Minute No. 613
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – September 11, 2012

Item No. 1 Reduction to the Speed Limit in Residential Areas

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back in 90 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works on the Council Motion of July 18, 2012.

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:

Moved by Councillor Vandal,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works be adopted by consent.

Carried

(See Minute No. 612 for opposition recorded by Councillors Browaty, Fielding and Havixbeck)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 19, 2012, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 11, 2012, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works recommended that the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back in 90 days on the Council Motion of July 18, 2012, and submitted to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Dr. Lynne Warda, Winnipeg Regional Healthy Authority, was heard in support of reducing the Residential Speed Limits and submitted supporting documentation.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On July 18, 2012 Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works:

Moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

WHEREAS in the interest of improving road safety for children, City Council is considering reducing speeds to 30 km/h in some school zones in Winnipeg to be in force Monday to Friday, 07:00 – 17:30, during the months of September to June;

AND WHEREAS road safety for children is a concern also outside of school zone boundaries and at all times, particularly at neighbourhood parks and playgrounds and around homes;

AND WHEREAS according to experts, a pedestrian or a cyclist hit at 50 km/h is two to three times more likely to die as one hit at 40 km/h and injuries and property damage are also greatly reduced at a lower speed;

AND WHEREAS the City of Edmonton recently reduced speed limits to 40 km/h in several residential neighbourhoods with a 25% drop in severe collisions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council ask the Winnipeg Public Service to consider lowering the residential speed limit in Winnipeg to 40 km/h.