Minutes - Executive Policy Committee - July 9, 2008

Minute No. 420
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services - July 4, 2008

Item No. 3 Agreement with the Zoological Society of Manitoba to Erect an Animal Enclosure at the Assiniboine Park Zoo
File PR-7.1.1

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and submits the following to Council:

1. That the City of Winnipeg enter into an Agreement with the Zoological Society of Manitoba to construct an animal enclosure for the Zoo's Steller's Sea Eagles.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing, including developing the Agreement and facilitating construction as contemplated.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Steeves,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 4, 2008, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

RE: Agreement with the Zoological Society of Manitoba to Erect an Animal Enclosure at the Assiniboine Park Zoo

FOR SUBMISSION TO: Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: Clive Wightman, Director
Community Services Department

REPORT DATE: June 3, 2008

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the City of Winnipeg enters into an Agreement with the Zoological Society of Manitoba to construct an animal enclosure for the Zoo's Steller's Sea Eagles.

2. That the proper officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to develop the Agreement and facilitate construction as contemplated therein.

Report Summary

Key Issues:

- The Zoological Society of Manitoba is proposing to construct and pay for an animal enclosure for the Assiniboine Park Zoo's Steller's sea eagles.

- The Zoological Society has amassed sufficient funds to complete this project estimated at a cost of $200,000.

- An Agreement between the City of Winnipeg and Zoological Society of Manitoba is required to detail all terms relating to the project, including but not limited to project management, contractors, construction, insurance, performance, and possession.

- The Assiniboine Park Conservancy, which is expected to assume responsibility and authority for Assiniboine Park operations, is in agreement with plans for the proposed Zoo enclosure.

- Once constructed, under terms of the recommended Agreement, the City of Winnipeg will own the structure.

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 Zoological Society of Manitoba would enter into an Agreement to construct at their cost, an animal enclosure at the Assiniboine Park Zoo.

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):
There are no direct costs associated with developing the Agreement.
Design, professional and construction costs of the enclosure will be borne by the Zoological Society.
City of Winnipeg costs associated with engineering and design approval and project oversight will be covered by approved Assiniboine Park capital.
Long-term operating costs associated with the post and mesh structure will be minimal and will not require an addition to the approved operating budget.

Report

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

Approval of City Council is required to enter into an Agreement with the Zoological Society of Manitoba.

HISTORY:

The Zoological Society of Manitoba, Inc. operates under three separate Agreements with the City of Winnipeg to provide visitor services at the Assiniboine Park Zoo. The Zoological Society was started in 1956 as a support organization to the Assiniboine Park Zoo. Over the intervening decades, the Zoological Society has raised funds for numerous Zoo projects and developments including the Pandas in Person Project, development of the Winnipeg Down Under exhibits and the Kinsmen Discovery Centre.

DISCUSSION:

Since the arrival of the first of the Zoo's two Steller's sea eagles, the Zoo's partner organization, the Zoological Society of Manitoba (ZSM) has undertaken fundraising events and a dedication of operating profits in support of a new enclosure for the birds. ZSM has amassed sufficient funds to complete the project, estimated to cost approximately $200,000. Should overall costs of the project escalate, the Zoological Society reserves the right to either provide additional funding as required to offset any cost escalation or to postpone the project.

Board members of the Assiniboine Park Conservancy have been consulted on plans to erect the proposed animal enclosure. The Conservancy is expected to assume responsibility and authority for Assiniboine Park operations under terms of a Management Agreement with the City of Winnipeg. The Conservancy is in agreement with the proposed plans.

An Agreement between the City and ZSM with respect to their offer to erect an enclosure and gift it to the City is required. The Agreement will detail all terms relating to the project, including but not limited to project management, contractors, construction, insurance, performance, and possession. The Assiniboine Park Conservancy will be consulted on terms of the Agreement, and their concurrence sought.

Under terms of the Agreement, the City through its normal Planning, Property and Development Department processes, would oversee the project, ensuring inclusion of all professional architectural, engineering and construction elements as required.

Steller's sea eagles, the largest of the eagle species, were obtained by the Assiniboine Park Zoo in 2005 and housed in the enclosure for the Zoo's bald eagles. As the largest of the eagle species, the Zoo's Steller's sea eagles require a larger enclosure to enable the animals to move through the full range of physical motions they would normally perform.

The proposed enclosure will maximize the flight area for the birds, will provide nesting areas and protected space, flowing water and natural ground surface materials. The exhibit will be designed for ease of maintenance and longevity and will surpass all the requirements of the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Financial Impact Statement

Date: June 3, 2008

Project Name:

First Year of Program 2008

Agreement with ZSM to Erect an Animal Enclosure at the AP Zoo

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ 3,000				
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	3,000				
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					
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery					
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts					
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: City of Winnipeg costs associated with engineering and design approval and project oversight will be covered by approved Assiniboine Park capital.

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS:

Internal Consultation With and Concurrence By:

Planning, Property and Development Department, Building Services Division
Internal Services Department, Legal Services Division

External Consultation With:

6020

Zoological Society of Manitoba, Inc.
Assiniboine Park Conservancy, Inc.

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Community Services Department
Assiniboine Park Enterprise Division
Prepared by: Frank Caldwell, Manager, Assiniboine Park Enterprise
File No.