Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – November 30, 2005

REPORTS

Item No. 2 Civic Environmental Committee Mandate
File E-7

CIVIC ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 14, 2005, the Civic Environmental Committee recommended to the Executive Policy Committee:

1. That the Mayor and the Civic Environmental Committee cooperatively develop as soon as possible a renewed mandate, budget and membership for the Civic Environmental Committee, or a newly constituted representative body, that reflects a shift from developing environmental objectives and strategies to establishing priorities and plans for implementing these strategies and monitoring progress towards meeting the City's environmental objectives.

2. That the Civic Environmental Committee's existing mandate, policy assistant, budget and membership be extended to March 31, 2006 or until a new mandate, budget and membership structure is approved by Council.

3. That The City of Winnipeg Charter provide for City Council and the Mayor to constitute citizen advisory committees.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

CIVIC ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 14, 2005, the Civic Environmental Committee passed the following motion, namely:-

WHEREAS sustainability is identified in Plan Winnipeg as the first of six principles the City of Winnipeg will adhere to in addressing the challenges that Winnipeg faces;

AND WHEREAS on July 18, 2001, City Council approved creation of the Civic Environmental Committee (CEC) to provide advice to Council and the administration, facilitate community consultation and education and monitor progress on environmental and sustainable development issues and opportunities;

AND WHEREAS on October 27, 2004, City Council approved in principle the CEC report Sustainable Winnipeg: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy that identifies environmental challenges facing Winnipeg and recommends policy objectives and key strategies that the City of Winnipeg can take to address these challenges;

AND WHEREAS City Council has adopted the Administration document Embracing Sustainability: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004 - 2006 developed in response to the CEC report, to which the Administration will be reporting back to Council in December 2005;

AND WHEREAS the CEC reports directly to the Mayor and Executive Policy Committee and that the Mayor's Action Plan for a new Winnipeg pledges that the Mayor will consult with the Civic Environmental Committee to consider priorities and how to act upon the CEC's Environmental Strategy;

AND WHEREAS this consultation between the Mayor and the CEC has yet to occur;

AND WHEREAS there is also a need to independently monitor and report on the City of Winnipeg's progress in achieving its environmental priorities and targets;

AND WHEREAS the Mayor has indicated a desire to reduce City of Winnipeg expenditures on external consultants and that the CEC is composed of volunteers;

AND WHEREAS the CEC's current mandate expires on December 31, 2005 and there is a need for a transition period following CEC's expiry;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the CEC cooperatively develop as soon as possible a renewed mandate, budget and membership for the CEC, or a newly constituted representative body, that reflects a shift from developing environmental objectives and strategies to establishing priorities and plans for implementing these strategies and monitoring progress towards meeting the City's environmental objectives;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CEC's existing mandate, policy assistant, budget and membership be extended to March 31, 2006 or until a new mandate, budget and membership structure is approved by Council;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The City of Winnipeg Charter provide for City Council and the Mayor to constitute citizen advisory committees;

and forwarded to the Executive Policy Committee.