Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 19, 2019

REPORTS

Item No. 23 Commitment from the Province of Manitoba for Street Renewal Funding

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DECISION:

The Executive Policy Committee received the matter as information.

(See Budget Review Item 22)

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

That the matter be received as information.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 7, 2019, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works passed the following motion:

WHEREAS investing in road renewal continues to be a top priority for Winnipeggers as roads are the City's largest capital asset, and the 2019 preliminary capital budget proposes significant investments in this key area;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba made a five-year, $250 million funding commitment in March 2014 to rebuild roads and sidewalks in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the aforementioned five-year, $250 million funding commitment made by the Province of Manitoba included $50 million per year to be paid in the years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 inclusive;

AND WHEREAS Council approved the 2018 Operating and Capital budgets in December 2017 with the understanding that the Province of Manitoba would fulfill its final $50 million payment for roads;

AND WHEREAS the adopted 2018 Operating and Capital budgets included a recommendation that $50 million of the 2018 provincial capital funding for the City of Winnipeg be used to fund road projects, $40 million of which would be directed to Regional and Local Street Renewal with the remaining $10 million for other road projects;

AND WHEREAS the 2018 budget year has now closed and projects have been completed with the understanding that the City of Winnipeg would be receiving the final $50 million road payment from the Province of Manitoba;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has recently made a unilateral decision to not fully fund the final year of the aforementioned five-year, $250 million funding commitment to the City of Winnipeg that expired at the end of the 2018 calendar year;

AND WHEREAS recent written correspondence from the Province of Manitoba confirms only $10 million for City roads funding in 2018, leaving a $40 million shortfall;

AND WHEREAS the 2019 Preliminary Operating and Capital budgets propose to cover $20 million of the $40 million provincial funding shortfall from 2018 using resources from the Local Road Renewal Reserve in 2019, with the remainder of this shortfall to be covered in 2020;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba could choose to provide the City with the outstanding $40 million road payment in 2018 from the existing total Provincial capital commitment of $83.6 million for the City of Winnipeg in 2018/19;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council immediately call upon the Province of Manitoba to provide the outstanding $40 million to fulfill the final $50 million payment to the City of Winnipeg for the 2018 roads program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council immediately call upon the Province of Manitoba to establish a go forward commitment towards local road renewal for the City of Winnipeg in 2019 and beyond.