Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – February 12, 2014

Minute No. 145
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management – February 3, 2014

Item No. 1 Funding for the 2014 River Trail

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management and submitted the following to Council:

1. That a grant in the amount of $40,000.00 from the Riverbank Stabilization Special Projects budget to the Festival du Voyageur to assist with costs associated with the 2014 River Trail be approved, subject to the following conditions:

    A. Submission of invoice for eligible costs to the satisfaction of the Winnipeg Public Service.

    B. Compliance with all applicable codes, regulation and By-laws of the City, including obtaining all necessary permits, licenses, and approvals.

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

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management – February 3, 2014

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 3, 2014, the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Funding for the 2014 River Trail

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management, Executive Policy Committee, Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
J. Kiernan	B. Thorgrimson	M. Ruta, CFO	D. Joshi, A-CAO

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Standing Policy Committee approve a grant in the amount of $40,000.00 from the Riverbank Stabilization Special Projects budget to the Festival du Voyageur to assist with costs associated with the 2014 River Trail subject to the following conditions:

    a. Submission of invoice for eligible cost to the satisfaction of the Public Service
    b. Compliance with all applicable codes, regulation and By-laws of the City, including obtaining all necessary permits, licenses, and approvals.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

The Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management reports to Council and is responsible for matters relating to the management of river-related issues, which usually cross departmental lines and conventional reporting relationships.

By-law No 48/2011, March 2011, amended the Standing Policy Committee's roles and responsibilities to include those formerly administered by the Riverbank Management Committee.

As such, grants and funding commitments from the Waterways current budget related to programming including river related issues may be considered and approved by the Committee (Section 13.4 (c)).

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- The City of Winnipeg has supported for over 20 years the creation, programming and maintenance of the Festival's outdoor events. The Festival's request for 2014 is for $50,000.00, an increase of $10,000.00 from the $40,000.00 in core funding of the last several years; this excludes a one-time increase for the 40th anniversary of the Festival in 2009. The Public Service is recommending as previously approved the amount of $40,000.00 as a contribution towards the river trail costs.

- Approval of The City of Winnipeg's core funding allows matching partnership opportunities for the two operating partners.
- Funding is available in the 2014 Waterways operating budget to support the proposed activities.

HISTORY

The City of Winnipeg controls rivers and streams within its boundaries pursuant to the City Waterway By-law 5888/92. This By-law identified regulated Waterway areas and established a new procedure for dealing with Waterway Permits and Orders within the regulated areas of the City with fees collected based on the value of the works undertaken within the regulated area. Waterway Permits are issued for a broad spectrum of projects including residential construction, commercial developments, riverbank stabilization, floodplain developments and City infrastructure works.

Revenues from the Waterway permit applications are used to undertake research and special projects; for example, rock column research with the University of Manitoba; maintenance of the Riverbank Asset Management System (RAMS) in conjunction with the University of Manitoba; key riverbank stabilization studies; and the River Trail in partnership with Festival du Voyageur and The Forks North Portage.

Festival du Voyageur was founded in 1969 to create an event that would celebrate the French Canadian *joie de vivre*. The Festival operates as an organization with three business sectors: the 10-day winter festival; the River Trail; and Fort Gibraltar. The initiative has become a winter tradition in Winnipeg offering family programming and special events through January and February.

The River Trail features warming huts, skating rinks in the historic port, curling sheets and weekend programming. The Funds are used to provide free programming for families and help market the project and festival as a premier winter destination.

No other City financing has been requested for this project.

**See Appendix A for the Grant Application and Documentation

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: December 30, 2013

Project Name:
Funding for the 2014 River Trail

First Year of Program 2014

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 40,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 40,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	40,000	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: Direct costs consist of the recommended grant of $40,000. There is sufficient approved budget in place within the Waterways current budget to fund this request.

"Original signed by"
Mike McGinn, CA
Manager of Finance

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

N/A

SUBMITTED BY

Department:	Planning, Property and Development
Division:	Urban Design
Prepared by:	J Kiernan
Date:	January 27, 2014
File No.:	O:\Reports Directive\Planning and Land Use\Urban Design Division\2014\ RIS - Festival River Trail Funding – 2014

UD2014-005

Appendix A - Grant Application and Documentation

Festival du Voyageur

233, boulevard Provencher Boulevard · Winnipeg · MB · Canada · R2H 0G4
Tél./Tel. 204.237.7692 · Téléc./Fax 204.233.7576 · info@heho.ca

November 1, 2013

John Kiernan
Manager Urban Design
Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbanks
15-30 Fort St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4X5

SUBJECT: Funding for the River Trail 2014

Mr. Kiernan,

The River Trail is a joint initiative between le Festival du Voyageur and the Forks that has been going on for well over 20 years. In the past few years, the trail has helped Festival and the city receive important media coverage and has helped promote Winnipeg has a winter destination.

The goals set out by the River Trail – to encourage active living and participation in winter activities – were met with great success this past year. Created for all Winnipeggers and visitors to enjoy, this community event helps build a winter playground unique to our area. The River Trail is helping put Winnipeg on the map in winter as it continues to gain in popularity and grow its international reputation due to distinctive projects like the Art and Architecture Warming Huts Competition that attracts architectural firms from around the globe.

In October of 2013, Assiniboine Credit Union, the River Trail's title sponsor announced that it was not renewing its annual sponsorship of the trail due to budget constraints. This represented a 50% reduction in our overall budget which covers operating, programming and marketing costs. Our team worked diligently with our partners to redevelop our plans so that this impact would not be felt by participants on the trail. These budget constraints resulted in fewer programmed weekends; however the programming that did take place was terrific and continues to please our visitors. Moreover, there are a greater number of third party events taking place on the trail which fill any gaps. The community has really gotten behind the River Trail as they chose to hold their events at this unique location.

The City of Winnipeg has been a long-time supporter of this initiative and for that, we are truly thankful. In the past several years, the City has generously contributed $40,000 and we hope the city is able to increase this level of commitment for the upcoming edition of the River Trail. This year marks the 45th edition of the Festival du Voyageur and we wish to deliver unique and innovative programming on the River Trail to celebrate our anniversary over the long weekend (first weekend of the Festival). We respectfully ask for an increase in this year's funding to $50,000. The only increase we have received over the past 20 years or more was a one-time increase for our 40th anniversary.

In the past, the City has been able to accommodate the Festival by advancing the funds in early January so we can respect our contractual obligations associated with creating the River Trail. We are hoping that we can count on the advanced funding again.

Should you require additional information or have any questions, feel free to contact me at 237-7692 ext 236 or on cell at 962-7766.

Sincerely,

Ginette Lavack Walters
Executive Director

CC Daniel Vandal, St-Boniface Councillor

RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

1. Organization:	Name: **FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR INC.**	
	Payee (if different than above):	
	Address: 233 Provencher Blvd. Winnipeg (MB)	
	Postal Code: R2H 0G4	Phone No. (204) 237-7692
2. Contact Person with whom the City can communicate:	Name: Ginette Lavack Walters, Executive Director	
	Address/Phone No.: 233 Provencher Blvd. (204) 237-7692 x 236	
3. Total Grant Requested:	$50,000	
4. Project Schedule:	River Trail – January 3rd to March 2nd, 2014 – 45th Festival du Voyageur	
5. Amount received in prior year:	$40,000 annually since over 20 years (one-time increase to $50,000 in 2009 for 40th anniversary edition)	

6. Organization's purpose:
The Festival du Voyageur inc. was founded in 1969 by entrepreneurs that wanted to create an event that would celebrate the French-Canadian *joie de vivre*. Its mission is to *Be a beacon of our francophonie and joie de vivre throughout the year by creating artistic, educational, historical and cultural experiences inspired by the voyageur era.* The Festival du Voyageur corporation's mission is brought to life through our annual 10-day winter festival, programming on the River Trail as well as through our year-round operation of Fort Gibraltar.

7. Name and description of project for which funds are requested:

The River Trail is a true partnership between the Festival du Voyageur and The Forks. Every year, these two organizations work together to create a winter gem to increase the opportunity of winter, outdoor, activities through the Assiniboine and Red Rivers. The River Trail is also a great way to link together several different communities through the magic of ice and winter!

This initiative has become a winter tradition in Winnipeg and has evolved immensely in the last five years. More and more community groups, private enterprises and other organizations taking part bringing their unique event or programming to the trail making it come alive. In addition to programming provided by the Festival du Voyageur, the number of third party events held on the river trail makes it a happening place where people can come by to see the action or take part in numerous events taking place.

The impact of the River Trail has been significant, both from a public awareness perspective and in terms of its contribution to a healthy winter recreational lifestyle. The River Trail features warming huts, skating rinks in the Historic Port, curling sheets and weekend programming provided by Festival du Voyageur. This initiative allows Winnipeggers to enjoy our rivers, even in the winter time.

The funds that are requested will be used to provide free programming for families at various times in January and February. Moreover, since 2014 marks the Festival's 45th anniversary, we have special programming we'd like to initiate on the first weekend of the Festival which is the February long weekend (Louis Riel Day). We hope you will consider an increase in our funding to help us develop and even greater presence on the River trail and provide more enjoyment to people of all ages.

8. Indicate if other sources of funding have been received from the City of Winnipeg for this or other projects and/or towards the annual operation of the Organization. If so, describe.

No other city financing has been requested for this project. Festival du Voyageur inc. receives an annual operating grant from the Winnipeg Arts Council and also receives some in-kind services for the operations of Festival du Voyageur – the 10-day winter Festival.

9. All other sources of funding:	1. Province of MB ($68,000) – Labour Grant and Other
	2. The Forks ($50,000)
	3.
Date: October 31, 2013	*Signing Officer:*

Winnipeg

If applicable attach the following information to the application:		
Business Plan	Financial statements, including statement of expenditures and revenue	Operating budget

Submit completed application to: Riverbank Management Committee Council Building, 510 Main Street Winnipeg, MB R3B 1B9	**City Clerk's Department** **Phone: 986-3856** **Fax: 947-3452** **Email: iskundberg@winnipeg.ca**

GUIDE TO APPLICANTS

In respect to item 7 of the Riverbank Management Grant Application, the following should be included

- the objectives of the project (i.e. what you intend to accomplish with this project).
- how this project will accomplish those objectives.
- how the project supports riverbank management objectives.
- if the completed project requires funding for its annual operating and maintenance costs. explain how the required funding will be provided.
- if possible, provide a site plan and specifications for this project.
- project schedule including cash flow of grant funds.

STANDARD GRANT AWARD CONDITIONS

If approved as a Riverbank Management Grant, the City of Winnipeg will require that the following standard conditions be met:

1. Invoices for eligible costs must be submitted to the satisfaction of the Winnipeg Public Service.

2. The applicant will be required to obtain all necessary permits, licenses and approvals and to comply with any and all applicable codes, regulations and By-laws of the City.

3. Project is to be completed within the schedule stipulated in the Grant application and all invoices are to be submitted to the satisfaction of the City of Winnipeg no later than the date defined by the Riverbank Management Committee in its approval of the Grant.