From: John Prystanski

Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program

Recommendation: The City of Winnipeg allows the HRTAP to register permit applicants who want to take advantage of the program at the beginning of the calendar year prior to the adoption of the operating budget.

Operation: The City of Winnipeg would start receiving applications for the HRTAP projects immediately at the beginning of the calendar year with the understanding from the applicant that if the program is discontinued, funding reduced, funds already allocated prior to a particular applicant receiving the benefit and or for any other reason not currently contemplated where funds are not available, the applicant is of the understanding the City of Winnipeg is not required to provide funding or would be held liable for a future year's commitment to that applicant or any other applicants.

Benefits:
1. Construction as it relates to the HRTAP can begin sooner.
2. Administrative resources are not stressed upon the adoption of the HRTAP whether it be in March - June which is the beginning of the peak construction period in late spring / early summer.
3. Provides better planning options for the homeowner, prevents inclement weather from controlling a building period. An early application period allows for better use of time during the construction period where the people in the building industry can use their administrative personnel for project management duties as opposed to permit applications.
4. May reduce the number of home owners who transfer funds from a capital project expenditure to an operations expenditure. This will ultimately mean more money is being committed to infrastructure development.