Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 18, 2002

Accessibility Program
File CR-3 (Vol. 5)

4. The Executive Policy Committee, on September 18, 2002, considered the following motion from the Access Advisory Committee:

"WHEREAS in 1998, the Winnipeg Development Agreement Program 5C funded a project which allowed an outside organization, under the supervision and guidance of the Access Advisory Committee (AAC) to audit the civic properties defined by the Centre Plan boarders for accessibility;

AND WHEREAS the results of the accessibility audit were presented to the Public Works Department in 1999 and identified accessibility priorities for civic property maintenance and repair;

AND WHEREAS only a marginal percentage of the projects identified as accessibility priorities in the downtown area have been completed to date;

AND WHEREAS the 'Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision' identifies that 'The City shall encourage accessibility to and within the downtown….';

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Access Advisory Committee requests that the Executive Policy Committee give favourable consideration to approving, in principle, a City-wide Accessibility Program that:

1. Prioritizes the uncompleted projects identified in the 1998 Accessibility Audit.

2. Expands the Audit process city wide to encompass all properties owned or leased by the City;

3. Addresses new issues reported through the current means (existing call centres, administration and the Access Advisory Committee) more quickly and efficiently.

4. That the Accessibility Program include a Capital Estimates budget for the Public Works Department of $250,000.00 annually for the next three years, 2003, 2004 and 2005, to complete currently identified access issues from the Centre Plan Accessibility.

5. That the Universal Design Team assist in prioritizing the Accessibility Program projects.

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The Executive Policy Committee concurs with the above and recommends that Council approve, in principle, a City-wide Accessibility Program that:

I. Prioritizes the uncompleted projects identified in the 1998 Accessibility Audit.

II. Expands the Audit process city wide to encompass all properties owned or leased by the City.

III. Addresses new issues reported through the current means (existing call centres, administration and the Access Advisory Committee) more quickly and efficiently.

IV. That the Accessibility Program include a Capital Estimates budget for the Public Works Department of $250,000.00 annually for the next three years, 2003, 2004 and 2005, to complete currently identified access issues from the Centre Plan Accessibility.

V. That the Universal Design Team assist in prioritizing the Accessibility Program projects.