Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – January 21, 2015

Moved by Councillor

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than 96 hours preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

ADDENDUM REPORTS

Item No. 10 Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee Third and Fourth Quarterly Reports for the period of July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 19, 2015, the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee recommended to the Executive Policy Committee that the 2014 Second Quarter Report be received as information.

Housing and Strategic Initiatives Division

Activity Report to the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee
2014 Quarter 3 (July 1 to September 30)

Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve

- Seven projects were approved by the Director for a total of $364,620.
- Twenty-three Payment Claims for progress on existing approved projects were processed for a total of $283,526.

Activities and Accomplishments

- Division staff provided an update of the Winnipeg Housing Policy Implementation Plan to the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee.
- Division staff attended three meetings of Housing Stakeholders (monthly or bi-monthly meetings) in Housing Improvement Zone neighbourhoods where funds are allocated from the City's Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve. These meetings serve as a means to facilitate regular communication with community stakeholders regarding housing concerns and opportunities in targeted neighbourhoods.
- Division staff attended five meetings of the Visitability Task Force project undertaken by the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies, as part of its commitment to increase the supply of visitable housing in Winnipeg. The task force is planning a fall Webinar in partnership with the Canada Housing and Renewal Association, and is preparing to provide information on visitability in several upcoming housing conferences.
- Division staff attended several community events, including the Accessibility Awards dinner (as a member of the Visitability Task Force), Chalmers Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation and a Rooming House Community meeting.
- Division staff attended two meetings hosted by Community Services By-law Enforcement Services to discuss issues surrounding Rooming Houses in Winnipeg. These meetings, which included representation from various divisions of the Community Services Department and the Planning, Property and Development Department, represent a collaborative internal effort to better understand and address issues regarding Rooming Houses in Winnipeg.
- Division staff participated in a meeting of the Rooming Housing Task Force, created as a result of the Rooming House Forum held in the spring of 2014. The Task Force is co-chaired by the Province (Rob Altemeyer) and the City (Councillor Gerbasi), and includes representation from the City, the Province, community advocates and rooming house landlords. A sub-committee was struck to review recommendations provided by the community, and division staff attended the first of these meetings (hosted by the Province).

- Division staff hosted two meetings with staff from the Departments of Planning, Property and Development and Community Services regarding establishing criteria for Reinvestment Areas. Draft criteria and data sources were considered and discussed by the group.

Housing and Strategic Initiatives Division
Activity Report to the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee
2014 Quarter 4 (October 1 to December 31)

Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve

- Seven projects were approved by the Director for a total of $95,085.
- Twenty-two Payment Claims for progress on existing approved projects were processed for a total of $274,795.

Activities and Accomplishments

- Division staff attended five meetings of Housing Stakeholders (monthly or bi-monthly meetings) in Housing Improvement Zone neighbourhoods where funds are allocated from the City's Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve. These meetings serve as a means to facilitate regular communication with community stakeholders regarding housing concerns and opportunities in targeted neighbourhoods.
- Division staff attended three meetings of the Visitability Task Force project undertaken by the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies, as part of its commitment to increase the supply of visitable housing in Winnipeg.
- Division staff attended one meeting hosted by Community Services By-law Enforcement Services to discuss issues surrounding Rooming Houses in Winnipeg. These meetings, which included representation from various divisions of the Community Services Department and the Planning, Property and Development Department, represent a collaborative internal effort to better understand and address issues regarding Rooming Houses in Winnipeg.
- Division staff participated in four meetings of a subcommittee of the Rooming Housing Task Force, created as a result of the Rooming House Forum held in the spring of 2014. The Task Force is co-chaired by the Province (Rob Altemeyer) and the City (Councillor Gerbasi), and includes representation from the City, the Province, community advocates and rooming house landlords. The sub-committee was struck to review recommendations provided by the community, and will present recommendations to the task force in its January meeting.
- Division staff made several public presentations on request regarding housing and housing policy:
    - A presentation on the Winnipeg Housing Policy was given at the Winnipeg Rental Network Fall Forum.
    - A presentation on affordable housing and homelessness was given to students participating in the Youth in Philanthropy conference held in Winnipeg.
    - A presentation on housing policy specific to visitability in housing was given in a Webinar hosted by the Canada Housing and Renewal Association.

- Division staff attended several community events, including the William Whyte Residents Association AGM, the North End Housing Project AGM, and a Statistics Canada presentation on Aboriginal demographics in Winnipeg.
- Division staff hosted one meeting with staff from the Departments of Planning, Property and Development and Community Services regarding establishing criteria for Reinvestment Areas. Draft criteria and data sources were considered and discussed by the group.
- Division staff met with non-profit and for-profit proponents to discuss potential housing projects in Winnipeg. These meetings were preliminary meetings to provide information on potential assistance from the City and discuss how projects would fit within the City's Housing Policy.