Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – March 19, 2009

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – March 10, 2009

Item No. 5 Point Douglas River Crossing
eFile ST-7

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 10, 2009, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works recommends to Council:

1. That the Council Motion dated February 18, 2009 with respect to the Point Douglas River Crossing, be received as information.

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

Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – March 19, 2009

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 10, 2009, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works recommended that the Council Motion dated February 18, 2009 with respect to the Point Douglas River Crossing, be received as information and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Further on March 10, 2009, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works received submissions with respect to the February 18, 2009, Council Motion on the Point Douglas River Crossing from the following:

- Wanda Koop submitted a map entitled South Point Douglas Alternative Transportation Plan
- John G. Kubi, Chair, East-Kildonan Transcona Residents' Advisory Group, submitted a presentation dated March 10, 2009

COUNCIL DECISION:

On February 18, 2009, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, namely:

Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,
Seconded by Councillor Browaty,

WHEREAS no long-term transportation plan exists with regard to river crossings (bridges) and connecting regional streets for the Northeast Winnipeg/North and South Point Douglas area;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg, including the departments of Public Works and Winnipeg Transit, have both immediate and long-term plans to develop a number of new bridges and rehabilitate existing bridges in the North East Winnipeg/North and South Point Douglas area;

AND WHEREAS, in the 2009 Capital Budget and Five Year Capital forecast, the Public Works department intends on possibly rehabilitating the existing Louise Bridge as well as building a new Louise Bridge to meet existing and future traffic demands for a growing city;

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – March 10, 2009

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg Transit, as part of their dedicated rapid transit corridors, requires a new bridge over the Red River to service Northeast Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS each bridge project planned for the Northeast Winnipeg/North and South Point Douglas area are presently being planned and developed on a project by project basis, in isolation of each other;

AND WHEREAS there is growing public concern in both North East Winnipeg and Point Douglas over the lack of public input and long term planning over the existing Disraeli Bridge plan; corresponding pedestrian bridge plan, and future bridge works;

AND WHEREAS the City is currently undergoing a South Point Douglas Secondary Plan to guide the redevelopment of South Point Douglas;

AND WHEREAS there is a neighbourhood consensus that Higgins Avenue's current location and heavy traffic usage divides the South Point Douglas neighbourhood;

AND WHEREAS there is a growing consensus among residents of South and North Point Douglas that the proper redevelopment of South Point Douglas is contingent upon diverting traffic from Higgins onto the Disraeli Freeway;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Public Service be instructed to immediately facilitate a comprehensive Northeast Winnipeg/Point Douglas River Crossing Transportation Study, that would extensively involve the public, with the goals of maximizing limited capital dollars, minimizing impacts on existing neighbourhoods while concurrently guiding the city to ensure Winnipeg meets its existing and future transportation requirements;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations of this study be forwarded to Council for consideration prior to the awarding of the final contracts for the Disraeli Bridge Rehabilitation Project.