Report - Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works - July 11, 2006

Item No. 5 Graffiti Control Program - Additional Funding
File ER-1.5

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 19, 2006, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submits the following to Council:

1. That the additional funding of $200,000.00 for the Graffiti Control Program approved as part of the 2006 Operating Budget be made available to non-profit organizations.

2. That proposals be solicited from interested non-profit organizations that are prepared to partner with the City this year to provide graffiti removal services. Proposals must be submitted by August 11, 2006 and any proposals received will be evaluated by the Public Works Department in accordance with the selection criteria as outlined in Appendix A in the report of the Director of Public Works dated July 10, 2006.

3. That the Director of Public Works be delegated authority to make the final decision for approved partnerships.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 19, 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 July 11, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in the administrative recommendation, as amended, namely:

- Recommendation 1
  Delete reference to allocating the $200,000 funding equally to all 15 wards,

and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

On April 11, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in the recommendation of the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee, namely,

1. That the Administration review and report back on developing criteria ensuring that the additional funding, in the amount of $200,000.00, be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally to all 15 Wards of the City of Winnipeg.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY: (continued)

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 21, 2006, the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee moved the following motion:

WHEREAS on March 21, 2006, Council adopted the 2006 Operating Budget;

AND WHEREAS the budget for the Graffiti Control Program was increased by $200,000.00;

AND WHEREAS the action plan has not yet been finalized nor has it been determined how the funding will be allocated;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works on developing criteria ensuring that the additional funding, in the amount of $200,000.00, be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally to all 15 Wards of the City of Winnipeg.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 8, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works laid the matter over pending receipt of an administrative report.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 11, 2005, the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee referred the following resolution to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works for favourable consideration, namely:

“WHEREAS graffiti causes an area to look unsafe and makes people concerned about their personal safety;

AND WHEREAS areas filled with graffiti are less appealing and less visitable;

AND WHEREAS graffiti done without the owner’s permission is not art, but a crime;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY: (continued)

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

AND WHEREAS the City's Downtown and Exchange District are destination places;

AND WHEREAS the Exchange District is designated as a National Historic Site;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Public Works include in its new graffiti removal policy a requirement that building owners in the Downtown and Exchange District, whose building(s) have been tagged with graffiti, remove or cover the graffiti, at the building owners expense, within 30 days, of being notified by the City of Winnipeg Graffiti Control staff;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the new graffiti removal policy confirm that removal of graffiti, by building owners who own designated historical buildings, be in accordance with Federal Heritage requirements;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the new graffiti removal policy include a provision that building owners, not willing to invest monies to remove graffiti from their buildings once notified by the City of Winnipeg, must then actively work in partnership with BIZ groups and/or community, and/or school, and/or service groups to remove graffiti on their building(s) within 60 days of notification by the City of Winnipeg Graffiti Control staff".

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Policy Committee on Public Works concurred in the administrative recommendation, namely, that an extension of time be granted to the June 8, 2004 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works to finalize a recommended action plan for eliminating graffiti.

On April 6, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works requested the Administration to include the following in its Graffiti Control Action Plan:

1. That in order to avoid expenditures from the Land Dedication Reserve Fund and Community Incentive Grant Program, that additional funding (eg. $50,000.00 per ward) be included for the removal of graffiti in order that community interest groups may access such funding in their endeavors to eliminate graffiti and revitalize neighbourhoods.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY: (continued)

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 10, 2003, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services filed the request for the Administration to provide a report on Graffiti Control; and referred the issue of Graffiti Control to the Chief Administrative Officer for coordination of a detailed action plan outlining all the needs and demands for eliminating graffiti in the City of Winnipeg, including consultation with the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and all members of Council.

RE: GRAFFITI CONTROL PROGRAM - ADDITIONAL FUNDING

FOR SUBMISSION TO: Standing Policy Committee on Public Works

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: L.S.W. Larkin. P. Eng., Director of Public Works

REPORT DATE: July10, 2006

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That the additional funding of $200,000 in 2006 be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally to all 15 wards of the City of Winnipeg.

2. That proposals be solicited from interested non-profit organizations that are prepared to partner with the City this year to provide graffiti removal services. Proposals must be submitted by August 11, 2006 and any proposals received will be evaluated by the Public Works Department in accordance with the selection criteria identified in Appendix A.

3. That the final decision for approved partnerships will be made by the Director of Public Works.

Report Summary

Key Issues:

- Additional funding of $200,000 was approved in 2006 for enhanced graffiti control
- The funding is to be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally to all 15 Wards within the City
- Discussions were held with community stakeholders
- Proposals to be solicited from interested non-profit organizations
- Director of Public Works to approve partnerships to be undertaken
- Every effort to be made to ensure equal work in each ward

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General Implications

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

Comment(s):

- Community partnerships will enhance the level of graffiti removal in The City of Winnipeg.

Policy Implications

No
X Yes

Comment(s):
- Funding approval for the new partnerships will be at the discretion of the Director of Public Works.

Regulatory Implications

X None
Eliminates or reduces regulatory impact
Proposes regulatory impact

Comment(s):

Environmental Implications

X No
Yes

Comment(s):

Human Resources Implications

No
X Yes

Comment(s):
- Funding provided for salaries to our community partners may be viewed by CUPE as alternative service delivery.

Financial Implications

X Within approved current and/or capital budget
Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s):
- Additional funding of $200,000 was added to the Operating Budget for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Report

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

The Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works at its meeting of April 11, 2006 concurred in the recommendation of the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee that the Administration review and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on developing criteria ensuring that the additional funding for the graffiti control program, in the amount of $200,000.00, be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally to all 15 Wards of the City of Winnipeg.

HISTORY:

Traditionally the Graffiti Control Program has maintained long-term partnerships with the following organizations for the removal of graffiti primarily from May through August:

- The General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres
- Take Pride Winnipeg
- Various Business Improvement Zones within the City
- Various individuals and service groups

As part of this program, the City has assisted and/or provided these partners in the past with project management of removals, paint, vehicles, cleaning materials, indoor heated storage and training.

DISCUSSION:

The funding available for the Graffiti Control Program in 2005 was $465,000. Included in this funding was $130,000 that was spent on existing community partnerships. The addition of $200,000 for this program in 2006 has resulted in total funding available for community partnerships of $330,000.

This additional funding is designed to encourage non-profit community organizations to participate in the year-round removal of graffiti and will result in long-term benefits to the community at large. The period from September through December has been identified as the period most critically requiring additional participation from our community partners.

It was the original intent of Council that the additional $200,000 be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally to all 15 wards of the City of Winnipeg.
Discussions have been held with our stakeholders and it was indicated during these sessions that the funding may need to be allocated on a needs basis instead of the equal funding per ward as recommended by the East Kildonan -Transcona Community Committee.

There were concerns raised that there may not be a suitable qualifying non-profit community group willing to submit a proposal in each Ward. In addition it was pointed out that the City has an enhanced maintenance policy for the Downtown area. As a result it was suggested that there may need to be exceptions made to the equal funding formula for the Downtown and Exchange Business Improvement Zones. The Downtown Biz consists of three wards and has some unique challenges as well as being a tourist and commerce destination. The Exchange Biz has its historic buildings designations that can require specialized removal processes with more expensive contracted labor costs.

Therefore the Public Works Department recommends that, on a trial basis for this year, proposals be solicited from interested non-profit organizations that are prepared to partner with the City to provide graffiti removal services. Proposals must be submitted by August 11 and any proposals received will be evaluated by the Public Works Department in accordance with the selection criteria identified in Appendix A. Consultation with Ward Councillors will be included as part of the decision-making

The final decision for approved work will be made by the Director of Public Works and every effort will be made to ensure that the intent of Council is followed to have equal work done in each ward.

In the event that there are not sufficient acceptable proposals to expend the additional funding in each ward, the funding will be redirected to expanding existing partnerships such as Take Pride, GCWCC and/or utilize City forces to provide the graffiti removal service.

The additional funding of $200,000 for this enhanced graffiti removal service may also be available in future years. Therefore it is possible that a continuation of the partnership agreements that are established in 2006 may be in the best interests of the City. The option to extend partnerships beyond 2006, subject to available funding, will be part of any partnership agreement.

Financial Impact Statement

Date: July 7, 2006

Project Name: GRAFFITI CONTROL PROGRAM - ADDITIONAL FUNDING

First Year of Program 2006

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	200,000	200,000	200,000	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: Additional funding is approved in the 2006 Adopted in Dept id 181717 Graffiti Control. $200,000 for each of 2006, 2007 and 2008. The additional funding of $200,000 for enhanced Graffiti Control be made available to non-profit organizations and allocated equally among all 15 wards in the City of Winnipeg.

"Original Signed by D. Stewart, CA"

Manager of Finance & Administration

Darcy Stewart, CA

Approved by Divisional Financial Analyst: X

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS:

Internal Consultation With and Concurrence By:

Ron Cann, Labour Relations, Public Works
Paul Huntington, Community Services

External Consultation With:

Tom Ethans, Take Pride Winnipeg
Marlene Amell, General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres
Trudy Turner, President Winnipeg Business Improvement Zones
Diane Truderung, Transcona Biz
Murray Rougeau, Transcona Anti-Graffiti
Colleen Mayer, Old St.Vital Biz

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Department: Public Works
Division: Streets Maintenance
Prepared by: Robert Okabe.....986-8391
File No. U:\StMaint\Bruce\Graffiti Control ProgramJuly 06.doc

Appendix A: - Selection of Proposals

Who Can Apply?

Eligible applicants include non-profit community organizations and non-profit organizations providing graffiti removal services to a given neighbourhood, community or Business Improvement Zone within the boundaries of the City of Winnipeg.

Does everyone get approved?

Applicants are evaluated and chosen using the Selection Criteria. As funding is limited, not all partnership applications which meet the criteria will be approved.

What are the financial limits of the additional partnership program?

The City can contribute up to $200,000 allocated equally to all 15 wards of the City.

Is there a deadline for Applications?

Applications will be accepted until August 11, 2006 and are approved at the discretion of the Director of Public Works. Projects must begin within 30 days of the approval date and be completed within the calendar year approved.

How are the payments made?

Organizations are required to submit monthly Payment Requests. Audited financial statements will be required by the City at the end of the year. The City may consider advancing a portion of the funding to ease startup costs if requested.

Selection Criteria

1. Applicant is a non-profit community organization providing a graffiti removal service.
2. The proposal must provide graffiti removal services accessible to all members of the community offering service within the ward boundaries.
3. The proposal must not compete with or duplicate an existing proposal per ward.
4. The applicant must provide confirmation of sufficient resources to maintain and operate the proposal.
5. Proposal clearly articulates a plan of activities including projected work schedules, material, labour, equipment and other project requirements.
6. The project must be deemed feasible within the project management capabilities of the applicant.

7. The applicants must identify the amount of their financial commitment to the project and must not include other City funds.

Supplemental Conditions

1. The Community Partner shall have successfully carried out work similar in nature, scope and value.
2. Have a written workplace safety and health program in accordance with The Workplace Safety and Health Act (Manitoba).
3. The Community Partner shall be registered with the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba, shall provide and maintain Workers Compensation coverage throughout the term of the Contract, and shall provide the City with evidence thereof upon request.
4. The Community Partner shall provide and maintain commercial general liability insurance, in the amount of at least two million dollars ($2,000,000.00) all inclusive, with The City of Winnipeg being added as an additional insured, with a cross-liability clause, to remain in place at all times during the performance of the Work.
5. Deductibles shall be borne by the Community Partner.
6. The Community Partner shall provide the City with a certified true copy or a certificate of insurance of the policy at least two (2) Business Days prior to the commencement of any Work on the Site but in no event later than seven (7) Calendar Days from notification of the award of Contract.

Security Clearance

1. Each individual proposed to perform Work under the Proposal shall be required to obtain a Criminal Record Search Certificate from the police service having jurisdiction at his place of residence.

Note:

Workers requiring interaction with the general public and performing work on private property must obtain a security clearance.

Cost Review

The Graffiti Control Program requires the submission of work completion sheets identifying locations treated, removal process and square metres removed. Costs are then reviewed and will be subject to a cost benefit analysis and compared to in-house removal costs. Future funding may be denied if the partnership is determined to not be cost-effective.