Minute No. 338
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – April 18, 2017

Item No. 2 Grant Agreement with The City of Winnipeg, CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada for CN EcoConnexions From the Ground Up Program 2017

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and adopted the following:

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a grant agreement with CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada for the CN EcoConnexions From the Ground Up Program for 2017, and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and the Ancillary Agreements, in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director fo Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of all future similar agreements with CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada, in accordance with this report 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.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks be adopted.

Carried

Councillors Wyatt asked to be recorded as having voted against the item in accordance with Rule 47(7) of the Procedure By-law.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 19, 2017, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 18, 2017, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

On April 10, 2017, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks laid over the matter to a Special Meeting at the call of the Chairperson.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Grant Agreement with The City of Winnipeg, CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada for CN EcoConnexions *From the Ground Up* Program 2017

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks - Executive Policy Committee - Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
D. Domke	L. P. Deane, P.Eng.	B. Holsten Boyer	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CN EcoConnexions *From the Ground Up* is a program sponsored by CN, Tree Canada and Communities in Bloom to provide funding of up to $25,000 for the greening of municipal properties across Canada, especially in communities where CN operates. The City of Winnipeg is the recipient of a $25,000 grant for 2017 for a program entitled *Natural Heritage Forest – Protecting the Genotypes of our Native Forest.* The Public Service will deliver the program and engage with a number of community groups.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a grant agreement with CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada for the CN EcoConnexions *From the Ground Up* Program for 2017, and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and the Ancillary Agreements, in accordance with this report 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 Financial Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of all future similar agreements with CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada, in accordance with this report 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

Council approval is required for the City to enter into the grant agreement.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The grant agreement must be signed and returned no later than April 28, 2017 otherwise the grant will be cancelled.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

In November 2016, the Public Service successfully applied for funding to CN EcoConnexions *From the Ground Up* Program in the amount of $25,000 for 2017. This program is sponsored by CN, Tree Canada and Communities in Bloom to provide funding of up to $25,000 for the greening of municipal properties across Canada, especially in communities where CN operates. The intent of the program is to enhance the environmental and social well-being and health of communities by encouraging those communities along the CN corridor to establish tree plantings in a sustainable, environmentally responsible manner.

The Public Service will engage with a number of community groups in tree planting projects focused on establishing natural forest areas using plant material propagated from trees and shrubs existing in our natural heritage areas. The use of truly native plant material will help to protect our unique natural heritage features and also promote biodiversity by preserving local genotypes. Working with community groups will assist in their efforts to beautify their neighbourhoods and also promote volunteer efforts to improve the tree canopy in Winnipeg. As part of this project, the City of Winnipeg will also develop a resource of native genotypes for various species and continue work on protecting our unique natural heritage. The civic nursery lands will be used to establish this resource.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: February 10, 2017

Project Name:

First Year of Program **2017**

Grant Agreement with The City of Winnipeg, CN, Communities in Bloom and Tree Canada for CN EcoConnexions From the Ground Up Program 2017

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
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	$ 25,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	25,000	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: The financial impact statement has been prepared on the assumption the incremental direct costs incurred will be limited to the amount of the grant received.

"Original Signed by J. Ruby, CPA, CA"
J. Ruby CPA, CA
Manager of Finance & Administration

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with: Legal Services

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

The report is in accordance with the OurWinnipeg policy to Protect and Enhance the Urban Forest, 02-2 Environment, and Direction Strategies of 'Complete Communities' and 'A Sustainable City'.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Public Works
Division: Parks and Open Space
Prepared by: Martha Barwinsky, City Forester
Date: February 10, 2017