REPORTS

Item No. 3 Boundary Expansion and Legal Description Amendment – Exchange District Business Improvement Zone File FL-7.1

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ be expanded to include the block bounded by Lily, Alexander and Disraeli; and

2. That the written description of the Exchange District BIZ boundaries set out in Schedule "A" of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law be replaced with a map showing the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ with the new expansion included.

RE: By-Law for the Boundary Expansion and Legal Description Amendment of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone.

FOR SUBMISSION TO: Executive Policy Committee

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: Phil Sheegl, Director of Planning, Property and Development

REPORT DATE: May 29, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ be expanded to include the block bounded by Lily, Alexander and Disraeli; and**
2. **That the written description of the Exchange District BIZ boundaries set out in Schedule "A" of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law be replaced with a map showing the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ with the new expansion included.**

Report Summary

Key Issues:

- The “Exchange District” Business Improvement Zone, continued by By-Law No 8127/2002, is one of fifteen Business Improvement Zones within the City of Winnipeg.
- City Clerks received a petition from Entegra Credit Union seeking to have the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone boundaries expanded to have them added to the BIZ Zone.
- The proposed expansion follows the process set out in the Business Improvement Zone Procedures By-Law (No. 8111/2002) for adding businesses to an existing zone.
- This report also recommends that the attached By-law will replace the existing legal description in Schedule "A" of the By-law with an easy-to-read map (attached as Attachment “A” to this Report).

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): The proposed By-law amendment will add Entegra Credit Union to the Exchange District BIZ.

Policy Implications

(**X**) No

( ) Yes

Comment(s):

Regulatory Implications

(**X**) None

( ) Eliminates or reduces regulatory impact

( ) Proposes regulatory impact

Comment(s):

Environmental Implications

(**X**) No

( ) Yes

Comment(s):

Human Resources Implications

(**X**) No

( ) Yes

Comment(s):

Financial Implications

(**X**) Within approved current and/or capital budget

( ) Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s):

Report

REASON FOR THE REPORT:
The City of Winnipeg Charter provides for the creation of a Business Improvement Zone (B.I.Z.) by by-law. Changing the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ requires an amendment to the Exchange District Business Improvement By-law No. 8115/2002. Replacing a written description of the area of the BIZ with an easy-to-read map also requires an amendment to the By-law.

HISTORY:
By-Law No. 5081/89 created the Business Improvement Zone known as the "Exchange District" Business Improvement Zone". The Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law No. 8115/2002 continued this BIZ under the same name. Like all other BIZ By-laws, By-law No. 8115/2002 used a written description to set out the boundaries of the BIZ, rather than a map.

DISCUSSION:
Business Improvement Zones are governed by a set of procedures and required processes, which are laid out within the Business Improvement Zone Procedures By-Law No. 8111/2002. This By-Law specifies that Council may expand a BIZ Zone to add additional businesses if certain rules are followed, namely:

- A petition must be filed with the City from the applying businesses;
- The City Clerk must determine that the petition has been signed by more than 50% of the proprietors in the proposed additional area of the zone representing more than 50% of the total taxable business assessment in the proposed additional area;
- The City Clerk must give notice to all the businesses in the proposed additional area of the petition and must offer them an opportunity to object to joining the BIZ.

In this case, Entegra Credit Union is the only business in the block bounded by Lily, Alexander and Disraeli. All of these requirements have been met in this case. No objections were received by the City Clerk to the proposed alteration of boundaries to the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone. Accordingly, this Report recommends amending the area of the Exchange District BIZ to include the block bounded by Lily, Alexander and Disraeli.

In addition, in order to make the BIZ boundaries easier to identify, this Report recommends that the traditional written description of the boundaries of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone in Schedule "A" of By-Law No. 8127/2002 be replaced with a map showing the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ with the new expansion included in the Schedule. The proposed map is attached to this Report as Attachment "A". Besides showing the new area, which will be added by approval of Recommendation 1, the map will also correct some technical problems that had developed in the written description.

Financial Impact Statement Date: May 27, 2008

Project Name:

By-Law for the Boundary Expansion and Legal Description Amendment of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone

COMMENTS:

The recommendations contained in this report are that the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ be expanded to include the block bounded by Lily, Alexander and Disraeli; and that the written description of the Exchange District BIZ boundaries set out in Schedule "A" of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law be replaced with a map showing the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ with the new expansion included.

There are no financial implications associated with these recommendations.

"Original Signed By"
Mike McGinn, CA
Manager of Finance

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS:

Internal Consultation With and Concurrence By:
Legal Services
City Clerks
Chief Financial Officer
Assessment and Taxation

External Consultation with:
“Exchange District BIZ”

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Department: Planning, Property and Development Department
Division: Planning and Land Use
Prepared by: Martin Pasieczka
PPD File No. O:\Reports Directive\Planning and Land Use\Urban Planning Reports\2008 Reports\Exchange District BIZ Boundary Expansion.doc

Attachment "A"

