STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON

INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS

MOTIONS

Minute No. 154
Moved by Councillor Gerbasi,
Seconded by Councillor Vandal,

WHEREAS on December 5th, 2008, the Winnipeg Park Police were given 90 days notice that they would cease to exist on March 2nd, 2009;

AND WHEREAS the staff will be reduced from 14 to 7 and "downgraded" to a new "park patrol" concept that will employ untrained seasonal staff as ambassadors;

AND WHEREAS response to crime in our parks is an issue of concern for citizens;

AND WHEREAS the proposed plan shifts the responsibility of dealing with crime issues in our parks to the already high workload of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS);

AND WHEREAS the new model will focus on the Assiniboine, Kildonan and St. Vital parks which could mean a lack of security in other City parks considering the high level of demand on the WPS for high priority calls;

AND WHEREAS the projected savings of $100,000 should be reinvested into park safety initiatives or the WPS rather than reducing coverage for City parks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the proposed changes to the status of the Winnipeg Park Police be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works for review;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Public Works Department and the Winnipeg Police Service be directed to provide further information regarding this matter to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works before this initiative proceeds.

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