Proposed Amendments to the 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program

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7. On November 28, 2001, the Executive Policy Committee considered a report dated November 5, 2001, from the Director of Planning, Property and Development and specifically administrative recommendation 2. a), b) and c), which Executive Policy Committee had referred for review, namely:

2. Should a decision be made to renew the Home Renovation Tax Assistance (HRTA) Program for 2002, it is recommended that the following amendments be incorporated:

   a) a new program goal and objectives statement;
   b) the list of eligible renovations be amended by deleting the construction of greenhouses, gazebos and sunrooms;
   c) the authority to deal with appeals be delegated to the Director of Planning, Property and Development.

On September 4, 2002, the Executive Policy Committee referred the following recommendations from the Civic Environmental Committee with respect to the 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program to the Chief Administrative Officer for review and report back, namely:

That the following revisions be included in the eligibility criteria and promotion for the proposed City of Winnipeg 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program:

1. Increase the tax credit from fifteen percent (15%) to twenty-five percent (25%) for eligible retrofit work that improves energy efficiency and/or reduces greenhouse gas emissions (i.e. insulation of attics, walls and foundations; installation of energy efficient windows; installation of heat recovery ventilation systems; replacement of furnaces or boilers with high efficiency units, etc…).

2. Cooperate with Manitoba Hydro to encourage residents who express an interest in the City of Winnipeg 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program to also investigate Manitoba Hydro's Power Smart residential programs and services (i.e. energy audits, loan programs, renovation booklets and guidelines, etc…).

3. Harmonize, to the maximum extent feasible, the technical requirements (i.e. minimum insulation levels, window performance requirements, minimum furnace and boiler efficiencies, etc…) for energy efficiency work covered by the City of Winnipeg 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program with the technical requirements used by Manitoba Hydro for their Power Smart loan and finance programs.

4. Track and then report to the Civic Environmental Committee on the number of files processed and total tax credits issued for energy retrofit work completed under the City of Winnipeg 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program during 2003.

On September 18, 2002, the Executive Policy Committee considered the following motion passed by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development at its meeting on September 10, 2002, namely:

"1. That the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development recommend to Executive Policy Committee that a Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program be implemented for the year 2003.

2. That in response to the administrative Recommendation 2 c), the Executive Policy Committee be advised that the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development recommends that the 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program include provision for the Chief Administrative Officer to be delegated the authority to hear and decide appeals against the decision of the Designated Officer of the Program, and to include provision for appeals against the decision of the Chief Administrative Officer to be heard and decided by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

3. That the administrative Recommendations 2 a) and b) be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development meeting in November 2002."

The Executive Policy Committee concurs in the recommendation from the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and recommends:

I. That a Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program be implemented for the year 2003.

II. That the 2003 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program include provision for the Chief Administrative Officer to be delegated the authority to hear and decide appeals against the decision of the Designated Officer of the Program, and to include provision for appeals against the decision of the Chief Administrative Officer to be heard and decided by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 18, 2002

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

For the information of Council, Recommendations 2. a) and b) in the report dated November 5, 2002, from the Director of Planning, Property and Development, have been referred to the meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development scheduled for November, 2002.