**Minute No. 225**
**Report - Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – January 12, 2006**

**Item No. 2 Active Transportation Study**
**File ST-7**

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and adopted the following:

1. That the City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study, dated February 2005, be approved to serve as a resource in formulating future active transportation policies and programs for the City of Winnipeg.

2. That the Administration be directed to develop an implementation plan based on the Guiding Principles outlined in the City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study.

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

**Report - Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works - January 12, 2006**

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Clement,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 18, 2006, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 12, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council. Further the recommendations of the Standing Policy Committees on Protection and Community Services and Property and Development were received as information.

On January 10, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development endorsed the five Guiding Principles in the Active Transportation Study and recommends to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works:

1. That consideration be given to establishing a pilot project where cyclists and pedestrians share an existing sidewalk.

2. That a dedicated Active Transportation Coordinator be identified from within existing staff.

On January 10, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development received a PowerPoint Presentation from Roman Manastersky, Transportation Facilities Planning Engineer, Public Works Department, and Ruth Marr, Marr Consulting and Communications Ltd., with respect to the Active Transportation Study, a copy of which has been placed on file in the City Clerk's Department.

**Report - Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works - January 12, 2006**

DECISION MAKING HISTORY: (continued)

On January 10, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development considered communications from the following:

> Dr. Sande Harlos, Medical Officer of Health, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, submitted a communication with respect to an "Active Transportation Presentation", dated December 1, 2005, in support of the Active Transportation Study.
>
> Serge LaRochelle, Resource Conservation Manitoba, on behalf of Physical Activity Coalition of Manitoba, submitted a presentation entitled "A Framework for creating a walking/cycling friendly community", undated, in support of the Active Transportation Study.

On January 9, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services concurred in the administrative report and recommended to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works:

1. That the City of Winnipeg hire or dedicate an Active Transportation Coordinator as early as possible to develop an implementation plan based on the Guiding Principles outlined in the Active Transportation Study.

On January 9, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services received a PowerPoint Presentation from Dale Karasiuk, Administrative Coordinator, Community Services Department together with Roman Manastersky, Transportation Facilities Planning Engineer, Public Works Department, and Ruth Marr, Study Team Manager, Marr Consulting and Communications Ltd., with respect to the Active Transportation Study.

On December 6, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services laid over consideration of the matter to its meeting on January 9, 2006, and requested that the Administration together with the Consultant provide the Committee with a PowerPoint presentation with respect to the Active Transportation Study at its January 9 meeting.

On December 1, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in administrative recommendation No. 2, namely:

2. That the City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services for comment back.

**Report - Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works - January 12, 2006**

DECISION MAKING HISTORY: (continued)

The Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works laid over recommendations No. 1 and 3 contained in the administrative report dated November 17, 2005 until such time as the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services have reported back.

On December 1, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works received a PowerPoint Presentation from Roman Manastersky, Transportation Facilities Planning Engineer, Public Works Department, and Ruth Marr, Marr Consulting and Communications Ltd., with respect to the Active Transportation Study, a copy of which has been placed on file in the City Clerk's Department.

On December 1, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works considered communications from the following:

> Dr. Sande Harlos, Medical Health Officer, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, submitted a communication dated December 1, 2005 and additional supporting documentation with respect to the Active Transportation Study.
>
> Dr. Roger Suss, Manitoba Medical Association, submitted a communication dated November 28, 2005, with respect to the Active Transportation Study.
>
> Julian Nedohin-Macek submitted a communication dated November 30, 2005, with respect to the Active Transportation Study.
>
> The Physical Activity Coalition of Manitoba submitted a communication dated November 29, 2005, with respect to the Active Transportation Study.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 10, 2003, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works concurred in the administrative recommendation, namely:

1. That the project described be approved for implementation as part of the 2003 Pedestrian and Cycle Facilities Program.

**Report - Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works - January 12, 2006**

DECISION MAKING HISTORY: (continued)

2. That an Active Transportation Study be undertaken by an external consultant at an estimated cost of $100,000.00.

Further, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works requested that Councillor Lubosch act as the liaison between the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and the Administration on the respective Steering Committee.

# ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| **RE:** | **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION STUDY** |
| **FOR SUBMISSION TO:** | STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS |
| **ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY:** | DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS |
| | DIRECTOR OF TRANSIT |
| | DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, PROPERTY & DEVELOPMENT |
| | DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES |
| **REPORT DATE:** | November 17, 2005 |

**RECOMMENDATION (S):**

1. That the City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study be approved to serve as a resource in formulating future active transportation policies and programs for the City of Winnipeg.

2. That the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works refer the City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services for comment back.

3. That the Administration be directed to develop an implementation plan based on the Guiding Principles outlined in the City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study.

**REPORT SUMMARY:**

**Key Issues:**

- Active Transportation is any human powered mode of transportation and represents a significant opportunity for the City to improve the health of its residents, increase quality of life and achieve environmental and socio-economic benefits.
- The development of future active transportation policies and programs will be influenced by the recommendations of the Active Transportation Study.
- *Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision*, adopted by City Council, directs the City to provide an integrated transportation network (3C-01) by, among other things: “iv) establishing a city-wide bicycle and pedestrian pathway system which is segregated where practical and feasible from motorized traffic and which creates links between open space and major destinations;” and by “v) promoting alternative modes of transportation…” *Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision* also directs the City to Promote Active Living (5D-01) by, among other things: “v) encouraging cycling as a feasible form of commuting to work.”
- The Council approved *Sustainable Winnipeg: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy* includes the policy objective that "The City of Winnipeg will work with citizens, local NGOs, the business community, and other levels of government to increase the degree of participation in active transportation through the expansion and implementation of facilities and infrastructure and towards the development of a comprehensive active transportation strategy for Winnipeg."
- The companion report to the above noted document entitled *Embracing Sustainability: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006* highlights the City's commitment to promote active transportation in the workplace.
- Council has adopted the administrative recommendation that the Chief Administrative Officer be delegated the authority to negotiate and settle the terms and conditions of a Contribution Agreement with Transport Canada to confirm the City of Winnipeg's participation in the *Urban Transportation Showcase Program* (WinSmart) which includes a provision for the construction of an active transportation path.
- The administration of the City of Winnipeg is beginning the process of developing a climate change action plan, which will consider, among many potential projects, active transportation initiatives.

**Implications of the Recommendation(s):**

**General Implications:**

- [ ] None
- [X] For the organization overall and/or other departments
- [X] For the community and/or organizations external to the City
- [ ] Involves a multi-year contract

**Comments:** The Active Transportation Study will serve as a resource in formulating future active transportation policies

**Policy Implications:**

- [ ] No
- [X] Yes

**Comments:** The Active Transportation Study will serve as a resource in formulating future active transportation policies.

**Environmental Implications:**

- [ ] No
- [X] Yes

**Comments:** Increased active transportation will serve to reduce motor vehicle use resulting in a reduction of green house gas emissions.

**Human Resource Implications:**

- [ ] No
- [X] Yes

**Comments:** The recommendation dealing with hiring or dedicating an employee with a clear mandate focused on all aspects of active transportation would have an implication of either requiring additional staff compliment or of redistribution of workload among other employees. This change would be dealt with in detail in a separate report.

**Financial Implications:**

- [ ] Within approved current and/or capital budget
- [X] Current and/or capital budget adjustment needed

**Comments:** Implementation of the Active Transportation Study Recommendations may impact future current and/or capital budgets depending upon the strategy approved.

**REASON FOR THE REPORT:**

Implementation of the recommendations in the Active Transportation Study falls under the mandate and responsibility of the three Standing Policy Committees: Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services. While active transportation has components that are consistent with the mandate of those Departments included within the three Standing Policy Committees, Public Works has the lead jurisdiction in this area.

**HISTORY:**

In 1993 the Winnipeg Bicycle Facilities Study was completed and since then has served as a guide in the provision of bicycle facilities in Winnipeg.

On June 10, 2003, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works recommended that an Active Transportation Study be undertaken by an external consultant at an estimated cost of $100,000. This Study was to provide an update for the facility recommendations in the 1993 Bicycle Facilities Study as well as to incorporate facilities for other modes of Active Transportation.

Under the Public Works Department Capital Budget an annual allocation under Pedestrian and Cycle Facilities is provided for the construction of sidewalks along regional streets and of pedestrian/cycle paths. Since 2000 a total of $1,400,000 or an average of $233,333 per year has been approved as part of the Annual Capital Budget. Under the Planning, Property and Development Department Capital Budget an annual allocation for Riverbank Greenways program is also provided for active transportation pathways. Since 2000 a total (including land acquisition) of $1,062,000 or an average of $177,000 per year has been approved as part of the Annual Capital Budget.

On October 27, 2004, Council approved the administrative recommendation that the Civic Environmental Committee's report entitled *Sustainable Winnipeg: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy* be approved in principle. This document included the policy objective that "The City of Winnipeg will work with citizens, local NGOs, the business community, and other levels of government to increase the degree of participation in active transportation through the expansion and implementation of facilities and infrastructure and towards the development of a comprehensive active transportation strategy for Winnipeg."

On October 27, 2004 Council also adopted the administration's companion report to Sustainable Winnipeg entitled *Embracing Sustainability: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006* which highlighted the City's commitment to promote active transportation in the workplace.

On January 19, 2005, Council adopted the administrative recommendation that the Chief Administrative Officer be delegated the authority to negotiate and settle the terms and conditions of a Contribution Agreement with Transport Canada to confirm the City of Winnipeg's participation in the *Urban Transportation Showcase Program* (WinSmart) which includes a provision for the construction of an active transportation path.

On May 11, 2005, Executive Policy Committee was advised that the administration was beginning the process of developing a climate change action plan, which will consider, among many potential projects, active transportation initiatives.

**DISCUSSION:**

A Consultant, Marr Consulting and Communications Ltd., was retained to undertake the Active Transportation Study. An eight member Steering Committee was struck to oversee and to direct the Study. Membership on the Steering Committee consisted of the following individuals:

- Roman Manastersky, P. Eng. (Project Manager)
  Transportation Facilities Planning Engineer
  Public Works Department
- Susanne Dewey Povoledo
  Senior Transportation Planner
  Planning, Property & Development Department
- Kevin Nixon
  Park Strategic Planner
  Planning, Property & Development Department
- Dale Karasiuk
  Administrative Coordinator
  Community Services Department
- Alex Regiec
  Operations Planner
  Winnipeg Transit
- Paul Jordan
  Winnipeg Trails Association
- Andrea Lamboo Miln/Serge LaRochelle
  Program Coordinator, Green Commuting
  Resource Conservation Manitoba and the Physical Activity Coalition of Manitoba
- Julian Nedohin-Macek/Tim Hunt
  Manitoba Cycling Association

The scope of work identified for this Study was as follows:

- Update the facility recommendations in the 1993 Bicycle Facilities Study as well as broadening the scope of recommended facilities to include other modes of Active Transportation (AT) (walking, in-line skating, etc.).
- Broaden the recommendations beyond facilities by incorporating AT policy and programming recommendations.
- Include the cost of recommended AT facilities and benefits.
- Develop a prioritized implementation program for the recommended AT facilities.

The Steering Committee met with the Consultant on nine occasions from March 2004 through January 2005. The related major initiatives undertaken related to the Study included the following:

- A review of existing AT facilities and programs in Winnipeg.
- An assessment of public demand for AT in Winnipeg.
- A review of AT facilities and programs in selected cities in North America and lessons for Winnipeg.
- Study recommendations, priorities and implementation.

Extensive public consultation took place as part of this study. The consultation included:

1. A number of AT related questions in the Public Works Spring 2004 Survey
2. An Active Transportation Focus Group
3. An on-line survey
4. Feedback gathered through the Commuter Challenge Contest submissions
5. A Fall Telephone Survey

Although the Study includes an extensive list of recommendations, each has been organized under five Guiding Principles as follows:

Principle #1: The City shall adopt active transportation principles as an integrated part of doing business.
Principle #2: The City shall actively promote active transportation among staff and the citizens of Winnipeg.
Principle #3: The City shall develop an active transportation strategy.
Principle #4: The City shall be innovative and seek partnerships in funding and supporting active transportation facilities and programs.
Principle #5: The City shall establish a comprehensive citywide network of active transportation facilities.

By developing an implementation plan with the Principles and recommendations included within the Study, the City of Winnipeg can actualize both the opportunity and responsibility of active transportation with its many benefits to both individuals and the community.

As outlined under Key Issues and History, the Active Transportation Study is consistent with and indeed compliments the objectives of Plan *Winnipeg 2020 Vision, Sustainable Winnipeg: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy*, *Embracing Sustainability: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006* and the *Urban Transportation Showcase Program*.

Collectively, the departments of Public Works, Community Services, Transit and Planning, Property and Development strongly support the recommendations of this report.

The City of Winnipeg Active Transportation Study is attached.

## Financial Impact Statement Date: May 27, 2005

## Project Name:

## Active Transportation Study

**COMMENTS:**

This report recommends that the Active Transportation Study be approved to serve as a guide in formulating future active transportation policies and programs. As such there is no immediate financial impact related to the recommendation of this report. As any of the recommendations of the Active Transportation Study are implemented the related financial impacts will be identified and quantified in conjunction with their implementation approval process.This report recommends that the Active Transportation Study be approved to serve as a guide in formulating future active transportation policies and programs.

*"Original Signed by Darcy Stewart, CA"*
Manager of Finance & Administration

**In preparing this report there was consultation with, and concurrence by:**

Planning, Property & Development Department
Community Services Department
Winnipeg Transit

**THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:**

Department: Public Works
Division: Transportation
Prepared by: Roman Manastersky, P. Eng.,
Transportation Facilities Planning Engineer .....986-5292
Processed by: Carol Kawaza, Secretary to Transportation .....986-5288
File No. G-02/06
Document Name: ActiveTransportationStudyAdminReport2