Minute No. 280
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Public Works - March 11, 2003

Item No. 3 Temporary Signs in Public Rights of Way
File SC-3.1 (Vol. 4)

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council amended the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, as amended by the Executive Policy Committee, and adopted the following:

1. That "the Temporary Street Signs By-law" be adopted and come into force and effect as of May 1, 2003.

2. That the By-law be reviewed in 12 months by the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works.

3. That St. Anne's Road (Fermor Avenue to St. Mary's Road) and St. Mary's Road (St. Anne's Road to Queen Elizabeth Way) be added as part of the Trans-Canada Highway image route.

4. That Corydon Avenue and Roblin Boulevard between Shaftesbury Boulevard and the West City Limit be designated as an "Image Route" and be added to Appendix "A" of the Temporary Street Signs By-law.

5. That the words "Charleswood Parkway" be deleted from Appendix "A" of The Temporary Street Signs By-law and replaced with the words "Roblin Boulevard".

6. That boulevard Provencher be designated as an "Image Route".

7. That boulevard Provencher be added to Appendix "A" of The Temporary Street Signs By-law.

8. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be requested to prepare the necessary by-law in accordance with the foregoing and submit same directly to Council for approval.

9. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing, including the execution of any documents related thereto.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Angus,
That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, as amended by the Executive Policy Committee, be adopted.

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Angus,
Seconded by Councillor Lazarenko,
THAT the item, as amended by the Executive Policy Committee recommendation, be further amended by:

- Deleting the words “That Corydon Avenue, Roblin Boulevard and Grant Avenue” and replacing with the following words “That Corydon Avenue and Roblin Boulevard” in Recommendation 4; and

- Deleting the words “Charleswood Parkway” and replacing with the following words “Roblin Boulevard” in Appendix “A” of The Temporary Street Signs By-law.

Carried

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Vandal,
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Thomas,
BE IT RESOLVED that the item be further amended by designating boulevard Provencher as an “Image Rouge” and adding boulevard Provencher to Appendix “A” of The Temporary Street Sign By-law.

Carried

The recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, as amended by Executive Policy Committee, and further amended by Council, was put and declared carried.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 18, 2003, the Executive Policy Committee amended the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works, by adding the following Recommendation as number 4 and renumbering the remaining Recommendations, namely:

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued)

"4. That Corydon Avenue, Roblin Boulevard and Grant Avenue between Shaftesbury Boulevard and the West City Limit be designated as an "Image Route" and be added to Appendix "A" of The Temporary Street Signs By-law."

and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 11, 2003, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works concurred in the administrative recommendations, as amended, namely:

- That "the Temporary Street Signs By-law" be adopted and come into force and effect as of May 1, 2003.
- That the By-law be reviewed in 12 months by the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works.
- That St. Anne's Road (Fermor Avenue to St. Mary's Road) and St. Mary's Road (St. Anne's Road to Queen Elizabeth Way) be added as part of the Trans-Canada Highway image route.
- That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be requested to prepare the necessary by-law in accordance with the foregoing and submit same directly to Council for approval.
- That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing, including the execution of any documents related thereto.

and submitted its recommendation to Executive Policy Committee and Council.

On February 11, 2003, the Committee laid consideration of the matter over to the meeting of the Committee scheduled for March 11, 2003.

On January 13, 2003, the Committee laid consideration of the matter over to the meeting of the Committee scheduled for February 11, 2003.

On December 10, 2002, the Committee directed that the Administration report back to the meeting scheduled for January 13, 2003.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued)

On June 25, 2002, the Committee moved the following motion, namely:

1. That the matter be referred to all Community Committees for review and comment back directly to the Administration, including suggested changes to the proposed by-law.

2. That the Administration be directed to prepare a draft by-law to come into effect January 1, 2003, imposing reasonable regulations that could include the following:
   a. no signs be permitted on traffic islands or medians.
   b. no sign be allowed to block any traffic control sign.
   c. maximum size and height restrictions be specified.
   d. they not be within a specified distance from an intersection.
   e. they not be within a specified distance from the traveled portion of the street.
   f. they be removed within a specified period of time.
   g. the owners name, address and phone number be printed on the sign.
   h. any sign not complying with the bylaw be dealt with as a nuisance and may be removed immediately.
   i. any permitted temporary sign may be removed in order to allow the city to repair and maintain anything within the Right of Way. These signs would be held for a period of time to allow the owner to reclaim them, after which they would be disposed of.
   j. certain materials not be used to attach temporary signs to the boulevard.
   k. no signs be permitted on image routes.

And further that the Administration be requested to report back with a proposed by-law as soon as possible and that persons involved in the sign industry and all other interested parties be invited to participate in a public hearing.

That the three Provincial political parties be notified once the proposed by-law has been prepared.

Winnipeg

Public Works Department

Re: TEMPORARY SIGNS IN PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

For submission to: STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

Original report signed by: J.A. Thomson, P. Eng., Director of Public Works

Report date: February 25, 2003

In Camera item: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Recommendation(s):
That this report and attached draft by-law be received as information.

Report Summary

Key Issues:

1. Temporary Signs within the Right of Way have continued to be a source of concern due to their impacts on the safety of motorists and pedestrians, the traffic hazards they create and the visual blight and clutter they cause.
2. At its last meeting the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works directed the administration to prepare and forward a draft by-law regulating signs in street rights-of-way.

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General Implications

- ☐ None
- ☐ For the organization overall and/or for other Departments
- ☒ For the community and/or organizations external to the City of Winnipeg
- ☐ Involves a multi-year contract

Comment:

Policy Implications

- ☐ No
- ☒ Yes

Comment:

Financial Implications

- ☒ Within approved current and/or capital budget
- ☐ Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment:

Report

Recommendation(s):
That this report and attached draft by-law be received as information.

It is recommended St. Annes Rd. (Fermor Ave to St. Mary's Rd.), and St Mary's Rd. (St. Annes Rd. to Queen Elizabeth Way) as part of the Trans-Canada Hwy is added as an image route.

The Standing Policy Committee on Public Works is requested to provide a date the by-law will become effective.

Reason for the Report:
At its last meeting the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works directed the administration to prepare and forward the attached draft by-law regulating signs in street rights-of-way.

History:
The by-law is based on the recommendations of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works from the June 25, 2OO2 meeting.

Discussion:
The following comments are offered in regard to the sections of the draft by-law:

1. Section 3. This section lists the various existing by-laws regulating all types of signs, in all areas of the city, and whether on private or public property, and states that the draft by-law does not apply to signs permitted by those by-laws. This by-law would not apply to signs on private property and the Downtown area governed by by-law 4800-88.

2. Section 4. This section prohibits signs on the 25 streets listed in Appendix A to the by-law, out of approximately 3800 streets in Winnipeg. The streets were selected based on the fact that they are all major arterial roads, with an average weekday traffic count of more than 20,000 vehicles, have a speed limit of greater than 60 kph on at least a portion of the street, and are divided or one-way. Image routes, as designated by City Council, were also included.

   St. Annes Rd. (Fermor Ave to St. Mary's Rd.), and St Mary's Rd. (St. Annes Rd. to Queen Elizabeth Way) are considered part of the Trans-Canada Hwy route and therefore have been added as an image route.

Given the nature of these streets, their traffic volume, speed and characteristics, it was determined that for safety reasons and/or the visual blight on image routes, it was necessary to ban all temporary signs on these streets.

3. Section 5. This section lists the general requirements for signs on streets where they are permitted.

Generally the restrictions are designed to prevent the driver's attention from being distracted, to reduce obstructions to visibility and to prevent pedestrians being obstructed.

Subsection (3) is necessary in order to prevent the most important signs, namely traffic signals and signs, from having their function being interfered with or impaired in any way.

Subsection (5) is included because temporary signs should not be hung from a tree, for example. Metal stakes and wire are not allowed as they may become projectiles if hit by maintenance equipment and they are also responsible for damaging that equipment.

Subsections (6) and (12) establish set backs from curbs and sidewalks in order to prevent distractions and to reduce obstructions to visibility and pedestrians. Boulevards are wide enough that even with these restrictions there is sufficient room to place signs.

Subsections (7) and (8) are designed to place a reasonable limit on how long these signs may be displayed as permanent signs are not allowed in the right-of-way. It should also help to prevent signs from becoming worn or damaged and thus more likely to be blown into traffic.

Subsection (11) prevents mobile signs from being in a right-of-way. Mobile signs are allowed on private property and are regulated under several by-laws listed in section 3.

Subsection (15) requires that the name and phone number of the person responsible for placing the sign, or causing it to be placed, be on the sign. As well, the date on which the sign was placed on the street must be on the sign. The purpose is to facilitate the City's ability to contact sign owners, enforce the by-law and determine the date the sign should be removed.

Subsection (18) prevents any signs being placed on medians or traffic islands due to safety and visibility concerns and as well to not impair the use of certain medians and boulevards which are designed to create an escape route for drivers.

4. Sections 6 and 7. These sections deal with the removal of signs. If a sign does not comply with the by-law it may be removed immediately and destroyed. A sign which complies with the by-law, but which needs to be removed to allow for street maintenance or repairs, will be retained for three business days and may be reclaimed within that time by the person who placed it in the street.

5. Section 8. This section modifies the display rule for garage sale signs to only allow them to be put up one day prior to the garage sale.

6. Section 9. This section modifies the display rule for election signs. It is a continuation of the provisions which were in the Winnipeg Zoning By-law No. 6400/94.

7. Sections 11 and 12. These are consequential amendments to three other city by-laws in order to have consistency and to eliminate potential conflicts between by-laws.

8. Section 13. The by-law would come into force on (to be specified by the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works) in order to allow time for persons wishing to display signs governed by the by-law to become familiar with the requirements of the by-law.
9. It should be noted that the proposed by-law does not, at this time, require a permit or the payment of any fee. The reasons for this are that costs would not be reflected in a reasonable permit fee, would likely be regarded as prohibitive for most persons putting up signs, and enforcement would be impractical for existing field staff. Public Works believes that the provisions of the proposed by-law will be efficient, effective and allow for rights-of-way to be maintained appropriately.

10. A budget of $3000 will be required for printing and advertising.

11. See attached Appendix “A” for a map of the prohibited areas.

In preparing the report, there was consultation with and concurrence by Legal Services.

This Report Submitted by:

Department:	Public Works Department	
Division:	Engineering Division	
Prepared by:	T. Chuback & D. Buhr	Phone No: 986-3480
Processed by:	T. Chuback.....	Phone No: 986-3480
File name:	PW_TEMPSIGNS_REPORT	

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** August 23,2002

Project Name:

Temporary Signs in Public Rights of Way

COMMENTS:

As recommendation for this report deals with only a change in policy, there is no financial impact.

Original Signed by D. Stewart, C.A.
Manager of Finance & Administration

Approved by Department Assistant Controller: ?