REPORT OF THE

COMMITTEE ON WORKS AND OPERATIONS

DATED JANUARY 11, 1996

On motion of Councillor Clement, the Report of the Committee on Works and Operations, dated January 11, 1996, was considered clause by clause.

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

Carried.

Her Worship the Mayor and Councillors:

Strategic Plan for the Transit Department
File TT-5 (Vol. 5)

326 - 1. The Committee on Works and Operations has been advised that efforts to develop a strategic plan for the Transit Department have been ongoing over the past two years. In 1993, an initial draft was prepared by the transit management team; and in January 1994, a summary of this draft was distributed to all transit employees for comment, feedback, and recommendations. In May 1995, the management team met with the Executive Committee of Local 1505 of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) to review and update the plan. Subsequently, the plan was revised to reflect input from staff and the ATU.

The strategic plan entitled, "A Route to Our Future", designated as Appendix A, is intended to guide the on-going management and operation of the Transit Department. It summarizes current challenges facing public transit, identifies expectations the public has of the department, and outlines specific initiatives to improve the delivery of transit service in Winnipeg. While the plan is flexible and will require updating from time to time to reflect changing conditions, its main intent is to establish a common focus to guide the efforts of all transit employees.

"A Route to Our Future" is based on the City's mission, vision, and recommendations outlined in Plan Winnipeg . . . Toward 2010. It is structured on the General Directive to the Administration to pursue constant improvement and productivity by placing continuous emphasis in the following four areas:

1. Quality client service because people inside and outside the organization should be given what they have a right to expect.

2. A commitment to staff because the productivity of the City's municipal government is a direct reflection of the strength of its employees.

3. Long-term financial stability because the City's ratepayers expect sound management with predictable impacts.

4. Positive attitudes and open communications because even where there is a need to balance conflicting perspectives, all people should be treated fairly and with respect.

The plan includes mission, vision, and value statements for the Transit Department that are expected to remain relatively constant, as well as recent improvements, guiding principles for future efforts, and specific future initiatives for improvement for each component of the plan.

The plan will be reviewed and progress assessed on an annual basis. As improvements are implemented or as conditions change, the plan's list of initiatives for future improvement will be updated. In this way, the plan will be the guiding reference for the day-to-day activities of all transit employees.

The Committee on Works and Operations approved in principle the following and therefore recommends:

I. That the document, "A Route to Our Future," designated as Appendix A, be approved as the strategic plan for the Transit Department.

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II. That "A Route to Our Future" be approved for use in guiding the on-going management of the Transit Department.

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

A copy of the Winnipeg Transit Strategic Plan entitled "A Route to Our Future", designated as Appendix A, has been previously provided to all members of Council.

Adopted by consent.

Combined Sewer Renewals, Request for Advancement of Funds from the 1996 Capital Estimates
Files WS-5 (Vol. 16) and FC(1996)

327 - 2. The Committee on Works and Operations has been advised that the preliminary Capital Estimates for Combined Sewer Renewals for 1996 and into the future are as follows:

YEAR	AMOUNT
1996	$5,231,000.00
1997	$5,720,000.00
1998	$5,720,000.00
1999	$5,720,000.00
2000	$5,720,000.00
2001	$5,720,000.00

The Construction Services Branch of the Streets and Transportation Department has traditionally been responsible for watermain and sewer renewal capital construction projects. In 1996, the Construction Services Branch will complete approximately $2,000,000.00 of the sewer renewal works from the 1996 Capital Estimates.

The staff of the Construction Services Branch, largely comprised of C.U.P.E. members, have been provided job guarantees under their collective agreement. The 1995 Sewer Renewal Program will be completed by approximately the first week of February 1996, while the 1996 Capital Budget is not scheduled to be approved until February 28, 1996. Consequently, this delay to the approval of the Capital Budget will result in a three week layoff of C.U.P.E. staff having work guarantees.

Advancing the $2,000,000.00 funding for the Combined Sewer Renewal Program will allow the Sewer Renewal Program to run uninterrupted, thereby saving mobilization costs for the City and enabling the City to fulfil its obligation to C.U.P.E. regarding job guarantees.

The Committee on Works and Operations therefore recommends:

I. That expenditures in the amount of $2,000,000.00 be approved as a first charge against the funds budgeted in the proposed 1996 Capital Estimates for the Combined Sewer Renewal project to be financed through the frontage levy.

II. That the Administration be authorized to do all the things necessary to expedite this work and make it available for the Streets and Transportation Department's Construction Services Branch to undertake this work.

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

Adopted by consent.

COMMITTEE ON WORKS AND OPERATIONS

QUESTION PERIOD

328 - Councillor Angus requested an update on the possibility of Spring flooding.

Councillor Clement commented that the Water and Waste Department would bring forward related information as soon as possible should it be an issue.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson further advised that the Emergency Operations Coordinator is already preparing for potential flooding.

Councillor Golden noted that when there was severe flooding problems a few year ago, the Provincial Government identified that the sewer system could be made 8% more efficient if the lip of the floodway was reduced from the 750 foot level to the 743 foot level. He questioned if the matter of accomplishing this to protect citizens from basement flooding, was being investigated. He further referred to the Provincial statement that it could be done if included in the City's budget, and questioned whether this was being considered.

Councillor Clement stated no.

Councillor Golden requested that the Provincial Government be asked as to what the opportunities might be for this action and whether the Province might accommodate the related expenditure. He also requested that the Administration be directed to report on whether or not this should be considered as a priority in the Capital budget.

Councillor Clement took the question under advisement.