STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON

INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS

MOTIONS

Minute No. 685
Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,
Seconded by His Worship Mayor Katz,

WHEREAS public transit systems across Canada, including in Winnipeg, are funded by a combination of system-generated revenue, and operating grants from the Province and the City;

AND WHEREAS the costs for key inputs to Winnipeg's transit system, such as fuel costs and vehicle replacement, periodically increase;

AND WHEREAS it is fair and reasonable that transit riders bear a share of these cost increases;

AND WHEREAS public transit represents a vital means of transportation for many Winnipeggers who receive income assistance, enabling them to meet their family obligations and to seek or maintain employment;

AND WHEREAS Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision commits the City to promote equitable access to facilities and services by "ensuring all citizens have access to essential community services and facilities and facilitating access to financial support where there is an inability to pay" (Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision, section 2A-02, ii);

AND WHEREAS a transit system that is accessible to all Winnipeggers is an important contributor to employment and economic opportunity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Service prepare a report exploring means to link periodic transit fare increases directly and automatically to increases in the costs of key inputs, so that individual fare increases would no longer require separate Council approval;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the report also explore options for providing Winnipeggers below the Low Income Cut Off with transit passes at a more affordable cost, including the provision of a Universal Low Income Transit Pass, and/or "off-peak passes", the latter for use outside peak transit hours.

Automatic Referral to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works in accordance with Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law