Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – July 16, 2014

REPORTS

Item No. 2 Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg – Further Research

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE RECOMMENDATION:

1. That a consultant be hired to create an Off Leash Dog Park Master Plan for the City of Winnipeg.

2. That up to $100,000 be committed in the upcoming 2015 – 2019 capital budget discussions for this project.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COUNCIL DECISION:

On May 27, 2014, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the "Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Park in Winnipeg" report be received as information.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to conduct further research on the matter and report back to the Executive Policy Committee in July, 2014.

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

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 21, 2014, the Executive Policy Committee did not concur in the recommendations of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services, and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the "Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Park in Winnipeg" report be received as information.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to conduct further research on the matter and report back to the Executive Policy Committee in July, 2014.

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

Further on May 21, 2014, the Executive Policy Committee received from Donna Henry, Director, Winnipeg Network of Dog Owner Groups (WINDOG), a communication dated May 21, 2014, in opposition to Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 12, 2014, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: **Further Research on the Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg – Capital Project for Consideration**

Critical Path: **Executive Policy Committee**

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
David A. Domke	B.W. Sacher	M. Ruta	D. Joshi

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a consultant be hired to create an Off Leash Dog Park Master Plan for the City of Winnipeg.
2. That up to $100,000 be committed in the upcoming 2015 – 2019 capital budget discussions for this project.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On May 27, 2014 Council received and concurred with the May 21, 2014 Executive Policy Committee recommendation that:

1. The "Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Park in Winnipeg" report be received as information.
2. The Winnipeg Public Service be directed to conduct further research on the matter and report back to the Executive Policy Committee in July, 2014.
3. The Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to address a number of concerns with the existing "Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg," an "Off Leash Dog Master Plan" is envisioned. This master plan would build from the existing document, and include a number of other components such as:

- Developing a vision, goals, and objectives for off leash dog parks in Winnipeg,
- Continued research in additional jurisdictions that have off leash dog parks,
- Develop options for off leash dog parks including capital and operating funding alternatives,
- Make recommendations for implementation,
- Complete a broad range of consultation activities including open houses, a web survey to solicit views on dog parks, newsletters, internet input, meetings with stakeholders (including all off leash dog groups and the Winnipeg Humane Society).

Given the complexity of this work, the Public Service recommends that a consultant be hired through the Request for Proposal process. The study is expected to cost up to $100,000 and is to be funded through the capital budget.

HISTORY

At the May 21, 2014 meeting of the Executive Policy Committee, the Winnipeg Network of Dog Owner Groups (WINDOG) made a presentation with concerns regarding the proposed "Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg". For example, the concerns included inadequate consultation to a lack of future planning and development of dog parks. As a result, the Executive Policy Committee

did not concur with the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services on May 12, 2014.

On May 12, 2014, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services concurred with the recommendation of the public service that the “Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Park in Winnipeg” report be endorsed as a guide the Winnipeg Public Service will refer to when making decisions about existing and future off-leash dog parks.

On June 5, 2012, the Public Service commissioned a study by Dean Spearman that included a jurisdictional review of other dog parks, existing facilities in Winnipeg, and guidelines for the development of existing and future dog parks. The study entitled “Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg”.

In the January 30th, 2012 Administrative Report to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services, the Public Service identified that many off-leash sites in the City have specific issues and concerns related to their use as off-leash dog areas. These include adjacency to busy roads, sharing the site with incompatible users, too many users in too small a space, and increased public demand for amenities, etc. Other concerns include sites that are prone to development pressure due to their proximity to, or location on private property not under the control of the City of Winnipeg.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: June 12, 2014

Project Name:

Further Research on the Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg - Capital Project for Consideration

First Year of Program **2015**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Cash to Capital	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ 100,000				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: This project is not included in the five year forecast of the 2014 adopted capital budget and should be referred to the 2015 budget process.

"Original Signed by D. Stewart, CA"
D. Stewart, CA
Manager of Finance & Administration

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with: n/a

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Public Works
Division: Parks and Open Space
Prepared by: J. Ewart, Superintendent East Area & D. Domke, Manager of Parks and Open Space
Date: June 12, 2014