Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – April 9, 2019

REPORTS

Item No. 6 Federal Gas Tax Funding

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That up to $20 million of Winnipeg's additional federal gas tax funding in 2019 be allocated to support:

    A. $19.25 million of residential road renewals, with specific roads to be determined by the Director of Public Works, based on existing project selection and asset management framework;

    B. $750,000.00 for three active transportation projects including the Leila Avenue Functional Bicycle Facility Study, Keewatin St Pathway bicycle corridor functional design study and the West Broadway to University of Winnipeg bicycle corridor functional design study.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to immediately prepare and release the necessary tenders for the above noted $20 million of residential roadwork and active transportation projects in 2019, with tender awards, subject to confirmation and receipt of the City's additional gas tax funding from the federal government.

3. That $2.5 million from the additional federal gas tax funding be allocated to support capital investments in roadside safety measures in 2019, subject to confirmation and receipt of this additional funding, and the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the appropriate standing committee on what investments can be undertaken in 2019.

4. That up to $20 million of the City's additional federal gas tax funds be invested in road renewals and active transportation projects in 2020, to be determined as part of the 2020 multi-year budget process.

5. That any remaining balance of the additional federal gas tax funding beyond the aforementioned investments in road renewals, roadside safety capital and active transportation be allocated to projects that are determined as part of the 2020 multi-year budget process.

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

WHEREAS the recent 2019 federal budget proposes to invest an additional $2.2 billion through the Federal Gas Tax Fund to address short term infrastructure priorities for municipalities and First Nation Communities.

AND WHEREAS this additional federal investment of $2.2 billion will result in Winnipeg receiving approximately $40 million of additional federal gas tax funding in 2019, which is an estimate based on existing agreements and parameters of the Federal Gas Tax Fund;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Gas Tax Fund can be used to support municipal projects including but not limited to the renewal, construction or enhancement of local/residential roads and bridges, public transit as well as sport and recreation infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg's exact share and timing for receiving the additional gas tax funding in 2019 still must be confirmed by the federal government;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg's 2019 adopted Capital Budget contains no significant residential road renewals due to the City backfilling a $40 million provincial road funding shortfall from 2018, and lack of a provincial funding commitment for local/residential road renewals in 2019 and beyond;

AND WHEREAS the 2019 City Capital Budget funds the aforementioned $40 million provincial road shortfall from 2018 through the Local Road Reserve in the amount of $20 million in 2019 and $20 million in 2020.

AND WHEREAS the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works recently passed a motion calling on Council to allocate the additional federal gas tax funds of approximately $40 million in 2019 to local street renewal and active transportation projects;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

AND WHEREAS there is merit in allocating a portion of Winnipeg's additional gas tax funds for residential road renewals and active transportation projects given that these projects are required and tenders can be awarded immediately after the City receives confirmation of the additional federal gas tax funding;

AND WHEREAS there is also merit in allocating a portion of the additional gas tax funding to increase the City's current capital investment in roadside safety improvements, recognizing the immediate critical nature of these investments;

AND WHEREAS there is merit to investing the remainder of the additional federal gas tax funding in road renewals, active transportation projects and potentially other projects in 2020.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That up to $20 million of Winnipeg's additional federal gas tax funding in 2019 be allocated to support:

    A. $19.25 million of residential road renewals, with specific roads to be determined by the Director of Public Works, based on existing project selection and asset management framework;

    B. $750,000.00 for three active transportation projects including the Leila Avenue Functional Bicycle Facility Study, Keewatin St Pathway bicycle corridor functional design study and the West Broadway to University of Winnipeg bicycle corridor functional design study.

2. That the Winnipeg Public service be directed to immediately prepare and release the necessary tenders for the above noted $20 million of residential roadwork and active transportation projects in 2019, with tender awards, subject to confirmation and receipt of the City's additional gas tax funding from the federal government.

3. That $2.5 million from the additional federal gas tax funding be allocated to support capital investments in roadside safety measures in 2019, subject to confirmation and receipt of this additional funding, and the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the appropriate standing committee on what investments can be undertaken in 2019.

4. That up to $20 million of the City's additional federal gas tax funds be invested in road renewals and active transportation projects in 2020, to be determined as part of the 2020 multi-year budget process.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

5. That any remaining balance of the additional federal gas tax funding beyond the aforementioned investments in road renewals, roadside safety capital and active transportation be allocated to projects that are determined as part of the 2020 multi-year budget process.

and forwarded to Council.

Carried

Councillor Mayes asked to be recorded as having voted against the above motion, in accordance with Rule 47(7) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.