REPORT OF THE

COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION, PARKS AND CULTURE

DATED OCTOBER 6, 1997

On motion of Councillor O'Shaughnessy, the Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated October 6, 1997, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Councillor O'Shaughnessy,
That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 and 9 be adopted.

Carried.

Reinstatement of the Dutch Elm Disease Job Development Program by the Federal/ Provincial Government
File PB-2 (Vol. 26)

1083 - 1. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has been advised that on September 30, 1997, the Committee on Planning and Community Services passed the following motion, namely:

> WHEREAS previous "Dutch Elm Disease Job Development Programs" have been successful in simultaneously employing able-bodied welfare recipients and controlling the risks of Dutch Elm Disease;
>
> AND WHEREAS the number of Dutch Elm diseased trees has doubled from 1995 to 1997;
>
> AND WHEREAS there continue to be high levels of unemployment and able-bodied citizens collecting city social assistance in the City of Winnipeg;
>
> THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Winnipeg re-apply for funding from the Federal Government to reinstate the Job Development Program which trains able-bodied city social assistance recipients to remove diseased trees;
>
> AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the matter be referred to the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture for their consideration.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture concurred with the recommendation from the Committee on Planning and Community Services, and therefore recommends:

I. That the City of Winnipeg re-apply for funding from the Federal/Provincial Government to reinstate the Job Development Program which trains able-bodied city social assistance recipients to remove diseased trees.

II. That the Administration be requested to negotiate with the Federal/Provincial Government to reinstate the Dutch Elm Disease Job Development Program.

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

Adopted by consent.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

Current Status of the Dutch Elm Disease Situation in Winnipeg with Proposed Action Plan File PB-2 (Vol. 26)

1084 - 2. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has been advised that Dutch Elm Disease (D.E.D.) has been managed annually in Winnipeg since the first known outbreak of the disease in Wildwood Park in 1975. In 1996 there was a significant escalation of D.E.D. in Winnipeg at a level 60% higher than 1995. For 1997 the total number of diseased elms reached 4,867 compared to 4,506 in 1996 and 2,843 in 1995. Thus, in two years, the annual disease incidence has escalated by about 71%.

From 1975 to 1996, the Forestry Branch has tracked the removal of about 114,000 elm trees from an original inventory of 273,000. Most of the trees were removed from riverbank forests on both private and public lands. This removal represents a loss of about 42% of the original inventory, however, through natural elm regeneration and elm reforestation, approximately 1% of the annual inventory has been added to that inventory each year. This increase amounts to over 49,150 elm trees during the period 1975 to 1996. Thus at the beginning of 1997 D.E.D. season, there were about 200,300 standing elms in Winnipeg.

The annual loss rate to D.E.D. over the past two years is about 2.2% for 1996 and 2.4% for 1997 as compared to an average annual loss of .72% from 1975 to 1995.

INCREASES IN OTHER TREE DISEASES

Although there has been a very large increase in D.E.D. in the last two years, there has also been significant increases in diseases and pests in other species of trees in the same period. Notably, there is a prominent increase in four tree diseases:

(1) oak decline with its associated two-lined chestnut borer infestation,
(2) fire blight in fruit and ornamental flowering trees and shrubs,
(3) canker disease in Siberian elm and Russian olive, and
(4) canker diseases in Colorado blue spruce.

The City Forester believes all these tree problems arise from a combination of factors:

(1) two consecutive winters and severe wind chill period below minus forty degrees Celsius,
(2) ever increasing number of maturing trees less able to adapt to constantly changing urban environmental stresses,
(3) poor to no proper tree maintenance on private properties throughout the city,
(4) flood stressed river bottom forest lands, and
(5) an increase in the number of new disease and pests coming into the Prairie Provinces.

PROVINCIAL D.E.D BUFFER ZONE FOR WINNIPEG

With the D.E.D. situation there is another major factor that has occurred in recent times, the reduction of the Province of Manitoba's D.E.D. buffer zone area around Winnipeg.

Until 1990, a vast area almost encircling Winnipeg was managed by the Province to control D.E.D. A report produced by the Manitoba Department of Natural Resources Forestry Branch in 1991, concluded that there was a positive cost benefit to maintain D.E.D. buffer zone management for Manitoba communities including Winnipeg. An extract from that report is outlined below:

> The urban elm forests of 50 Manitoban cities and towns are valued at 1.1 billion dollars. In 1990 the Province of Manitoba spent $2,063,000.00 to manage Dutch Elm Disease within an area encompassing 100,000 km². This level of expenditure represents approximately 0.2% of the value of the elm trees currently being protected in the provincial inventory. Since the discovery of Dutch Elm Disease in Manitoba in 1975, the average annual elm loss rate in 50 cities and towns stands at 1.8%. If the Dutch Elm Disease program were discontinued or partially reduced to allow even a doubling in the annual elm loss rate the result would be catastrophic. During the next decade Manitobans would be faced with a $25,000,000.00 tree removal bill, a $28,000,000.00 bill for replacement trees, a significant decline in real estate values and near complete loss of the urban forests in many towns and cities if the program were discontinued. In terms of economic cost benefit ratios, the Provincial and City of Winnipeg integrated Dutch Elm Disease

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

Management Program is an excellent investment, not only for the present but also for the future. In simple economic terms, it makes financial sense to manage Dutch Elm Disease in Manitoba.

In 1996, further termination of D.E.D. buffer zones was made by the Province in the areas to the northeast of Winnipeg, and to the west of Headingley. It would appear that the Province has not been pursuing its D.E.D. buffer zone management policy for Winnipeg.

The Parks and Recreation Department made several inspections in 1997 of the regions adjacent to Winnipeg, in and outside the zones that are no longer being managed for D.E.D. by the Province. There are many thousands of standing diseased and dead elms within 15 km of Winnipeg. These elms occur around farms, in villages and towns, in shelter belts and along creek and river corridors. The worst of these areas is to the northeast and southeast of Winnipeg. For Winnipeg, the vast number of diseased elms to the south and southeast is an alarming situation without parallel in the history of D.E.D. control in the Winnipeg area.

During the summer, prevailing winds blow from these directions. The vast population of stressed elms constitutes a critically, uncontrollable breeding area for native elm bark beetles - the insect which is primarily responsible for the spread of D.E.D. Elm bark beetles are good flyers and are easily carried along by prevailing winds. Thus, it is not a coincidence that the heaviest D.E.D. infections in Winnipeg occur in the south part of Winnipeg in the river forests and adjacent residential lands near the La Salle, Seine and Red Rivers.

The south areas of the city also have the worst occurrence of other diseases and insect pests of trees: Botrydiplodea/Tubercularia canker complex disease of Siberian Elm and Russian Olive (Whyte Ridge); oak decline with two-lined chestnut borer infestation (River Heights, Crescentwood, Charleswood, Fort Garry, lower Fort Rouge, St. Vital, St. Boniface and St. Norbert); fire blight and cherry black knot diseases (St. Vital, Whyte Ridge, Linden Woods, St. Norbert and Fort Garry); and Septoria canker disease in Colorado blue spruce (St. Boniface, St. Vital, Fort Garry and Fort Richmond).

MANAGEMENT OF D.E.D. IN WINNIPEG

The City of Winnipeg has had a model D.E.D. control program in North America. Winnipeg's success with D.E.D. control has served as a positive encouragement for many other prairie communities in Canada and the United States. This has especially been the case in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta where American Elm trees comprise an important component of the urban forest of almost all the major prairie cities and towns.

From 1989 to 1991 there was a high D.E.D. incidence in Winnipeg varying from 3,785 to 4,056 diseased elms annually. The number of hazard (dying) elms surveyed was also very high in those years. The increases were believed to be a result of at least the following factors:

(1) an accumulated environmental stress effect on the riverbank elms owing to the 1980's drought, and
(2) a major revision by the City Forester and staff in the D.E.D. survey program.

Through this period and until March of 1993, the City's Forestry Branch could rely on the work force provided by trained social welfare recipients under the Canada Job Development Program. This was a training program funded by the three levels of government to produce skilled forestry utility workers to remove the large number of elms marked for D.E.D. and hazardness. Many of those workers are now working seasonally for the City.

The Job Development Program allowed the Forestry Branch to manage its elms using an obvious technical strategy: employ the lessor skilled part of the work force to remove trees while using the better skilled employees to prune elms during the fall and winter months. The timing and completion of these two activities are the essential foundation components of the D.E.D. sanitation/control program: to expedite the removal of diseased trees, dead/dying trees, and dead/damaged branches so that the opportunity for native elm beetle breeding in this material is significantly reduced.

From 1991 to 1994, there was a noticeable annual reduction in the occurrence of D.E.D. in Winnipeg. All components of an integrated pest management program for the control of D.E.D. were working well.

The reduction of the annual D.E.D. budget from 1993 to 1996 by about $500,000.00 has resulted in the following program cuts:

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

(1) Reduced annual elm tree pruning by Forestry crews from 13,530 in 1993 to 1,934 elms in 1996.

(2) The annual elm tree pruning by private contractor was maintained at about 1,600 elms from 1993 to 1995. There was no elm pruning contract in 1996. Funds were used to remove elms. Approximately 1,200 elms will be removed by contract in 1997. The program has been completely cut out in the 1998 budget.

(3) Reduced annual elm stump removals by Forestry crews from about 3,000 in 1993 to about 2,400 in 1996. In 1997, $80,000.00 was removed from this program for the Parks and Recreation Department deficit avoidance targets resulting in 1,600 fewer elm stumps being removed.

(4) Reduced annual D.E.D. detection and elm firewood surveillance staff from 22 in 1993 to 16 in 1997.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

These D.E.D. control program management cuts, in conjunction with previously described flooding, climatic and reduced provincial buffer zone factors, have exacerbated the current D.E.D. situation in Winnipeg. The very high D.E.D. elm losses in 1996 and 1997 clearly reveal the start of an alarming trend, not foreseeable in 1996. Hence, the Parks and Recreation Department has brought the following series of recommendations to the attention of Council for consideration of approval:

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

The funding reduction attributed to deficit avoidance in the amount of $265,000.00 be restored to the 1997 Dutch Elm Disease control budget through the return of $80,000.00 for elm stump removal, $100,000.00 salaries, and $85,000.00 support services.

As was the case for 1996, the 1997 elm removal program will use all of the utility staff in the Forestry Branch in order to finish the program by March 31, 1998. This will once again mean the elm pruning program, using Forestry crews, will be sacrificed unless access to the funding in salaries noted above can be made available in the amount of $100,000.00 to be used in the direct management of elms. This strategy will permit better skilled utility employees to prune high priority elms in need of pruning.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

That the 1998 Dutch Elm Disease control budget be restored from $1.643 million to about $2.169 million - a figure representing approximately the same level of funding in the early 1990s.

It is important to understand that the full D.E.D. control management program has a number of key components that must be maintained at optimum levels annually.

Reducing efforts in one or more of these areas produces progressively poorer D.E.D. control. The key program components are:

(a) timely D.E.D. and hazard elm removals,
(b) regular elm pruning on a cyclical schedule of about 7/8 years for boulevard and 10 years for park trees.
(c) elm bark beetle basal control program,
(d) elm firewood survey, public notification and removal action, and
(e) public awareness, education, community action related to elm tree care and D.E.D. control research.

The $526,000.00 increase being sought would be approximately broken down as follows:

$200,000.00 - elm pruning contract,
$200,000.00 - five utility 3 positions, and
$126,000.00 - operational support services including $50,000.00 for elm removals contract.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

That the City of Winnipeg approach the Province of Manitoba to restore the Provincial Dutch Elm Disease buffer zone management program to pre-1990 levels.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

Maintaining the key components of an effective D.E.D. control program in a city the size of Winnipeg is also highly dependent on an equally effective and on-going D.E.D. control strategy outside the City's borders. Recent visual surveys by Parks and Recreation Department staff reveal large areas of dead, dying and diseased elms around the city. This situation is especially critical in a wide region extending 15 to 20 km to south and southeast of the city, where thousands of standing elms remain in a diseased or hazardous state along river bank forests and farm properties especially shelter belts.

The Province of Manitoba's D.E.D. control buffer zone must be maintained at least to its pre-1990 extent. Unmanaged areas outside Winnipeg are producing countless number of native elm bark beetles which can readily carry D.E.D. into the city. Southerly winds during the summer can assist beetle migration into the city.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

That the five vacant permanent Utility III positions in the Forestry Branch be funded and be approved for bulletining in January of 1998 by waiving the process of due consideration by the Vacancy Management Committee.

Although the Forestry Branch has most of its full complement based on New Directions, it is top heavy with seasonal Utility II positions. Many seasonal Utility II employees do not want to be upgraded to work on more sophisticated equipment such as aerial bucket trucks, tandem trucks, front-end loaders, log chippers and tree spades. Ideally, the winter elm pruning/residential removal program requires all seven aerial bucket trucks and chippers operating with a complement of Utility III and IV workers. During the year, the Forestry Branch loses seasonal employees for various periods of time due to job bulletins. Four employees were transferred to Fleet Maintenance in 1997 for a six month period. Two others went to Arenas for a seven month period.

Funding for these five positions including employee benefits would amount to about $200,000.00, however, this could be readily accommodated in the recommended increase to the 1998 budget.

CONCLUSION

In 1997, the City of Winnipeg is facing the prospect of a serious D.E.D. escalation getting out of control. With potential annual losses of 10,000 to 15,000 elms within five years, large areas of residential Winnipeg will lose much of their irreplaceable elm canopy. In that same period of time, many of those areas will have also lost a large proportion of their oak trees to the oak decline program. The environmental and aesthetic impact resulting from these tree canopy losses would be, as the Province of Manitoba stated "catastrophic".

Action to fully restore the D.E.D. control program must be taken immediately. This action, however, will be not sufficient by itself. The Province of Manitoba must be urged to restore its D.E.D. buffer zone management program to reduce the large elm bark beetle populations coming into Winnipeg laden with D.E.D. spores.

On October 2, 1987, the Board of Commissioners reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department report dated September 30, 1987, and did not concur in Recommendation No. 1 due to the status of the 1997 Budget preparation. The Board of Commissioners further recommended that Recommendation Nos. 2 to 4 be referred to the 1998 Budget deliberations.

Upon review of the administrative report and recommendations, the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture on October 6, 1997, referred Recommendation Nos. 2 and 4 to the 1998 Budget deliberations.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture therefore recommends:

I. That funding in the amount of $265,000.00 attributed to deficit avoidance be restored to the 1997 Dutch Elm Disease control budget through the return of $80,000.00 for elm stump removal, $100,000.00 in salaries, and $85,000.00 in support services.

II. That the City of Winnipeg approach the Province of Manitoba to restore the Provincial Dutch Elm Disease buffer zone management program to pre-1990 levels.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

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

Adopted by consent.

Community Incentive Grant Program - West Broadway Development Corporation File PR-2.6(32) (Vol. 4)

1085 - 3. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has reconsidered Clause 5 of its Report dated September 8, 1997, as outlined on Appendix "A", which was referred back to it by Council on September 24, 1997.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture recommended therein:

I. That the criteria for the Community Incentive Grant Program (with respect to the organization not being a non-profit community recreation and sport organization or a non-profit organization offering recreational services) be waived in this instance.

II. That a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $15,294.34, not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total project cost, be approved to the West Broadway Development Corporation for the purpose requested, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Confirmation of other funding sources;
(b) Approval of final plans and specifications for the project by the Director of Parks and Recreation; and
(c) The applicant entering into a formal agreement with the City of Winnipeg.

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

On September 24, 1997, Council also referred the following motion to the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, namely:

THAT Recommendation II. in Clause 5 of the Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated September 8, 1997, be amended by deleting the words "not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total project cost", in order to further waive the criteria of the Community Incentive Grant Program and allow the West Broadway Development Corporation to receive one hundred percent (100%) of the total project cost.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has considered the foregoing, and recommends as follows:

I. That the following eligibility criteria for the Community Incentive Grant Program be waived in this instance, namely:

(a) The applicant is to be a non-profit community recreation and sport organization or a non-profit organization offering recreational services;
(b) The applicant is to contribute fifty percent (50%) of the capital costs from their own sources.

II. That a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $15,294.34 be approved to the West Broadway Development Corporation for the purpose requested, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Confirmation of other funding sources;
(b) Approval of final plans and specifications for the project by the Director of Parks and Recreation; and
(c) The applicant entering into a formal agreement with the City of Winnipeg.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

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

Adopted by consent.

(See Minute No. 1123 for attachment)

Community Incentive Grant Program - Sinclair Park Community Centre
File PR-2.6(34) (Vol. 5)

1086 - 4. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has considered an application from the Sinclair Park Community Centre for a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $40,000.00, for a storage garage on the Sinclair Park Community Centre grounds, south of the tennis courts at 490 Sinclair Avenue.

The application does not meet the eligibility criteria contained in the Community Incentive Grant Program inasmuch as the Sinclair Park Community Centre is requesting funding for one hundred percent (100%) of the total project cost, and therefore would not be contributing fifty percent (50%) of the capital costs from their own sources.

On September 16, 1997, the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee recommended approval of a Community Incentive Grant to the Sinclair Park Community Centre, in the amount of $40,000.00, for the purpose requested.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture concurred in the recommendation of the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee, and therefore recommends:

I. That the eligibility criteria for the Community Incentive Grant Program, with respect to the applicant contributing fifty percent (50%) of the capital costs from their own sources, be waived in this instance.

II. That a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $40,000.00 be approved to the Sinclair Park Community Centre for the purpose requested, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Confirmation of other funding sources;
(b) Approval of final plans and specifications for the project by the Director of Parks and Recreation; and
(c) The applicant entering into a formal agreement with the City of Winnipeg.

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

Adopted by consent.

Community Incentive Grant Program - Transcona Golf Club (1982) Inc.
File PR-2.6(33) (Vol. 4)

1087 - 5. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has considered an application from the Transcona Golf Club (1982) Inc. for a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $21,330.84 towards the costs of installing a chain link fence in the northwest quadrant of the Transcona Golf Course.

The application does not meet the eligibility criteria contained in the Community Incentive Grant Program, inasmuch as the Transcona Golf Club (1982) Inc. is requesting one hundred percent (100%) of the total project cost, and therefore would not be contributing fifty percent (50%) of the capital costs from their own sources.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

On September 16, 1997, the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee recommended that the criteria of the Community Incentive Grant Program be waived in this instance, and a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $21,330.84, be approved to the Transcona Golf Club (1982) Ltd. for the purpose requested.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture concurred in the recommendation from the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee, and therefore recommends:

I. That the eligibility criteria for the Community Incentive Grant Program, with respect to the applicant contributing fifty percent (50%) of the capital costs from their own sources, be waived in this instance.

II. That a Community Incentive Grant in the amount of $21,330.84 be approved to the Transcona Golf Club (1982) Inc. for the purpose requested, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Confirmation of other funding sources;
(b) Approval of final plans and specifications for the project by the Director of Parks and Recreation; and
(c) The applicant entering into a formal agreement with the City of Winnipeg.

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

Adopted by consent.

1997 Administrative Budget allocation for the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council
File FG-3 (Vol. 34)

1088 - 6. The City Policy for Cultural Grants administered by the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has an Annual Global Allocation of $1,974,552.00, divided into four separate accounts, as follows:

Individual Artists Account	20,000.00
Administrative Account for the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council (not to exceed 5% of the global arts allocation)	69,109.00
Special Project Grants Account (5% of the global arts allocation)	98,728.00
Primary Operating Grants Account (the balance of the Global Amount)	1,786,715.00
Global Allocation for Cultural Grants	1,974,552.00

On January 8, 1996, the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture authorized the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council to assist the City of Winnipeg to conduct a review of the City's Amusement Tax By-law No. 3107/81. The Committee also directed that the costs associated with the review process be done within the existing Administrative Budget allocation for the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council.

On September 29, 1997, the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council passed a motion requesting that favourable consideration be given to an appropriation transfer in the amount of $6,663.00 from the Special Project Grants Account to the Administrative Budget Account of the 1997 Annual Global Allocation for Cultural Grants.

On October 6, 1997, Gail Isaak, Chairperson and Billie Stewart, Administrator, Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council, appeared in delegation at the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture in support of the Advisory Council's request.

Inasmuch as the Policy for Cultural Grants administered by the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture outlines that the Administrative Budget Account for the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council is not to exceed 3.5% of the global arts allocation, and an appropriation transfer of $6,663.00 to the Administrative Account would exceed the 3.5% figure, the Policy on Cultural Grants insofar as the distribution of the global allocation would be required to be waived for 1997 in order to approve the request from the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture concurred in the request from the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council, and therefore recommends:

I. That the Policy on Cultural Grants administered by the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, insofar as the distribution of the Annual Global Allocation for Cultural Grants, be waived for 1997, in order to approve an appropriation transfer in the amount of $6,663.00 from the Special Project Grants Account to the Administrative Budget Account.

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

Adopted by consent.

Inspection of Child Day Care Centres
File GF-1 (Vol. 15)

1089 - 7. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has been advised that the responsibility to conduct fire inspections to satisfy the provisions of The Community Child Day Care Standards Act and Regulations, rests with the Office of the Fire Commissioner and not the City of Winnipeg Fire Department. The Office of the Fire Commissioner has requested that the Winnipeg Fire Department conduct Day Care inspections on their behalf.

Historically, the Winnipeg Fire Department has conducted fire inspections of Day Care Centres in the City of Winnipeg. Inspection of Day Care Centres ceased in 1997 as it was determined that the Winnipeg Fire Department was neither required or obligated to carry out such inspections in the City of Winnipeg.

Upon review of applicable legislation and subsequent to seeking legal advice the Winnipeg Fire Department had determined that responsibility to conduct fire inspections, to satisfy the provisions of The Community Child Day Care Standards Act and Regulations, clearly rests with the Office of the Fire Commissioner and not the City of Winnipeg Fire Department.

The City of Winnipeg has approximately 250 Day Care Centres. As these occupancies pose a high risk for fire, continuation of a formal inspection process should continue.

Conducting these inspections for the Office of the Fire Commissioner would entitle the City of Winnipeg to receive payment in the amount of $75.00 for completion of inspection services for each Day Care Centre. This has the potential of recovering approximately $18,750.00 in total.

Legislation governing Day Care Centres is presently under review and subject to amendment. This would allow the Winnipeg Fire Department, in the future, to contract directly with Manitoba Family Services to undertake, for a fee, inspections to accommodate the requirements for Day Care License renewal.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture therefore recommends:

I. The Winnipeg Fire Department be authorized to conduct Day Care inspections on behalf of the Office of the Fire Commissioner, in the Province of Manitoba, on a cost recovery basis, that being $75.00 per inspection.

II. The Winnipeg Fire Department be authorized to proceed with Day Care inspections, subject to confirmation by the Winnipeg Fire Department that the Rooming House Inspection Program will not be adversely affected.

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

Adopted by consent.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

Proposal to Declare City-owned Property at 1400 Henderson Highway as Surplus
File FI-2.4(33) (Vol. 2)

1090 - 8. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has been advised that the Land and Development Services Department has received several offers to purchase the City-owned property located at 1400 Henderson Highway.

The subject building at 1400 Henderson Highway was built in 1956, and used by the former Rural Municipality of North Kildonan for the purpose of its municipal offices. The building consists of 2,350 square feet of office improvements on both the main floor and basement levels for a total of 4,700 square feet, plus related parking, and was used by the former North Kildonan Municipality for the purpose of its municipal offices. There is a war veterans monuments on the site that reads as follows: "In memory of those who fell in defence of our Country 1914 - 1918, 1939 - 1945, Korea 1950 - 1953; Lest we Forget." There is also a monument on the site dedicated to a former Mayor of the Rural Municipality of North Kildonan, John Dickson. There are also several mature trees on the vacant portion of the site.

Although the subject property is currently under the jurisdiction of the Civic Buildings Department, it is in part also used as a passive park. The Civic Buildings Department advised that, assuming the Parks and Recreation Department considers the lands expendable, the Department does not disagree that this property is surplus to its needs.

The Parks and Recreation Department has advised that it has no objection to the sale of the property, however, approval for the relocation of the existing monuments should be first obtained from the local Community Committee and the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture. As well, the costs of relocating the monuments shall be borne as a first charge against the sale proceeds.

The Parks and Recreation Department has also indicated that the monuments could be relocated elsewhere. Even if the property is sold, there is a possibility that the purchaser would agree to allow the monuments to be relocated within the subject property. The Land and Development Services Department recommended that the existing monuments be relocated away from the site.

On September 8 and 15, 1997, the Committees on Protection, Parks and Culture and Finance and Administration, respectively, considered an administrative report dated July 24, 1997, recommending as follows:

1. That the subject property be declared surplus to the City's requirements and that this report be referred to the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, the East Kildonan Community Committee and the Committee on Finance and Administration for subsequent referral to Council.

2. Depending on the decision respecting recommendation number one, that the Parks and Recreation Department determine an alternative location for relocation of the monuments.

3. That the Committee on Finance and Administration instruct the Director of the Land and Development Services Department to return the deposit monies to each of the applicants and advise them that the subject property is not for sale at this time and that they can re-apply to purchase the subject property at such time as the property has been declared surplus to the City's requirements.

4. Subject to this property being declared surplus by Council, that the Department of Land and Development Services be instructed to offer the property for sale by public tender.

On September 8, 1997, the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture passed the following motion:

That the matter of declaring the property at 1400 Henderson Highway as surplus to the City's requirements be referred to the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee for recommendation.

On September 15, 1997, the Committee on Finance and Administration passed the following motions:

That the matter of declaring the property as surplus to the City's requirements be referred to the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee for recommendation.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

That the Director of the Land and Development Services Department be instructed to return the deposit monies to each of the applicants and advise them that the subject property is not for sale at this time and that they can re-apply to purchase the subject property at such time as the property has been declared surplus to the City's requirements;

And further that subject to this property being declared surplus by Council, that the Department of Land and Development Services be instructed to offer the property for sale by public tender;

And further that the Administration be directed to prepare a proposal call/tender for the property in the event that the land is declared surplus.

On September 16, 1997, the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee recommended that given the history of the building and the site within the community and the fact that it is green space, the Community Committee does not concur with the offers to purchase the property at 1400 Henderson Highway, and suggests that the building could be leased for professional office use purposes in keeping with the character of the building and its neighbourhood.

Pursuant to Section 156(2) of The City of Winnipeg Act, the sale of City-owned property designated or acquired for parks purposes requires the approval of at least two-thirds majority of Council.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture therefore recommends that the property located at 1400 Henderson Highway between Litz Place and Essar Avenue, as shown on Misc. Plan No. EKT 7213/2, not be declared surplus to the City's requirements.

Copy of Misc. Plan No. EKT 7213/2 is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Adopted by consent.

Proposed Property Acquisition - Lot 4 of Block 1, Plan 33345 - South side of Beaverhill Boulevard, east of the Seine River
File FI-2(35) (Vol. 5) [c/r DAZ 221/95]

1091 - 9. The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture has considered the acquisition of property shown as Lot 4 of Block 1, Plan 33345, as shown on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728, and located on the south side of Beaverhill Boulevard, east of the Seine River.

On July 24, 1995, the Riel Community Committee considered application DAZ 221/95 involving the rezoning of lands south of Beaverhill Boulevard and east of the Seine River, which included Lot 4 of Block 1, Plan 33345. The Community Committee considered various presentations including the Seine River Task Force regarding the proposed acquisition of Lot 4, as shown on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728, for City purposes. In order to allow all the stakeholders time to review and comment on the concerns and interests raised at the meeting it was decided that the meeting be adjourned and reconvened at a later date.

On August 23, 1995 the Riel Community Committee reconvened to continue deliberations on the DAZ 221/95 application. At this time, a revised proposal reducing the area of Lot 3 in the subdivision application in order to provide a Lot 4A, shown as Lot 4 on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728, being a 10.293 metre wide lot immediately east of the Seine River Waterway Requirement. Based on earlier discussions, the Development Agreement Officer indicated a preference to acquire 15 metres versus 10 metres of land for future parkway purposes. The District Planner suggested to the Community Committee that the additional 5 metres could be obtained by prohibiting the construction of any structure on the westerly 5 metres of Lot 3, Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728. The Riel Community Committee forwarded the amended DAZ 221/95 application together with its recommendations to the Committee on Planning and Community Services with the intent of acquiring Lot 4, although the acquisition of Lot 4 was not stated in the recommendation.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

The Committee on Planning and Community Services concurred in the Community Committee recommendations and by report dated September 5, 1996, recommended that Council approve the rezoning application DAZ 221/95.

Once again, in the recommendation there was no specific mention of the City acquiring the said Lot 4.

On September 27, 1995, Council adopted the Committee on Planning and Community Services recommendations, and among other things, instructed that a rezoning by-law be prepared and that the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be requested to do all things necessary for implementation in accordance with The City of Winnipeg Act.

On December 20, 1995, Council passed By-law No. 6739/95 to come into force and effect upon the registration of the plan of subdivision, DASSF 508/95 "A" and Zoning Agreement DAZ 221/95.

By memorandum dated February 9, 1996, the Land Development Division of the Land and Development Services Department requested that the Real Estate Division negotiate the terms and conditions for acquisition of Lot 4, plus that portion of Lot 5 shown dotted on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728 which is not covered by dedication. This is in addition to the hatched portion of said Lot 5 previously dedicated by the developer. The Land Development Division advised that these proposed acquisitions are not subject to dedication because the lands involved in the application were already covered under the terms and conditions of the Southdale Development Agreement for which dedication has already been made, and the proposed development was for non-profit seniors housing.
Authority to negotiate the portion of Lot 5 shown as "Land Below the Seine River Waterway Requirement" and dotted on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728 is contained within the minimum land acquisition policy as set out in the Seine River Park Study adopted by Council at its meeting of January 19, 1983. The Director of the Land and Development Services Department under his delegated authority has already approved ($15,000.00 per acre for undevelopable land) the acquisition of this portion of said Lot 5.

Ongoing negotiations with the developer/registered owner of the subject Lot 4 have resulted in the proposed transaction outlined on Schedule "A". The proposed price ($2.57 square feet based on the "RM-4" zoned land) for acquisition of the subject Lot 4 is supported by both an independent appraisal prepared for the owner and an in-house, Land and Development Services Departmental appraisal. The proposed terms and conditions are consistent with similar acquisitions by the City, and they are considered to be fair, reasonable and in the City's best interests.

Prior to submission to Council for final approval, the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture had been requested to confirm the need to acquire the subject Lot 4.

The Parks and Recreation Department is supportive of the proposed acquisition of Lot 4 and has advised that sufficient funds are allocated in Budget Bureau Certificate 96-04 against the "Land Acquisition for General Unspecified Purposes" account.

The Parks and Recreation Department has also confirmed that, based on the comments made by the Parks and Recreation Project Management Coordinator and the advice provided by the Land Development Engineer at the public meeting on August 23, 1995, the Riel Community Committee recommended the City acquire control of a 15 metre stip of land and that the acquisition was to be accomplished by purchasing the said Lot 4 (10 metres wide) and obtaining an easement (restricting development) at no cost over the adjacent westerly five metres of Lot 3. Hence, the acquisition of the total 15 metre strip would be accomplished by the City purchasing the subject property rather than the Developer dedicating the lands.

On September 15, 1997, the Committee on Finance and Administration considered and concurred in the recommendations contained in report dated July 17, 1997, from the Director of Land and Development Services, recommending that Council approve the acquisition of Lot 4 of Block 1, Plan 3345, as shown on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728, at a price of $33,600.00 and in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in Schedule "A". The Committee also recommended that the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture approve the need for the acquisition of the subject property.

On October 6, 1997, the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture established the need for the property located on the south side of Beaverhill Boulevard, east of the Seine River, as shown on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728, and legally described as Lot 4 of Block 1, Plan 33345, for future parkway purposes.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture therefore recommends:

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture dated October 6, 1997

I. That the acquisition of Lot 4 of Block 1, Plan 33345, as shown on Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728, be approved, at a price of $33,600.00 and in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in Schedule "A".

II. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing, including the execution of any documents related thereto.

Copy of Misc. Plan No. Riel 9728 and Schedule "A" are on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Adopted by consent.

COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION, PARKS AND CULTURE

QUESTION PERIOD

1092 - Councillor Vandal inquired if Councillor O'Shaughnessy was aware of a letter from the Director of Parks and Recreation alleging that Mr. Cuff's Report erroneously identified 84 rather than 73 management positions in the Parks and Recreation Department, and questioned the impact of the error on the recommendation to downsize the organization by 40 management positions.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy acknowledged the letter and suggested that the error may impact Councillors' perception of the recommendation but noted that Council would consider each of the Cuff recommendations separately.

Councillor Vandal questioned whether John Hreno's allegations were accurate.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy noted that the error may not impact the Cuff recommendation for downsizing 40 managers, but also noted that the downsizing was not on the short term agenda.

Councillor Thomas questioned if Councillor O'Shaughnessy would agree that the matter should be tabled for further investigation, to determine the positions impacted.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy voiced his concern for the taxpayers of the City of Winnipeg and provision of the best service at the best price, regardless of the impact on staff. He noted that the City had never laid off any full-time permanent employees, had previously downsized approximately 2000 positions through attrition and offers of early retirement and stated the review should be expediently conducted to eliminate the impact of worry and doubt on staff.

Councillor Thomas reiterated that her question was if Councillor O'Shaughnessy thought it was circumspect to continue without accurate information about the potential impact.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy noted that the error was made in the interim report and suggested that upon notification, Mr. Cuff would make the correction in the final report. He further noted that delay in dealing with the Report would not be beneficial to either staff or the citizens of Winnipeg.

Councillor Thomas asked if Councillor O'Shaughnessy, as Chairperson of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, concurred with implementation of the Cuff Report in one week given that the final report was not yet released and the possibility of inaccurate information.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy noted that the review of the City of Winnipeg had been ongoing for 25 years and in noting the numerous formal reports undertaken in this period, suggested that it was incumbent on Council to make changes. He further noted that upon deliberation of the Cuff Report, Council would use the issues and opinions raised as a guideline to make changes to ensure efficient operations for the citizens of Winnipeg.

Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture - Question Period (continued)

Councillor Murray referred to the poor condition of boulevards and questioned what would be done to replace and repair boulevards before, during, or after the winter.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy acknowledged that the boulevards did in fact require attention and noted that due to limited financial resources, restoration of boulevards and Spring cleanup was done only on regional and major collector streets.

Councillor Murray questioned when the boulevards on the collector streets would be cleaned and inquired if Councillor O'Shaughnessy found the current status of the condition acceptable.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy concurred that the level of boulevard maintenance should be reviewed noting that the problem was accumulative due to neglect and the yearly build up of salt and sand.