000.00. An estimated annual cost of $1.3 million has been incorporated into the 2001 rate model since the offsetting economic development will not be realized in the short term. The discount policy will be reviewed in five years (2005) with a view to phasing it out if Winnipeg sewer rates are more competitive at that time.

The Water and Waste Department is recommending no change in the fixed quarterly charge, which has not increased since 1996.

TRANSFERS TO RESERVE FUNDS

The water and sewer rates fund transfers to the Aqueduct Rehabilitation, Water Treatment Plant and Environmental Reserves. In 2001, the Water and Sewer Utilities will transfer $23.7 million to these capital reserve funds.

TRANSFERS TO GENERAL REVENUE FUND

The Utilities transfer 10% of the base water and sewer sales to the General Revenue Fund as the City's return on its investment in the Utilities. In the past five years, the Utilities have also provided additional General Revenue Fund support for hydrants, land drainage and global savings. In 2001, these transfers are estimated to be $17.9 million, equivalent to 15% of the base sales.

In 2001, the Utilities will also contribute $6.7 million to the General Revenue Fund in the form of grants-in-lieu of property taxes ($5.6 million) and general government charges ($1.1 million).

The Water and Waste Department is working toward proper valuation of the Utility assets to measure the reasonability of the City's return on its investment in the Utilities. As part of this project, the Department will compare these returns to practice in other jurisdictions and, if appropriate, pursue revenue diversification opportunities for the City of Winnipeg.

CHANGES TO THE SEWER SURCHARGE FORMULA IN THE BY-LAW

Section 51 of Sewer By-law No. 7070/97 provides for a surcharge on high-strength sewage discharged to the sewer system. A change is recommended in the presentation of the surcharge in the By-law, as the use of factors (Rn, fp, fs) in the current formula has been confusing to customers.

A simpler approach, which is recommended, is to present the charge as a simple amount per kilogram of bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) and suspended solids (SS) discharged in excess of the concentrations allowed in the By-law. This approach is used in many by-laws and will make it simpler for customers to estimate the impact of changes they may make in their effluents. This approach will also allow easier comparisons between rates.

There is no change in the rate or the costs to customers associated with this change.

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

COMMUNICATIONS

Key Messages

- There is no increase in the combined rate in 2001 for all utility customers.
- The fixed quarterly charge remains unchanged. It has not increased since 1996.
- This is the fourth year that the sewer rate has not increased and the third consecutive year that the sewer rate has decreased.

Strategy

STRATEGY	TIMING
Briefing session for Customer Service Centre representatives and other front line staff	Within the first week after the utility bill insert is printed and ready for distribution
An insert in the water utility bill explaining the Department's increases and decreases (water/sewer increases/decreases, increase in small vehicle load fee at the landfill)	First set of quarterly bills for the Year 2001 (January - March)
Advertisements in the business section of the daily newspapers targeting business customers	Late December
Letters to the top 100 customers	Late December
Letters mailed to customers who are affected by the change in billing unit for the overstrength wastewater surcharge, including examples of previous and new methods of calculation that would emphasize cost neutrality	Late November
There is no change to the 2001 wastewater disposal fee but the Department plans to phase in increases so as to fully recover the cost of this service by 2005. Consultations with septic haulers on proposed changes will be conducted in 2001 in preparation for a 2002 rate change	2001

The following appendices are provided for information, namely:

APPENDIX “A” History of the Combined Water and Sewer Rate for the past ten years

APPENDIX “B" Ten year financial projection of revenue, expenditures and working capital for the Waterworks System Fund based on the recommendations contained in this report

APPENDIX “C” Ten year financial projection of revenue, expenditures and working capital for the sewage Disposal System Fund based on the recommendations contained in this report

APPENDIX “D” Key Assumptions - 2001 Water and Sewer Financial Projections

APPENDIX “E” Impact of the Water and Sewer recommendations on sample customers, January 1, 2001.

The Standing Policy Committee on Public Works recommends:

I. That the water rates, based on water used, be increased January 1, 2001, as follows:

to $2.75 from $2.70 per 100 cubic feet from 0 - 9,600 cubic feet/quarter (Block 1)
to $2.27 from $2.22 per 100 cubic feet from 9,601 - 96,000 cubic feet/quarter (Block 2)
to $1.79 from $1.74 per 100 cubic feet over 96,001 cubic feet/quarter (Block 3)

which includes 19.5 cents per 100 cubic feet for the Aqueduct Rehabilitation Reserve and 44.0 cents per 100 cubic feet for the Water Treatment Reserve.

II. That the sewer rate, based on water used, be decreased January 1, 2001, to $2.73 from $2.78 per 100 cubic feet which includes 27.6 cents per 100 cubic feet for the Environmental Projects Reserve.

III. That the Sewer By-law No. 7070/97, Section 51, be amended to convert the overstrength wastewater surcharge billing unit of measure from a rate of dollars per kilolitre to a rate of dollars per kilogram. The conversion will be cost neutral and have no impact on customers.

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

IV. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-laws for submission directly to Council for approval.

A copy of the documents referred to in the above clause are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Adopted by consent.

(See Minute No. 77 for Appendix "D")

2001 Solid Waste Utility Rates
File WT-1 (Vol. 20)

53 - 3. On October 31, 2000, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works considered an administrative report dated October 10, 2000, relative to the Solid Waste Utility Rates for 2001. Pursuant to the financial projections for the Utility for the next three years, the Water and Waste Department is not recommending any change to the landfill tipping fee as the lower rate that was introduced earlier in 2000 has proved successful to date in attracting weight and revenue previously lost to competing landfills and in improving the financial situation at the landfill. The Department is, however, proposing an increase in the small vehicle load fee which is currently low relative to costs and rates in other jurisdictions.

SOLID WASTE PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

Council is reminded that as part of the Utility's Financial Plan to ensure future rate predictability and continued financial stability, the Solid Waste Utility adheres to the following principles of operation:

1. Self-Supporting Utility - The Utility does not receive subsidies from the mill rate.

2. Competitive Tipping Fee - The competitive nature of the landfill business necessitated a reduction in the commercial tipping fee in 2000. The effectiveness of the "competitive rate" is continually monitored. The Solid Waste Utility charges the same tipping fee to the City of Winnipeg and other municipal customers.

3. Debt Servicing - The Utility's revenues are sufficient to service the Utility's long-term debt.

4. Working Capital Reserve – Solid Waste Utility - On an annual basis, the Solid Waste Utility will strive to maintain a minimum $3,000,000.00 in retained earnings to protect the Utility from fluctuations in waste disposal and recycling volumes, as well as providing for environmental and operational risks.

5. Transfers to the General Revenue Fund - The Solid Waste Utility transfers funds to the Refuse Collection program and also supports the mill-rate budget via global savings allocations. In recent years the Solid Waste Utility has provided support for the Refuse Collection program as interim relief for the tax-supported budget.

6. Capital Reserve Fund - The Utility has established a reserve fund to save for landfill rehabilitation in the future. This "pay-as-you-go" strategy is cheaper than traditional debt financing which equates to lower tipping fees in the long run.

UTILITY OPERATIONS

The Solid Waste Disposal Utility includes the landfill operation, and curbside and depot recycling program. The three year financial forecast prepared for the Utility indicates that the shift to a competitive rate structure requires a longer term financial plan for the Solid Waste Utility. Accordingly, over the next several months, the Water and Waste Department will be preparing long term projections that take into consideration current and future capital and operational requirements.

The rate plan will incorporate capital improvements that will be required at the Brady Road Landfill. While these improvements are still in the conceptual stage and feasibility studies and business cases have not yet been completed, the Department expects that some level of investment will be needed to the landfill entrance and the tipping fees.

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

The expected operating results for 2000 for the Solid Waste Utility are much improved over previous years and over the 2000 budget. The 2000 budget provided for an operating deficit of $1.8 million and the forecasted results, as of August 31, 2000, are projecting a surplus of $1.5 million. The driving forces behind this forecast are anticipated surpluses of $1.2 million in the landfill and $1.8 million in recycling.

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

The 2000 surplus in the landfill operations can be attributed to:

Commercial volumes	$ 700,000.00
Residential volumes	$ 300,000.00
Expenditure management	$ 200,000.00
	$1,200,000.00

The 2000 surplus in recycling is entirely attributable to the commodity prices for recyclables.

RISKS

The projections, based on today's market, are very positive but economic factors can rapidly change as evidenced by the turnaround in the Utility's operating results in a single year. In 2000, the Water and Waste Department is forecasting a surplus of $1.5 million compared to an actual operating loss of $0.4 million in 1999. Actual results can vary significantly from the planned results.

The 2001 to 2003 projections are based upon a series of assumptions, and there is a significant degree of risk that these assumptions may not materialize. The assumptions are:

- The current commercial landfill rate continues to be competitive and projected volumes are realized. A lower rate has been successful in attracting new customers but that could easily change if, or when, the Rural Municipality of Ritchot is granted a permanent license to accept commercial waste. Increased competition would impact revenue projections.

- The projected commodity price and volumes for recyclables are realized. While volumes are more predictable, the commodity price can be volatile. The market dictates the price for the resale of recyclable commodities and a decrease in market price would lower the revenue projections.

- The City continues to receive a grant of $128.00 per tonne of recyclables from the Manitoba Product Stewardship Corporation (MPSC). A reduction in the grant would lower the revenue projections.

There are no major, unforeseen operating or capital expenditures.

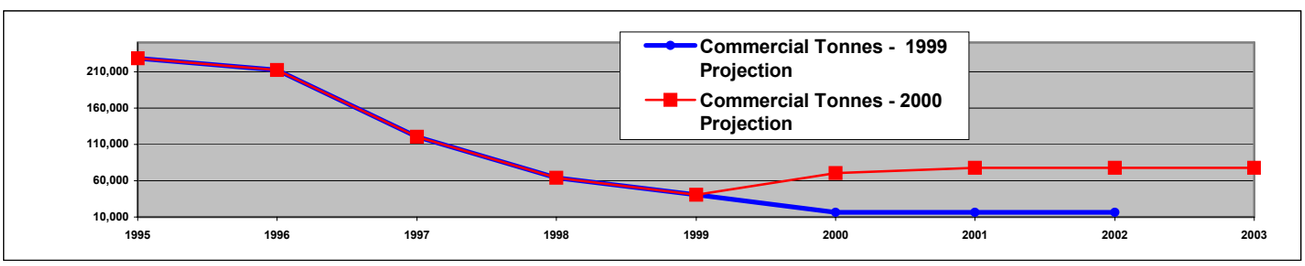
LANDFILL FEES

The landfill derives its revenue from tipping fees and small vehicle loads.

- Commercial Tipping Fee

  The reduction in the commercial tipping fee from $40.00 to $22.50 per tonne has been successful to date and revenues have surpassed expectations. In 1999, the commercial volumes hit an all-time low of 40,234 tonnes. In 2000, the Water and Waste Department is projecting 70,377 commercial tonnes of waste, an increase of 75 percent in just one year. Before the rate was reduced, commercial sales were forecast at $0.7 million. Since the rate was lowered, the forecast is now at $1.6 million. The Department is projecting commercial volumes of 78,000 tonnes in each of the next three years, a level not attained since 1997. The level of commercial activity is monitored continually, and, if the rate becomes non-competitive, the strategy will be re-evaluated.

  The following graph illustrates the improvement over last year's plan:



The graph assumes the tipping fee is competitive.

- Residential Tipping Fee

  The Utility is proposing no change to the internal tipping fee of $22.50. Increasing costs in the tax-supported refuse collection program are the result of increasing volumes of household waste.

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

- Other Municipal Tipping Fee

  The Water and Waste Department is recommending the current rate of $22.50 per tonne not be changed.

- Small Vehicle Load Fee

  The Utility is proposing an increase in the small vehicle load fee from $3.00 per vehicle in 2000 to $4.00 per vehicle in 2001. The current fee does not recover the costs of processing a small load and is consistent with the strategy introduced in the 2000 rate report, whereby rate increases would be introduced over time. Small loads bear a huge processing cost due to the frequency of trips to the landfill (90,000 small loads versus 35,000 refuse vehicles). The cost of handling a small load is estimated at $7.99.

  This will be only the second increase in the small load fee since its introduction on July 1, 1992. The proposed increase would result in an additional $90,000.00 in revenues for the Utility in 2001 and is not expected to be a deterrent to landfill customers. A review of the small load fees in similar landfill operations indicates that the proposed fee of $4.00 per load is below the market rate.

  For 2002, the Water and Waste Department will examine alternate rate structures for small load customers. Variations include charging based on vehicle type, contents, gross vehicle weight or some combination thereof. Certain methods would require some investment in landfill equipment. Over the next year, the Department will review options and report back in the 2002 rate report.

RECYCLING PROGRAM

The curbside and depot recycling program is expected to cost $0.6 million in 2001, which is net of the $128 per tonne grant from MPSC. If the market price for recyclables remains at current levels and if the MPSC grant is maintained at the current level, actual results could be much better than projected. It is difficult to predict, with any certainty, what the recyclable commodity price will be for the next three years.

TAKE PRIDE WINNIPEG

The projected increase in commercial volumes will result in a higher grant payment to Take Pride Winnipeg. In 1999 Take Pride Winnipeg received a tax-supported grant of $50,000.00 to offset the reduced grant from the Utility. In 2000, Take Pride Winnipeg was guaranteed a minimum level of funding from the City of $200,000.00 and was recently provided an additional one time grant of $60,000.00. For future years, Take Pride Winnipeg has requested continued funding of $200,000.00.

Take Pride Winnipeg tipping fee grants are projected at $176,000.00 annually in 2001, 2002 and 2003, based upon 10 percent of commercial revenue or $2.25 per tonne. The additional monies to achieve the $200,000.00 in requested funding would be from other sources.

TRANSFER TO THE GENERAL RESERVE FUND

In order to meet the financial guidelines, the Utility will transfer funds to the tax-supported refuse collection in the amount of $1.3 million in 2001, $1.2 million in 2002 and $1.5 million in 2003. The subsidization of the tax-supported program will result in operating deficits in each of the next three years.

TAX-SUPPORTED REFUSE COLLECTION PROGRAM

The refuse collection budget will increase by $0.7 million in 2001 to $16.5 million, or a 4.5 percent increase from the 2000 budget of $15.8 million. This increase is solely attributable to increased volumes of residential waste since there is no change in the City's internal tipping fee of $22.50 per tonne. The refuse collection program will be subsidized by the Solid Waste Utility in order to meet the financial targets.

Increasing volumes are escalating the costs of this program. Before year end, it is anticipated that Council will make a decision whether to implement user pay for garbage collection. The Water and Waste Department is supportive of user pay as it will provide the incentive for reducing the amount of household waste. Not only would this program be environmentally sound, it would also help to contain the costs of this service through lower volumes. The introduction of curbside recycling in 1995 had a short-lived impact on residential waste. Since 1995, the volume of residential waste has been continually increasing.

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY (ASD) FEASIBILITY STUDY

In 1999, the Water and Waste Department reported on the results of the solid waste collection and disposal ASD study. Council directed the Department to undertake a public consultation process, which occurred over the last

Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated October 31, 2000

several months. Imminently, the Department will make recommendations and proceed with the business plan development for the approved ASD options, in accordance with the Policy and Framework for Alternative Service Delivery in the City of Winnipeg.

The Solid Waste ASD study has identified operating strategies to improve the viability of the landfill operation and to deliver a more cost-effective refuse collection program, the benefits of which cannot be realized until the ASD process is complete.

COMMUNICATIONS

Key Messages

The small vehicle load fee will increase from $3.00 in 2000 to $4.00 effective January 1, 2001, to collect a higher portion of the full cost to deliver this service.

Strategy

STRATEGY	TIMING
Signs posted at the landfill	Early December (as soon as possible after Council approval of rates)
Notice handed out to all vehicles with small loads	Early December (as soon as possible after Council approval of rates)
Information on the increase in small vehicle load landfill fee included in the utility bill insert outlining changes to Department rates	First set of quarterly bills for the Year 2001 (January – March)

The following appendices are provided for information, namely:

APPENDIX “A” History of Solid Waste Rates

APPENDIX “B” Three year financial projections of revenue, expenditures and retained earnings for the Solid Waste Disposal Fund based upon the recommendations contained in this report

APPENDIX “C” Comparison of Small Vehicle Load Fees in similar landfill operations

For the information of Council, the Administration has been requested to review and report on an alternate rate structure for small load customers, including charging based on weight, or other variations as deemed appropriate.

The Standing Policy Committee on Public Works recommends:

I. That the small vehicle load fee be increased from $3.00 to $4.00 per vehicle effective January 1, 2001.

II. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary amending by-law for submission directly to Council for approval.

A copy of the documents referred to in the above clause are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Adopted by consent.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

54 - On motion of Councillor Angus, the following by-laws were read a first, second and third time, the rule being suspended for the third reading of each by-law, and were passed and ordered to be signed and sealed, namely:-

By-law No. 7705/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 6546/95, being a by-law of the said City to regulate the construction, maintenance and removal of private approaches and private walks. File SC-1(31) (Vol. 3)

By-law No. 7706/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to authorize the undertaking of certain local improvements during the year 2001. File SL (2000) (Vol. 1)

By-law No. 7707/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to authorize the undertaking of certain local improvements during the year 2001. File SL(2000) (Vol. 1)

By-law No. 7708/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to authorize the undertaking of certain local improvements during the year 2001. File SL(2000) (Vol. 1)

By-law No. 7709/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to prohibit the sounding of engine whistles at certain Canadian Pacific Railway crossings in The City of Winnipeg. File ER-1.2 (Vol. 14)

By-law No. 7723/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to authorize the undertaking of certain local improvements during the year 2001. File SL(2000) (Vol. 1)

By-law No. 7724/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend the Solid Waste By-law No. 1340/76. File WT-1 (Vol. 20)

By-law No. 7725/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 504/73, being the Water Works By-law. File WW-2.3 (Vol. 15)

By-law No. 7726/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to estimate and fix the surcharges as provided for in By-law No. 7070/97, being the Sewer By-law. File WW-2.3 (Vol. 15)

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

QUESTION PERIOD

55 - In noting that Members of Council had met to evaluate the services provided by the City, Councillor Steek questioned when a final report would be forthcoming, to which Councillor Angus confirmed that Council did go through an exercise to identify and evaluate the services provided by the City, and filed a copy of the related report with the Acting City Clerk.