Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – February 10, 2016

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – February 1, 2016

Item No. 1 Grant Funding for the 2016 River Trail

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment and submitted the following to Council:

1. That a $40,000 grant be approved for Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation to assist in the development, maintenance and programming of the 2016 River Trail, subject to a grant agreement being entered into between the City and The Forks Renewal Corporation and Festival du Voyageur Inc. setting out terms and conditions.

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the funding agreement between the City and Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation for the river trail, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of all future similar funding agreements between the City and Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation for the river trail, in accordance with terms and conditions similar to those set forth herein and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

4. 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 Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – February 1, 2016

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Mayes,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 1, 2016, the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: **Grant Funding for the 2016 River Trail**

Critical Path: **Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment, Executive Policy Committee, Council**

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO/COO
K. McKim	J. Kiernan	M. Ruta	M. Jack COO

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a $40,000 grant be approved for Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation to assist in the development, maintenance and programming of the 2016 River Trail, subject to a grant agreement being entered into between the City and The Forks Renewal Corporation and Festival du Voyageur Inc. setting out terms and conditions.

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the funding agreement between the City and Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation for the river trail, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of all future similar funding agreements between the City and Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation for the river trail, in accordance with terms and conditions similar to those set forth herein and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

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

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Pursuant to City of Winnipeg By-law 7100-97, Section 13.2, the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment shall exercise the following powers and duties:

(a) To consider and report to Council through the Executive Policy Committee on matters respecting:

(vi) The management of river-related issues which usually cross departmental lines and conventional reporting relationships, and specifically:

(G) consider reports on an issue-by-issue basis for the benefit of the Standing Policy Committees and Council so that river-related issues may be considered in an informed and structured manner;

Council must approve all grants to external organizations including commitments from the Waterways budget related to programming and projects. Council approval is also required to enter to an agreement with Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Winnipeg has supported the creation, maintenance and programming of the Festival's outdoor events and the River Trail for over 20 years. The River Trail features warming huts, skating rinks in the historic port, curling sheets and weekend programming. The funds are used to develop and maintain the Trail, provide free programming for families, and help market the Project as a premier winter destination. Approval of The City of Winnipeg's core funding grant allows matching partnership opportunities for the two operating partners.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Approval of The City of Winnipeg's core funding allows matching partnership opportunities for the two operating partners.
- Funding is available in the 2016 Waterways operating budget to support the proposed activities.

HISTORY

The Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment 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.

For over 20 years, The City of Winnipeg has supported the creation, programming and maintenance of the Festival's outdoor events. Over the last several years, the Grant has been for $40,000, with the exception of a one-time increase for the 40th anniversary of the Festival in 2009.

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); key riverbank stabilization studies; and the River Trail in partnership with Festival du Voyageur Inc. and The Forks Renewal Corporation.

Festival du Voyageur Inc. 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 develop and maintain the trail, 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 21, 2015

Project Name: **First Year of Program** **2016**

Grant Funding for the 2016 River Trail

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
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	40,000	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: Expenditures consist of the $40,000 grant. Funding for this grant is included in the Department's 2016 Operating Budget submission.

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

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

Legal Services (as to legal issues)

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

02-2 Environment

- Promote the use of rivers and riverbanks

01-5 Recreation

Direction 1: Promote and enable opportunities for all age groups to be active as part of their daily lives

Direction 2: Work with community partners to provide services that are responsive to the community's recreation and leisure needs.

Direction 4: With community partners, participate as a leader in planning and delivering recreation and leisure services in Winnipeg.

03-3 Creativity

Direction 3: Support a wide range of arts and cultural facilities

SUBMITTED BY

Department:	Planning, Property and Development
Division:	Urban Design
Prepared by:	K. Thiessen, Riverbank Management Engineer
Date:	December 15, 2015
File No.:	O:\Reports Directive\Planning and Land Use\Parks, Waterways and Community Initiatives\Kendall Thiessen\2015\RIS - Festival River Trail Funding - 2016 (legal reviewed).docx

Appendix A - Grant Application



Ltr FDV_River Trail grant_2016.pdf



FDV_River Trail grant app signed_2016.pdf

Festival du Voyageur

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

October 13, 2015

John Kiernan
Director of Planning, Property and Development
Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbanks
15-30 Fort St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4X5

SUBJECT: Funding for the River Trail 2016

Mr. Kiernan,

Planning for the 2016 edition of the Red River Mutual Trail is well under way and Le Festival du Voyageur would like to submit our request for funding for the 2016 River Trail.

Created for all Winnipeggers and visitors to enjoy, this community event helps build a winter playground unique to our area that encourages active living and participation in winter activties. 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 and a Fashion Show on the ice which we hope to grow locally, nationally and internationally.

For the past two winters people enjoying the River Trail have been treated to a unique new Festival du Voyageur trading post called ***Rendez-Vous on Ice*** over the Louis Riel long weekend. Skaters, and passers-by of all ages warmed up by one of the many first pits and enjoyed top-notch local entertainment, warm and delicious French Canadian food as well as a bar. We also organized the second outdoor winter fashion show called ***Fashion on Ice*** where 12 local designers' unique winter attire was on display – despite the cold, the show did go on and was a big hit! As always, there were numerous free family activities to keep the youngsters entertained with our ***Family Fun day*** on Louis Riel Monday. Our team is already hard at work planning the programming which is sure to build on the unique offerings from last year.

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 maintain this level of commitment. This year marks the 47th edition of the Festival du Voyageur and we wish to yet again deliver unique and innovative programming on the River Trail and the city's support in invaluable in helping us achieve that. We respectfully request that funding be advanced in early January so we can respect contractual obligations associated with creating and programming the River Trail.

Should you require additional information or have any questions, feel free to contact me at 204-258-2550 or on cell at 962-7766.

Sincerely,

Ginette Lavack Walters
Executive Director

CC Matt Allard, St-Boniface Councillor

HEHG.CA

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) 258-2550	
3. Total Grant Requested:	$40,000	
4. Project Schedule:	River Trail – January 1st to February 28th, 2016 – 47th Festival du Voyageur	
5. Amount received in prior year:	$40,000	

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* and stimulate the economy in the winter months. Our mission is to *Promote joie de vivre and extend the reach of French language and culture throughout the year through 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 on 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 number of years. More and more community groups, private enterprises and other organizations taking part are 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, a restaurant on the frozen river, and free weekend programming provided by Festival du Voyageur. There is so much diversity in what is offered making this project a one of kind initiative where all Winnipeggers and visitors can enjoy our rivers, even in the winter time.

The funds that are requested will be used to provide free programming for families as well as programming with a definite Festival flavor on the opening weekend of our annual festival including a trading post on the river with local entertainment and a fashion show on ice with local designers.

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 $41,170 – Labour Grant and Other
	2. The Forks $77,000
	3. Festival du Voyageur $18,575
Date: October 13, 2015	*Signing Officer:*