REPORT OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FISCAL ISSUES

DATED DECEMBER 7, 1998

On motion of Councillor Clement, the Report of the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, dated December 7, 1998, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Councillor Clement,
That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2 and 3 be adopted.

Carried.

Funding for Main Street Reconstruction from Higgins Avenue to Disraeli/ Alexander Avenue
File SC-3.4 (Vol. 22) [c/r FE-1 (Vol. 30)]

143 - 1. On April 29, 1998, Council approved the reconstruction of Main Street from Higgins Avenue to Disraeli/Alexander Avenue to proceed in 1998 at a cost of $2,035,000, and that the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues review financial options in September 1998 and determine funding sources at that time.

The Main Street Reconstruction from Higgins Avenue to Disraeli/Alexander Avenue is presently under construction. Funding in the amount of $1,135,000 remains to be identified from available funds in approved budgets.

The Public Works Department has identified $355,000 in surplus funds in the City's share of funding for the Kenaston Boulevard/Bishop Grandin Boulevard Connection. The Public Works Department, however, has been unable to identify any other sources of surplus funds that are cash flow forecast.

The Corporate Finance Department has identified other sources of funding in the amount of $780,000 in the overall corporate accounts that are available in the 1998 Current Operating Budget for use to complete this project.

There is no financial impact as the available funding in the amount of $355,000 would be transferred from the City's share of the Kenaston Boulevard/Bishop Grandin Boulevard Connection that has been cash flow forecasted and the associated debt financing costs have been included in the Current Estimates. The remaining funding in the amount of $780,000 is from surplus identified in the 1998 Current Operating Budget.

Based on the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues approved an additional appropriation in the amount of $780,000 to complete this project, to be reallocated from identified corporate accounts in the 1998 Current Estimates.

The Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues further recommends:

I. That the remaining funding for the Main Street Reconstruction from Higgins Avenue to Disraeli / Alexander Avenue in the amount of $355,000 be transferred from the Kenaston Boulevard / Bishop Grandin Boulevard Connection project, included in the 1998 Capital Estimates.

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

Adopted by consent.

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Shift in Assessment Values from Apartment Blocks to Residential
File AA-3 (Vol. 7)

144 - 2. Council, at its adjourned meeting held on June 25, 1998, ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Angus,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

WHEREAS there has been a shift in assessment values from apartment blocks to residential properties over the last several years;

AND WHEREAS this has increased property taxes on single family homes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues review the reasons for this shift in assessment values;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues recommend possible strategies to ameliorate this shift.

On July 13, 1998, Committee referred this matter to the Administration for report back and on September 9, 1998, Council granted Committee a 90-day extension of time in which to respond.

Inasmuch as additional time is required to consider the matter, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues requests an extension of time of 90 days to report back.

Adopted by consent.

Development of a Policy regarding the Profits from sale of City-owned Properties
File FI-2.4 (Vol. 7)

145 - 3. Council, at its adjourned meeting held on April 30, 1998, ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Angus,
Seconded by Councillor O'Shaughnessy,

WHEREAS the Property and Development Services Department is marketing certain City owned properties in the City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the properties being sold were properties no longer required for streets and transportation, parks and other purposes;

AND WHEREAS this found money is reputed to be earmarked to be returned to the department for purposes of meeting expenses;

AND WHEREAS the profit from these sales belong to general revenue and should be considered in relation to the City's total budgetary requirements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues review this practice and develop a policy for consideration of Council;

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any land sales that are concluded and the related monies generated by these sales be held in Property and Development Services until the policy is developed and approved.

On May 19, 1998, Committee referred this matter to the Chief Financial Officer for report and on June 24, 1998, Council granted Committee a 60-day extension of time in which to respond. On September 9, 1998, Council granted an additional 90-day extension of time.

Inasmuch as the report from the Chief Financial Officer has yet to be received, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues requests a further extension of time of 120 days to report back.

Adopted by consent.