Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – April 21, 2010

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services – April 8, 2010

Item No. 1 Police Cruiser Car Allocation
eFile GF-2

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 8, 2010, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services submits the following to Council:

1. That an extension of time of 30 days be granted to enable the Winnipeg Public Service to report back as directed by the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services on February 8, 2010.

2. 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:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 8, 2010, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services recommended that an extension of time of 30 days be granted to enable the Winnipeg Public Service to report back as directed by the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services on February 8, 2010, and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

On February 8, 2010, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services referred the Council Motion of January 27, 2010, to the Winnipeg Public Service for report back within 60 days.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On January 27, 2010, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Browaty,

WHEREAS the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) complement has gone from approximately 1255 officers as of December, 2004, to nearly 1350 officers as of December, 2009;

AND WHEREAS this much needed increase equals an impressive average increase in the WPS of nearly 20 new additional police positions a year for the last five years;

AND WHEREAS, not withstanding this tremendous increase in the police complement, due to both high call volumes and the new challenges that face modern policing, very often and at times such as weekends, the Winnipeg Police Service cannot guarantee that a police cruiser car will always be present in every ward of the city at all times;

AND WHEREAS via the annual City budget and taxation system, all of Winnipeg's communities contribute to the cost of the WPS and therefore ratepayers, no matter where they reside, deserve a minimum level of police presence at all times;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

AND WHEREAS prior to Unicity, independent municipalities such as Transcona, Charleswood, or North Kildonan, just to name a few examples, were always guaranteed a minimum level of police presence at all times;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council establish a policy that clearly states, without exception, that the WPS will be required to maintain a minimum of one police cruiser car on duty in every one of Winnipeg's 15 Wards at all times;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service and the Winnipeg Police Service determine the resources that will be required to fulfill this new policy direction, with the goal of minimizing any new costs and maximizing the use of existing resources.