Minute No. 569
Report – Executive Policy Committee – September 20, 2017

Item No. 7 Open Government Annual Review

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That this report, and the attached Appendix 1 - Open Government Annual Review, dated September 2017, be received as information.

Report – Executive Policy Committee – September 20, 2017

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 20, 2017, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

Administrative Report

Title: Open Government Annual Review

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
F. Wiltshire	F. Wiltshire	n/a	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On February 15, 2017, Council approved the City of Winnipeg Open Government Policy, which provides a framework for the Public Service to continue to move towards being more open, transparent, and accountable.

The objectives set out in the Policy, as with the Policy itself, are not intended to be static, but rather they are anticipated to be dynamic in nature, as they will continue to be shaped by dialogue with both citizens and City departments. The principles and action items which are set out in the Policy are non-exhaustive, as new ideas and outcomes may, and should, develop over time.

The Open Government Annual Review aims to provide a summary of the work that has been done to date on Open Government in the City of Winnipeg, and to outline work that is ongoing and planned for the future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report, and the attached Appendix 1 - Open Government Annual Review, dated September 2017, be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On February 15, 2017 Council adopted the following recommendation:

"That Council approves the City of Winnipeg Open Government Policy (Appendix A) and direct the Public Service to report back annually on Open Government Policy implementation at the City of Winnipeg"

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no implications of the recommendations.

HISTORY / DISCUSSION

Over the past decade citizens have been passionate about informing themselves on local community issues and engaging in government policy. Direct access to information and openness and transparency at all levels of government is being demanded in order to empower citizens.

The City of Winnipeg has components of an open government framework but does not have an all-encompassing standardized policy that is implemented City-wide.

On March 20, 2013, Council adopted an Open Data Initiative which endorsed the principles of providing Open and Accessible Data that could be shared with citizens, businesses and other jurisdictions the greatest amount of data possible while respecting privacy and security concerns.

On June 25, 2014, Council adopted the "Open Government Initiative - Improvements to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Process" which directed the Winnipeg Public Service to implement a new process for Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) requests. This process would focus on the concepts of openness and transparency in providing government data, while ensuring privacy and security of data for citizens and businesses, in keeping with the Open Data Initiatives adopted by Council.

On September 16, 2015, Executive Policy Committee requested that the Public Service conduct a review of all city data sharing and identify opportunities to apply machine readable format along with a review of security and privacy considerations and report back within 90 days.

On October 26, 2015 the City Clerk's office prepared a report outlining leading open government initiatives in other jurisdictions and broad recommendations on next steps for the City of Winnipeg in implementing open government.

On November 18, 2015 the Chief Administrative Officer was directed to implement an open government policy across all Departments in the City of Winnipeg, and to develop an Action Plan for Council's endorsement within 6 months.

On July 13, 2016, Council approved the Open Government Action Plan, and directed the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on an Open Government Policy by February 2017.

On February 15, 2017, Council approved the City of Winnipeg Open Government Policy and directed the public service to report back annually on open government initiatives that have been undertaken.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date: September 1, 2017**

Project Name: Open Government Annual Review

COMMENTS:

There are no financial implications as this report is for information purposes.

Original signed by G. Resnik
Guillermo Resnik
Acting Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

Chief Innovation Officer
City Clerk's
Office of Public Engagement
Legal Services

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

Not applicable.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: F. Wiltshire, Director, Customer Service & Communications
Date: September 1, 2017



Open Government Action Items.docx