STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON

INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 593
Councillor Browaty noted that the Public Works Department allocated funding to Winnipeg Transit starting in 2009 for a new electronic fare collection system and asked when this new technology would be in place and why has there been such a delay.

Councillor Lukes replied that the new system would not be be going live until all testing was complete and the system was fully operational.

Councillor Browaty inquired about transit buses that were out of service and the backlog in servicing them. He asked if the Chair would be amenable to asking Winnipeg Transit to provide updates and options for getting more buses back on the road.

Councillor Lukes advised she had asked the Director of Transit to provide an update. She indicated that Transit was adhering to the current schedule in addressing the backlog.

Councillor Eadie asked for an update regarding the agreement with partners related to waste management at the Brady Landfill. He inquired about when the new depot would be started in the northwest area of the city.

Councillor Lukes responded that the Brady Landfill issue was progressing. She advised that she and the Water and Waste Department were co-hosting an Open House on the Brady Landfill and on new depots on October 22, 2015.

Councillor Eadie inquired if the details of the fare box issue had been addressed and as some people were reliant on bus tickets, if Winnipeg Transit could report back on their plan for both.

Councillor Lukes advised she would ask Winnipeg Transit for an update.

Councillor Wyatt asked if the delay in street repairs was because the Public Works Department was in complete disarray and did not have control over their local improvement street budget, or was it because private contractors control the schedule.

Councillor Lukes took Councillor Wyatt's comments under advisement and reminded everyone that a record amount of road construction, $103 million, would take place.

Councillor Wyatt asked if the Chair would consider more competition in the private sector.

Councillor Lukes took his comments under advisement.

Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – Question Period (continued):

Councillor Wyatt asked why the Water and Waste Department was breaking policy and not reporting multi-million dollar projects such as the North East Interceptor River Crossing Upgrade to the Standing Policy Committee on Finance in their quarterly updates.

Councillor Lukes advised she was not aware of the situation, but would follow up and deal with the matter appropriately.

Councillor Gillingham asked if other jurisdictions use different maintenance programs that get their buses back on the roads quicker.

Councillor Lukes advised that the Director of Transit was using the best practices available, but that she would investigate further.

Councillor Wyatt asked if the Chair was aware that he and his community were grateful for the adoption of matters from the Active Transportation Study.

Councillor Lukes advised yes and thanked Councillor Wyatt.