Minute No. 136
Report – Executive Policy Committee – January 18, 2017

Item No. 3 Exchange District Business Improvement Zone Boundary Expansion and Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone Boundary Withdrawal

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That a By-law be enacted (draft attached as Attachment "B") to amend the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law No. 8115/2002 to expand the boundaries of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone.

2. That a By-law be enacted (draft attached as Attachment "C") to amend the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone By-law No. 8114/2002 to exclude a defined area from the boundaries of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone.

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

Report – Executive Policy Committee – January 18, 2017

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 18, 2017, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: By-Law for the Boundary Expansion of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone and the Boundary Withdrawal of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
G. Holmes	J. Kiernan	n/a	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Exchange District BIZ and Downtown Winnipeg BIZ, continued by By-Laws No. 8115/2002 and No. 8114/2002 (respectively), are two of the sixteen Business Improvement Zones within the City of Winnipeg.

The City Clerks Department received a petition from *Canadian Footwear*, a business located at 128 Adelaide Street and *Western Paint & Wallcovering*, a business located at 521 Hargrave Street, requesting the relocation of these properties, from the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ to the Exchange District BIZ. The request followed consultation with both BIZ Zones regarding the business interest in aligning the BIZ Zone boundaries to reflect their physical presence, identity and connection to the surrounding business community.

This request is reflected by virtue of realigning the "Proposed Area to be realigned from Downtown Winnipeg BIZ to the Exchange District BIZ" as identified on Attachment "A".

The proposed withdrawal and expansion follows the processes and procedures prescribed within the Business Improvement Zone Procedures By-Law No. 8111/2002 for withdrawing an area and adding an area to the existing Business Improvement Zones.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council enact a By-law (draft attached as Attachment "B") to amend the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law No. 8115/2002 to expand the boundaries of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone.

2. That Council enact a By-law (draft attached as Attachment "C") to amend the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone By-law No. 8114/2002 to exclude a defined area from the boundaries of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone.

3. 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

The City of Winnipeg Charter provides for the creation of a Business Improvement Zone (BIZ) by by-law. Changing the boundaries of the Exchange District and Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zones (the "Exchange District BIZ" and "Downtown Winnipeg BIZ", respectively) requires an amendment to the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law No. 8115/2002 and to the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone By-Law No. 8114/2002.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no regulatory implications resulting from the proposed recommendations.

HISTORY

The City of Winnipeg By-Law No. 5081/89 created the Business Improvement Zone known as the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone (the "Exchange District BIZ"). The Exchange District Improvement Zone By-Law No. 8115/2002 continued the Exchange District BIZ under the same name.

The City of Winnipeg By-Law No. 5080/89 created the Business Improvement Zone known as the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone (the "Downtown Winnipeg BIZ"). The Downtown Winnipeg Improvement Zone By-Law No. 8114/2002 continued the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ under the same name.

Business Improvement Zones ("BIZ") are governed by a set of prescribed processes and procedures outlined within the Business Improvement Zone Procedures By-Law No. 8111/2002 which grants Council the authority to withdraw and expand the boundaries of a particular BIZ, if certain steps are followed, namely:

1) A petition must be filed with the City signed by more than 50% of the proprietors in the proposed withdrawal area or the additional area of the zone representing more than 50% of the total taxable business assessment in the proposed area of the zone;

2) The City Clerk must give notice to all the businesses in the proposed withdrawal area and the proposed additional area of the petition and must offer them an opportunity to object to the BIZ boundary contraction or the expansion; and

3) The City Clerk must ensure that no more than one-third of the businesses in the proposed withdrawal/additional area representing at least one-third of the total taxable business assessment of the proposed withdrawal/additional area of the BIZ have objected in writing to the boundary withdrawal or the expansion prior to the date set by the Clerk.

A petition was submitted by *Canadian Footwear*, a business located at 128 Adelaide Street and *Western Paint & Wallcovering*, a business located at 521 Hargrave Street. The petition request followed consultation with both BIZ Zones regarding the 'business' interest in aligning the BIZ Zone boundaries to reflect their physical presence, identity and connection to the surrounding business community.

This request is reflected by virtue of realigning the "Proposed Area to be realigned from Downtown Winnipeg BIZ to the Exchange District BIZ" as identified on Attachment "A".

The Public Service confirmed that these two businesses located within the area are the only two taxable business in the block bounded by William Avenue, Adelaide Street, Bannatyne Avenue and Hargrave Street, and that all Business Improvement Zone Procedures By-law requirements have been met.

The City Clerks Department confirmed that no objections were received for the proposed withdrawal of these properties from the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ and that no objections were received for the proposed addition of these properties to the Exchange District BIZ boundary.

Accordingly, the Winnipeg Public Service is recommending that Council

- enact the amending By-law, a draft of which is attached hereto as Attachment "B", to expand the boundaries of the Exchange District BIZ; and
- enact the amending By-law, a draft of which is attached hereto as Attachment "C", to exclude a defined area from the boundaries of the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** December 15, 2016

Project Name:

By-Law for the Boundary Expansion of the Exchange District Business Improvement Zone and the Boundary Withdrawal of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone

COMMENTS:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

"Original Signed By"
Mike McGinn, CPA, CA
Manager of Finance

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

City Clerks
Assessment and Taxation
Legal Services (as to legal issues)
Exchange District Business Improvement Zone
Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01- A City that Works (Direction 4): Collaborate with all public, private and community economic development agencies to advance economic advantages.

Expansion of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone supports a thriving and vibrant Downtown as a citywide destination.

01- A City that Works (Direction 8): Encourage Activities Beneficial to the Winnipeg Economy.

Supporting the location and expansion of businesses within multiple business sectors supports economic growth both within the downtown community and city overall.

02- A Sustainable City (Direction 6) Plan for the sustainable development of healthy neighbourhoods based on their particular historic identity and character.

Support of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone and its expansion allows for the development of active, distinct, sustainable and vibrant districts.

03 – Quality of Life (Direction 6): Promote cleanliness and beautification.

Expansion of the Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone will enhance support for distinct identity, design and programs that enhance and promote the aesthetic appeal of public spaces and districts.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Planning, Property and Development
Division Office of the Director, Economic Development Branch
Prepared by: Martin Pasieczka, Economic Development Officer & BIZ Liaison
Date: December 14, 2016

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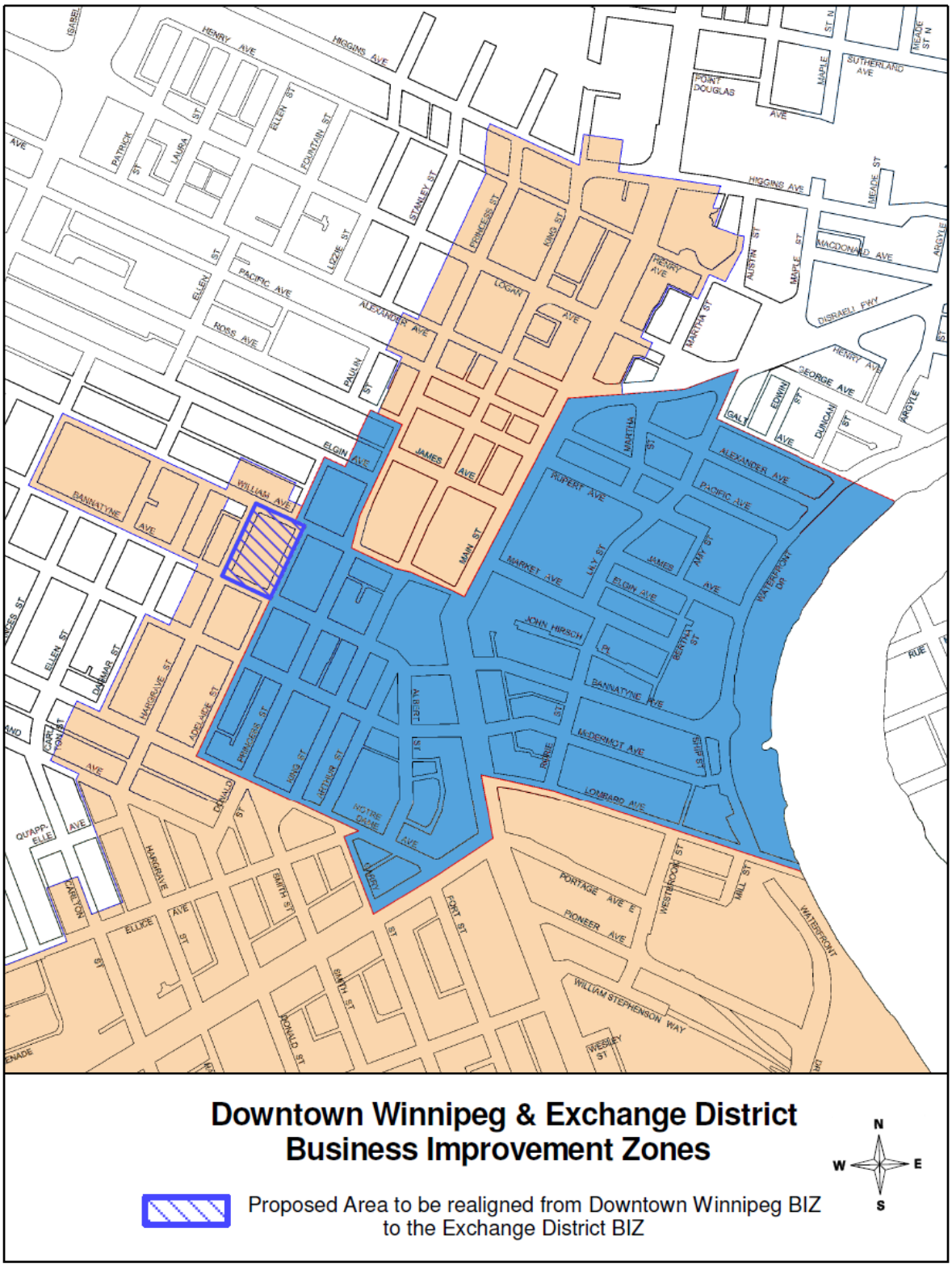
Attachments:

1. Attachment “A” – Downtown Winnipeg and Exchange District Business Improvement Zones proposed boundary changes
2. Attachment “B” – Draft Amending By-law (Exchange District Business Improvement Zone By-law)

3. Attachment "C" – Draft Amending By-law (Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone By-law)

Attachment "A"



Attachment "B"



Amending By-law - Exchange District BIZ

Attachment "C"



Amending By-law - Downtown BIZ By-law