Minute No. 39
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - November 3, 2009

Item No. 1 Creation of a River Enhancement Agency
eFile E-5.1

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and adopted the following:

1. That the Riverbank Management Committee is of the view that exploration with other levels of government a Tri-level Partnership to create a stand alone agency to enhance our rivers, create economic opportunities along our rivers, and grow the number of people that experience our rivers is under the jurisdiction of the Executive Policy Committee.

2. That a financial analysis be provided to value the City's current work on the rivers, provide a general cost analysis on future works, and provide an estimate of required funding from each partner.

3. That the Public Service be requested to report back to the appropriate committee of Council in accordance with the foregoing.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Steeves,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 18, 2009, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 3, 2009, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the recommendation of the Riverbank Management Committee and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 15, 2009, the Riverbank Management Committee passed the following motion:

1. That the Riverbank Management Committee is of the view that exploration with other levels of government a Tri-level Partnership to create a stand alone agency to enhance our rivers, create economic opportunities along our rivers, and grow the number of people that experience our rivers is under the jurisdiction of the Executive Policy Committee;

2. That a financial analysis be provided to value the City's current work on the rivers, provide a general cost analysis on future works, and provide an estimate of required funding from each partner;

3. That the Public Service be requested to report back to the appropriate committee of Council in accordance with the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL:

On September 30, 2009, Council referred the following motion to the Riverbank Management Committee:

Moved by Councillor Swandel,
Seconded by Councillor Browaty,

WHEREAS Winnipeg is described as a River City with two main rivers and a variety of lesser tributaries;

AND WHEREAS the City owns land along these waterways that is under-utilized;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada has recently declared the Red River a Heritage river;

AND WHEREAS all citizens should have access to our rivers;

AND WHEREAS enhancing our rivers, and growing the number of people enjoying our rivers would be of economic benefit to the City and add to the quality of life of citizens;

AND WHEREAS greater access to our rivers would create a greater appreciation for their environmental importance;

AND WHEREAS the City has an existing capital budget commitment to enhancing our rivers;

AND WHEREAS partnerships like the Forks North Portage, Centre Venture and the Core Area Initiative have brought great value to the City of Winnipeg;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Service be directed to explore with the other levels of government a Tri-level Partnership to create a stand alone agency to enhance our rivers, create economic opportunities along our rivers, and grow the number of people that experience our rivers;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a financial analysis be provided to value the City's current work on the rivers, provide a general cost analysis on future works, and provide an estimate of required funding from each partner;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Mayor designate a member of the Executive Policy Committee as the project lead on this initiative.