MAYOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FIRST QUARTER REPORT 2011

The Mayors' Environmental Advisory Committee is pleased to submit a summary of its activities for the first quarter (January 1st to March 31st) of 2011.

GOVERNANCE AND MEETINGS

MEAC held three regular meetings during the first quarter of 2011: January 17, February 14 and March 21.

DELEGATIONS HEARD

At its January 17 meeting MEAC heard a presentation by Robyn Webb, Stefan Epp and Paul Chorney of the Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group. The presentation was entitled "Food and the City" and described the Canadian municipal role/experience with food.

MEAC'S ACTIVITIES

1 Discussion of Strategic Priorities

MEAC continues to work on the creation of recommendations related to the four remaining key priorities identified at the Committee's Strategic Planning sessions on September 22 and October 17, 2009:

- An educational program around the environment and sustainability
- A passive solar demonstration project
- A regional approach to transit
- A policy for active transportation amenities in all City infrastructure projects

A strategic planning session will be held in the coming quarter to review and update the Committee's strategic plan.

2 Waste Minimization Strategy Recommendations

On March 22, 2010 Mayor Katz Mayor invited MEAC members to put together options or ideas on the creation of a comprehensive waste minimization strategy for the City and share them with his office for his consideration. A finalized list of recommendations was provided to Mayor Katz during the third quarter of 2010. At the suggestion of Mayor Katz, the Committee undertook an additional prioritization exercise and, during the first quarter of 2011, provided a refined list of recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO THE MAYOR

The Committee did not put any recommendations forward during the first quarter. However, as noted above, work on strategic priorities and in other areas continued.

PLANS FOR 2011 AND BEYOND

1 Energy Efficiency

In the coming quarter, MEAC will explore the issue of energy conservation and efficiency. Presentations from local energy experts will be requested as part of the Committee's research.

2 Continuing Work on Strategic Priorities

During the second quarter of 2011, MEAC will continue development of recommendations to the Mayor regarding identified strategic priorities noted in "MEAC's Activities" above.

3 Renewal of Strategic Plan

Also during the second quarter of 2011, a MEAC planning session will take place to review progress since the last strategic plan (October 2009) and to determine future priorities.

HISTORY

Section 4.1 of the Terms of Reference for the Mayor's Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) states that "MEAC shall provide advice and informal reports to the Mayor as requested and shall report formally to the Mayor with recommendations on a quarterly basis. Recommendations provided by MEAC will flow through the Mayor to City Council and / or the City's Public Service, as required."

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

Jeffrey Hartry

Councillor Russ Wyatt

MEAC Co-chairs on behalf of MEAC members:

Miriam Cohen-Krajden
Amanda Dunnigan
Anders Swanson
Stephanie White-Willitts
Neil Cunningham (ex-officio – Province of Manitoba)
William Dowie
Robert Spewak
George Toth
Kelsey McCuspey