COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Thursday, May 16, 2019

The Council met at 9:35 a.m.

The Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Lukes.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Schreyer.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Madam Clerk. I would like to now recognize our page for today's meeting. Please welcome Pearson Montgomery who resides…who attends Kelvin High School and resides in the Charleswood-Tuxedo-Westwood Ward. Welcome. We will now move into morning announcements. Mr. Mayor, you have the floor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker and good morning to everyone. I also want to wish everybody a good morning that's joined us in the gallery as well as those that are watching via livestream or on television. At the end of April, I was very happy to join with members of Council to recognize departing members of our public service through the Annual Civic Retirees Luncheon. It's a great event. It's always a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the great work done by so many individuals over the many years. It's also a great opportunity to offer our gratitude for their commitment to moving our city forward. Let me say this, here again today, to members of our public service who are listening today, thank you for the work that you are doing each and every day on behalf of the citizens that we all serve. And I do want to single out someone who will be at next year's luncheon who is with us here today who will be retiring within days, and that's, of course, our CAO, Mr. Doug McNeil. As members of council and the public will know, Doug has a distinguished career in public service both here at the City, at the Province and then again back at the City. And I know I join all members of Council in thanking him for joining our team in a leadership capacity as CAO just over four years ago. And during that time we've got to know him personally as well as, of course, professionally. He has helped oversee some very positive changes at the City of Winnipeg as we continue to move Council, the City, Public Service as well as the City overall forward and grow our city and Doug has been instrumental in leading the professional public service and doing so with integrity. And I just want to thank Doug for all of his efforts. You know, being in a position like CAO is a thankless job. It's like being a member of Council or serving as mayor. There's competing public policy demands and political pressures and I think he has served us very well. And I just want to ask all members of Council to join me in a round of applause to thank Doug for his work. And let's get our value out of him over the next week and make sure that he's working right to 4:30 sharp. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. So he is not quite done yet. I do have a few other additional announcements. The beginning of May I joined big city mayor colleagues in Vancouver to discuss affordable housing, alongside with leading experts from across Canada. And we discussed ways that municipalities could adjust their policies to help address issues around affordable housing. Of course those issues are very acute in Vancouver and in Toronto and other cities, but we have our issues here as well in Winnipeg. Here in Winnipeg, housing is a provincial responsibility. However, there are and there may be policy waivers that we could better use to contribute towards solutions for the citizens that need more affordable housing including rental housing. There were some great discussions, opportunities for us to learn from what other cities are doing. There were many ideas shared, and I see opportunities for our Housing Steering Committee to consider some of those ideas. So I look forward to sitting down and speaking with my council colleagues on the Housing Steering Committee including Councillor Gilroy to discuss what we learned and what we could consider here, and what lessons we may have for other municipalities. At a very high level, I'll just say, it was…what we saw in cities that is if we don't take more actions sooner, it will catch up with us probably in five, ten years and that there are some needs that we need to better attend to here now to learn and see what's happening in other cities. So lots more discussion ahead. May 4th marked the first home game for Valour FC in return to professional soccer and I…soccer to Winnipeg and I know there were a number of councillors that are here right now that were in attendance, sporting of course our Valour FC colours. It was a great day, great weather, lots of supporters out. Unfortunately, the first game didn't go the way that we had hoped, but it was a great product. And I just want to thank all those responsible for bringing professional soccer back to Winnipeg, starting with Wade Miller and the Winnipeg Football Club. And also, of course, some local players whom I know are known very well by especially Councillor Santos and her husband, Jeff who helped train and are responsible for all of their success, and all of their

failures are responsible of their new coaches. And so we just want to wish them all the very best and it's exciting to have professional soccer back here. Last week I was very pleased to help acknowledge and recognize the efforts of some amazing people in our community through the annual Mayor's BIZ Awards, Madam Speaker. Each of the Business Improvement Zones really play a key role in boosting our local economy and community pride. We're very fortunate to have so many people that care deeply about their neighbourhoods, to commit themselves, their time towards making their communities the best that they can absolutely be. Thank you once again to this year's winners as well as all of the individuals and organizations who continue to do important work through our BIZ organizations. That same day, later in the day, I was very happy to host members of our Muslim community for Ramadan prayers and a reception at City Hall and I was joined, again, by several of my council colleagues. It was very good that we were able to welcome so many members of our Muslim community to City Hall for now what is an annual event. This was the second year that we've hosted. And for those citizens who aren't aware, in Ramadan, Muslims fast from food or drink…food and drink during sunlight hours. Of course, sunlight hours are long at this time of the year, and so it is something that is…it's really incredible to witness the humility, the self-control and the compassion of members of our Muslim community as they go through this most holy time of the year. And it was a great opportunity to learn more about the culture and traditions of this wonderful and beautiful part of our community. Lastly, Madam Speaker, yesterday marked the 100th anniversary of the Winnipeg general strike. What began as a disagreement between metal workers and their employers became one of the largest strikes in North American history. Regrettably, two people lost their lives, several were injured and this moment left a lasting impression on the city's history and the labour movement in Canada, and throughout North America. The year 1919 will forever be synonymous with our city. I want to thank all those members of Council, all those members of our community who are marking a very historic time in our city's history and look forward to continuing to make those recognitions throughout the year. Thank you, Madam Speaker, merci and megwich.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Next speaker is Councillor Rollins followed by Councillor Nason.

Councillor Rollins: I would like to recognize another one of our employees whom after 25 years of service to the citizens of Winnipeg has also regrettably for this councillor decided to retire. After clerking an estimated 350 meetings, of numerous committees and boards including Protection, Community Services and Parks, the committee to which I chair, Josie Marques will be leaving us. It's fitting that Josie is with us today for her last meeting, taking roll call as she did, so that we may thank her for her tireless efforts and service to this great City of Winnipeg. Congratulations on your well-earned retirement, Ms Marques. And I think a round of applause would also be appropriate.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Rollins. Councillor Nason followed by Councillor Allard.

Councillor Nason: Still getting used to the standing up especially after all the official duties of late. Well, the days since we last gathered in this council chamber have definitely kept us hopping. I would like to bring my council colleagues up-to-date on some events and changes I have participated in and am aware of. To start, I was able to attend the Battle of the Atlantic commemoration ceremony at the HMCS Chippawa on behalf of the City of Winnipeg. This event was attended by over 400 persons recognizing the sacrifices made by so many. Last week, I had the pleasure to represent Winnipeg and Mayor Bowman at the Canadian Forces Liaison Council bi-annual ceremony in Ottawa when I was honoured to receive the award for Manitoba as the most supportive employer at this national awards event. I want to thank Colin Stewart, a City of Winnipeg employee, and commander of the HMCS Chippawa for the nomination. It's a win/win for our city and the Canadian forces to be involved in the reservist program. I'm a little tired this morning. I returned this morning from a few days in the queen city if I have that correct, of Victoria, where I was a part of a select group to participate in the Canadian Leaders at Sea program. I had the opportunity to sleep on board and experience various roles of those men and women that serve on the HMCS Ottawa. I was truly honoured at the abilities and attitudes of those on board. I did my best to capture this journey on social media while on board. But the experience is without a doubt, life changing. I want to take a moment to acknowledge the long service of Major General Drouin, that he has provided in service to Canada, and I want to thank the Mayor for his visit, first Canadian air division headquarters to honour him with nothing less than a Winnipeg's Jets jersey. As I understand he was born a Habs fan but has been converted. It's the most appropriate gift. I look forward to meeting and working with his replacement when announced today. Yesterday also marked the change in command for former Chief Warrant Officer, now holding the rank of captain. That's now Captain Rosneo who will be returning to his home city of Quebec City. I wish him well in his new role as he returns home. I also look forward to working with incoming Chief Warrant Officer Fortier as we continue to work together to strengthen an already great relationship between the City and the air force in Winnipeg. Lastly, I'm going to have to bring out a prop, Madam Speaker, if you'll indulge me. I want to thank and share with my council colleagues that all the positive press of Transcona is true. We are a gem. We embrace you poking fun of our flamingos. It is a wonderful place to raise a family, invest in business and work, and while as the trophy says, it is the best neighbourhood in Winnipeg after all. I hope to see you all at Hi Neighbour in June. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Nason. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. I wanted to rise as well to congratulate Josie Marques who's…she…a Clerk by day, a St. Boniface resident by night. And so I wanted to say what a pleasure it's been to work with you over the years. I know I had opportunities to interact with you back…way back in the day when I used to work with the City Councillor Dan Vandal. And so congratulations on a very successful career and best…all the best of things to come. And expect to be hearing from you in a different capacity as a resident now, now that you are no longer working as an objective City Clerk. So thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Allard. Our final speaker, Councillor Gillingham.

Councillor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And congratulations to Ms Marques and to councillor…the councillor from Transcona as well on the well-deserved reward for his community. Just a quick update, just last night I returned back from my first NASCO meeting. NASCO is the North American Strategy for Competitiveness and it was founded in 1994. Winnipeg has had a seat on the board of NASCO for longer than I can remember. I don't know when we first had a seat on the board…was it since, councillor, yeah…Councillor Eadie says since 1994 when it started and I have no reason to doubt that. So I was at my first meeting. It was held in Washington, a lot of good discussion. NASCO really focuses on the trade corridor, the mid-continent trade corridor, that really runs from kind of Winnipeg in the north, down through the US and into Mexico and it's about partnerships between different stakeholders or various stakeholders all along that corridor. And so there is private business, there's municipal government, there's states and provincial government, and federal government representatives there as well. Topics; a lot of discussion was on the US MCA, the trade agreement, but specific to what I found very, you know, important for us in Winnipeg is there's a lot of discussion on the importance of investing the infrastructure that moves our respective economies, and within our local jurisdictions. So I came away with a real affirmation that we have made the right decision, a good decision, by the move to focus on the accelerated regional roads program which will move goods and people to and from jobs. It will move our economy. That's an important investment that cities make and a decision that we have made through our previous budgets and this budget as well for this year, to move our economy along. There was a discussion about the use of P3s as a funding model. But one of the things I found very, very fascinating was what's happening in technology, and how some cities are experimenting with using their transportation management centres, which I know in the first term, was a real focus of our mayor, and really taken the transportation management centre to a new level, where now, outfitting transport trucks with the type of technology that will communicate with the city's infrastructure to basically improve efficiency and tell trucks when the light is going to turn green, what speed they should be travelling at so that they can hit the green light. It's quite fascinating, you know, that the technology that's being used to make smarter cities. And so those pilot projects are being explored in various cities throughout especially in the southern US right now. So it's…it was helpful for me to see and to bring back just to say, you know, we're making these decisions to invest in things like the transportation master…management centre and other you know technological upgrades that are certainly beyond my ability to even imagine. There is a future for them and they can improve the operation of our city and how our city moves. So it was a good few days. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Gillingham. We're going to move on with the meeting but before we do that, Councillor Santos.

Councillor Santos: Sorry. Thanks for allowing me to bring some morning greetings. I just want to take this time to acknowledge and recognize two amazing milestones that have actually occurred this month. Firstly, we celebrated the 150th anniversary of W.J. Sisler's birthday. W.J. Sisler was a pioneering educator leader who shaped the ways in which the public school system and society at large responded to the enormous number of new Canadians who poured into Winnipeg's North End in the first decades of the 20th century. His teaching career began in 1901 as a manual teacher in McCrae School until 1904, then in the same year at Norquay School. From 1905 to 1921, he was the principal of Strathcona School, then he became the principal of Isaac Newton School from which he retired. W.J. Sisler developed the direct method of teaching English to immigrant students which was widely copied in Manitoba and elsewhere. To commemorate W.J. Sisler and his teachings, in 1956, École Sisler High School was built in between Redwood Avenue and Burrows Avenue in Point Douglas Ward. And we all know today it has grown into the province's largest school with approximately over 2,000 students and probably one of the most multi-cultural high school to date. Last week I was honoured to attend Sisler High School to celebrate the 150th anniversary where I was amongst many notable Sisler Spartans; His Honourable Gary Filmon, Honourable Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, MP Kevin Lamoureux, MLA Jon Reyes and MLA Cindy Lamoureux. Unfortunately, I am not a Sisler Spartan. I am actually a Pirate from Grant Park High. But I married a Sisler Spartan so I would like to believe that I am a Spartan at heart. So I just want to take this time again to thank the Sisler family, their principal George Heshka, who has been there for 38 years, and the teachers of their continuous loyalty and dedication to all of the students through the power of education as well as making École Sisler High School one of the top ranked high schools across Canada. Secondly, I want to acknowledge two incredible women who have shaped the lives of many young Winnipeggers for the last 40 years; Sister Bernadette O'Reilly or Sister B as she's known and Sister Margaret Hughes, the last two local members of the Sisters of Scion who have moved to Saskatoon to be with their other fellow sisters. They have left us with the deep legacies they have built through their

work supporting the community through a very important, non-profit organization called Rossbrook House. Founded by the late Sister Geraldine McNamara in 1976, Rossbrook House guiding principle is that, and I quote, “No child who does not want to be alone should ever have to be.” In the heart of the Point Douglas Ward on the corner of Ross Avenue and Sherbrook Street, the former church turned sanctuary offers refuge 365 days a year and 24 hours every weekend for more than 1,000 kids and teenagers annually. And while they are there, Rossbrook House offers a safe place to land, to learn, to play, to grow and find a healthy future. Four decades, Sister O'Reilly and Sister Hughes were at the centre of much of that good work. Sister O'Reilly came to Winnipeg in 1979 from Toronto and was a pioneer in helping to carve out and foster a strong sense of community in our inner-city with her fellow sisters. Embracing its founding tenant, she served as a co-director of Rossbrook House for more than 20 years before retiring in 2006. Sister Hughes, originally from Edmonton, also came to Winnipeg in 1979 to better the heart of our city. As an educator she spent over 30 years teaching at Rossbrook House, affiliated Indigenous alternative elementary school, Wi Wabigooni, before retiring in 2015. These inspirational women created new traditions while lifting up children and youth through the work and spirit of a community drop-in centre. Traditions like the annual powwow, established by Sister Hughes in 1982 and overseen by her for years afterwards, have become legendary for both the community and the kids. This year's event, 36 years later, is taking place tonight, at the great house field across from the house. We will get an opportunity to see the children from the drop-in programs and schools, showing off their hard work practising dances and impressive bead work in their own handmade accessories. More than 50 adult dancers as well as veterans and drums groups will also join in, all because of the initiative of one tenacious and caring woman who saw an opportunity to give back to the community for embracing her school. That is just one example of the lives these women have changed and will continue to impact. We know their influence will continue to live on in Rossbrook House. It draws its staff from regular attendees to ensure needs are realistically understood and met. So many of the thousands of children they mentored over the years are now continuing in the footsteps of these incredibly dedicated women. And while they have been settling in their new home in Saskatoon, the sisters are here back today, here in Winnipeg, to celebrate their last powwow. And I welcome all of my council colleagues and Winnipeggers who are watching on livestream, Youtube, to join me tonight. I can't wait to thank them in person for all that they have done to create such a haven in my ward. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Santos.

MINUTES

Councillor Klein moves that the Minutes of the meeting held on April 25, 2019, be taken as read and confirmed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We’ll now move into delegations. I would like to call forward Ms Emma Durand-Wood and Ms Mellanie Lawrenz. They are here on behalf of the GlenElm Neighbourhood Association’s Tree Committee in support of Item 2 of the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated April 30th, 2019. It's regarding Land Dedication Reserve Fund – GlenElm Neighbourhood Association Boulevard Trees Project. Welcome.

DELEGATIONS

Mellanie Lawrenz: Thank you. Good morning Your Worship, Madam Speaker, council members. Thank you for having us here today. This is Emma and I’m Mellanie. We're members of the Tree Committee of the GlenElm Neighbourhood Association and we are here to support the motion to allow the use of the Land Dedication Reserve Fund for the planting of boulevard trees in our neighbourhood. Our colleague, Lisa Forbes, couldn't be with us today due to other commitments. Thank you for your time today and for your support of our project. We’d like to take this opportunity again to thank our councillor, Jason Schreyer, for his support and to thank Councillor John Orlikow for his previous work and guidance on this matter. We’ve previously appeared before the Executive Policy Council to discuss the urgent nature of the loss of the tree canopy in our neighbourhood. We know that you all understand the role that trees play in the fabric of our urban society and their importance to the world in which we live and we know that you understand that they are under various forms of threat across the city.

Emma Durand-Wood: So today we want to take the opportunity to talk briefly about our request, for those councillors who are not familiar with it, and to encourage all councillors to be inspired by our project to prioritize reforestation in their own wards. In a nutshell, our LDR application is for funding to supplement the Forestry Department's existing boulevard replanting program in our neighbourhood. This is important because for every two trees that must be removed due to disease, the current budget only allows for one to be replanted. In a neighbourhood where our boulevards are made up of over 60 percent elm and ash, this diminished rate of replanting has the potential to significantly reduce our tree canopy. We hope to plant an additional 98 trees in our neighbourhood this summer with the funds from the LDR. Once

we have been granted the funds to pay for these trees, our group will work with the City's Forestry Department to hire a private arborist and will serve as a project manager to oversee the planting and maintenance of the new trees as they become established.

Mellanie Lawrenz: The LDR is, as you all know, intended to be used for the development of City parks and open spaces. While the parks in our neighbourhood are also in need of investment given the unique character of our neighbourhood and the challenges facing our trees, we feel that we need to prioritize boulevard trees at this time. We want to assure you though, that we are investigating additional opportunities so that we can consider…continue to invest in our neighbourhood parks. So we know that we're…although we are unique, we are certainly not alone. We know that most of the older neighbourhoods in the city will eventually face the same issues that we're dealing with now. We don't use this word like lightly but our city's urban forest is in crisis and in a crisis we believe everyone needs to help however they can.

Emma Durand-Wood: So our urban forest is facing huge threats in the form of three different types of pests combined with an aging tree population that is entering its last stage of life. According to Urban Forestry and to Trees Winnipeg, Winnipeg can expect to lose all of our ash within ten years and continue losing approximately 5,000 elms every year. The city stands to lose a major asset in a very short period of time. So we feel that this is a moment where we all need to say that we're going to take action and find the resources to tackle this problem head on. The funding that we hope you will approve today plays a small but important role in this fight.

Mellanie Lawrenz: We believe that there is a role for community organizations, such as ours in the city. We believe that strategic partnerships between community groups and the City make it possible for projects like ours to be realized and that the whole community benefits when we do so. We believe that by partnering with the Urban Forestry Department we will be able to support them in their work to protect and maintain Winnipeg's tree canopy. I am not going to lie, putting together all this research and finding the forms and working our way through the different levels of approval has been a ton of work. But we feel very privileged to be able to do this work and we look forward to taking on more over the summer as we get these trees into the ground. In closing, we want to acknowledge all the time and guidance that the Urban Forestry Department has given us, without them and specifically, the City's Chief Forester, Martha Barwinski, Kerienne La France, and Chris Lepa, our project would remain a dream. Thank you very much for your time today. Merci beaucoup.

Madam Speaker: Thank you for your presentation. Questions for the delegation? Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. A pleasure to see Emma Durand-Wood, Mellanie Lawrenz here again. I think I just saw you two days ago at another consultation regarding what we're going to do at the corner of Johnson and Henderson, another project that we are working on together. Now some people would think that trees are merely an esthetic. It's not that important. I know you have done a lot of research from which I've benefitted and I believe the City's going to continue to benefit. I just wanted to ask the question, how important are trees beyond merely esthetics?

Emma Durand-Wood: That's a wonderful question and we are pleased that you asked it. If you'll give us a moment, we've got some research that we've put together regarding some of the other benefits of trees. So to start with, trees increase property values. Our research indicated that homes that are landscaped with trees sell more quickly and they are worth between 5 and 15 percent more than homes that are without trees. Where the entire street is tree lined, homes may be worth up to 25 percent more. Realtor-based estimates of street tree versus non-street tree comparable streets relate a 15 to $20,000 increase in home or business value. This often adds to the tax base and the operations budget of a city which will allow for an increased street maintenance. Trees also act as a carbon dioxide sink and so help to reduce energy use. They sequester and store carbon dioxide and they decrease the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, And neighbourhoods that are well shaded with trees can be up to 6 to 10° cooler than neighbourhoods without which then overall reduces energy needs by the homeowner. Tree wind breaks can also help reduce residential heating costs by up to 10 to 15 percent and shading and evaporative cooling from trees can cut residential air conditioning costs by 20 to 50 percent. Trees are also linked to reduce blood pressure, improved emotional…overall emotional and psychological health, and trees have a calming and healing effect on both adults and children. Trees also create vertical walls that frame the streets, kind of…it leaves like a defined edge and help motorists sort of guide their movements so they can assess their speed which will lead to less speeding overall in neighbourhoods. And trees reduce the burden of storm water systems and help reduce flooding which is something Winnipeg knows all too well. Trees absorb the first 30 percent of most precipitation through their leaf systems and allow evaporation back into the atmosphere.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you Madam Speaker. So just to clarify, we're seeing that trees reduce cost for heating and they reduce our pressure on our water and sewer systems as well? So energy and environmental and city infrastructure are linked as well.

Emma Durand-Wood: That's right.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further question? Seeing none, we thank you for your presentation today.

Emma Durand-Wood: Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor, on the report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated April 30th, 2019.

REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED APRIL 30, 2019

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Items 1 through 4.

Madam Speaker: Okay. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Pardon me? Noted, thank you. Mr. Mayor, on the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated May 7th, 2019.

REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED MAY 7, 2019

Mayor Bowman: Sure, thank you, Madam Speaker. I introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Items one through five.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Lukes that was one? So three and five have been stood down. I'll call the question on one, two and four. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. So noted. Thank you. Madam Clerk.

Item 3 – Impact Fee Review

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor to introduce Item 3.

Mayor Bowman: Sure, Madam Speaker. This was a motion for an extension of time to November 2019 for a report back with the results of the review of the impact fee.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: I just want to note and put this on the record, and so my council colleagues understand. I just want to note that the indecisiveness surrounding the next application of the impact fee on commercial and infill is creating much market uncertainty. When there is market uncertainty, investors look…looking to invest in Winnipeg go elsewhere. I want Council to know that in the Waverley West Ward, I have commercial developers choosing not to purchase land in Winnipeg, selling it and instead putting their investments elsewhere where they have market certainty. And this ultimately…this uncertainty is having a negative impact on our city's growth and economy. So I just wanted to put that on the record.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Lukes. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, thanks, Madam Speaker. I'm going to support the extension of time for this to go forward. But I just needed to rise and raise a similar concern to what Councillor Lukes has raised. But Madam Speaker, I'm being put in a difficult position. I understand there is a court case and so on, but there was two other sections to be implemented yet I believe which were the infill and industrial. And Madam Speaker, when it comes to infill, I'm getting questions from people who are buying some properties and they are undertaking infill projects. And they want to know, I need to be able to answer them, they want to know when it comes in are they going to ding me for another whatever, thousands of

dollars? Is it grandfathered? What's the deal? I need to be able to answer those questions and when I do ask City Administration, no answers come back. And so waiting until November to get a review of this, I don't know how we can do this, Madam Speaker. But you know, I have somebody who is building a new family home on Scotia, investing a huge amount of money, and because it is in what is determined as a floodplain area already has extra expenses like engineering study on the riverbank that will be part of this gentleman and his family's property. I need to be able to answer those. These people want to have an idea of what's going on. So waiting for a review, I asked in another seminar, and I think we need to have it because people are asking me questions. I have to be able to answer and that's talking about the uncertainty. People don't know what's going on. And if we do decide to implement after the court case is completed, you know, these things have to be concerned. Are we going to implement the infill? Are we going to implement the industrial and so on? So I just wanted to bring that to Council's attention. And you know, I wish I could give people some answers. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Eadie. Councillor Mayes followed by Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Mayes: I think we would all like to give people some answers, the trouble is there is the litigation that Councillor Eadie speaks about. The only two ways to guarantee certainty would be if…is if we revoked the impact fee or is if the people who are challenging the legality of the impact fee withdrew their case. Right now neither of those things seems to be in the offering so we are headed to a court hearing and that is the right of people with an interest in this. Hopefully we will get that done by this fall. We have had some pretty good meetings in my view of the Impact Fee Working Group, good staff support from people like Braden Smith, John Kiernan, Tyler Markowsky. We are meeting with the industry. I think it makes sense now to take a break though because we are waiting for a court decision. Not much else we can do. We could…there is a good debate to be had, Councillor Eadie touches on that, on where do we go if it is legal, where do we go geographically, where do we go in dollar amounts? Should there be exemptions, should we tax everybody and then use the revenue differently? There will be…it may come yet that we have a pretty good debate about that. But there is some very live legal issues and Valdene Lawson, also from our staff, has been doing some good work on this. So I wish we could offer that certainty. It's not really, however, something we have control over. It's a court case. And in due time we'll get a result and move on from there.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Mayes. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I mean, I'm glad to see we are doing a review of the impact fee, but as it is, Madam Speaker, since we had the initial vote on the impact fee, I have got some difficulties with it, Madam Speaker, because we are using construction inflation as a standard by which we measure the impact fee increases. I understand at the time it was up to a limit of five percent. But Madam Speaker, using what is Winnipeg's greatest budgetary impediment, the greatest rate of inflation of any rates of inflation we have at City Hall over the last term, about more than that, over the last decade, Madam Speaker, over the last generation, and that being construction inflation. Madam Speaker, how long can we go without taking responsibility for raising people's taxes every year and getting less construction for it every single year? Construction inflation, Madam Speaker, is higher than our economic growth. It's higher than our GDP increases. It's higher than the rate of regular inflation. It's higher than the rate of the increase in incomes of Winnipeggers, Madam Speaker, so therefore and simple mathematics, we're paying more taxes and we're getting less. But it seems, Madam Speaker, this seems to be an okay standard by which to judge an impact fee. Madam Speaker, this is a problem and it's irresponsible for us to use it merely as a standard, not the problem. I said this, Madam Speaker, when we had the impact fee vote. I couldn't vote for it, Madam Speaker. And we have some work to do. Madam Speaker, it would be like we used the Police Services salaries as the standard by which we, you know, raise everything else. It doesn't make any sense, Madam Speaker. It doesn't to me. And Madam Speaker, I have in the past asked that this council authorize or direct the administration to do a report on construction inflation. I have been told we don't need to because we're going to get a paragraph from the administration and a statistic on what the rate of construction inflation is. Madam Speaker, that's not a report. We're willing to go through all of this and need an extension of time to review the impact fee for all that goes into it, but we can't do a report on construction inflation, which is the standard…inflationary standard by which we raise…by which we decide what is the annual increase for the impact fee. To whom does that make sense? Madam Speaker, I'll leave it at that, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Schreyer. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Mr. Mayor do you wish to close?

Mayor Bowman: Yes, thank you Madam Speaker. Firstly, I want to thank all members of the Impact Fee Working Group for their contributions. And I appreciate Councillor Mayes' leadership and stewardship of that effort as well as his ongoing leadership in capacity as Chair of the Property and Development Committee, as well as all members of Council for their comments today. As Councillor Mayes has indicated, there is a legal challenge under way right now, and obviously, I think everyone will be well served as well as providing greater certainty to the business community the sooner that that legal challenge is resolved. Of course, if Councillor Lukes or any other member of Council would like to lend their positive voice to encouraging the parties involved in the legal challenge to drop it to allow for that certainty, I

know her relationships are extensive with the business community, and I think it would be something that would help. And I would encourage all members to do so. One of my pledges in the most recent municipal campaign was to utilize the impact fee specifically, at least my preference would be to utilize the impact fee for the Winnipeg South Rec Complex. And I appreciate Councillor Lukes has indicated she's supportive of using the impact fee for that end, there is a lot of work and there is a lot of need in that area of the city for residents that would like similar amenities that they enjoy in other constituencies in wards in our community. And so, the certainty that the investment community can look to right now is the current by-law that has been approved by Council a few years ago. That is what people can operate in right now, pending additional changes that may come with council direction in due course. But as members of council and certainly the development community should know is that there is nothing pending. You've got the current state of the impact fee which is being collected in the manner prescribed by Council. And until such time that Council directs otherwise, there is certainty and I would encourage them to make as much investment as possible in all areas of the city now because we are growing and we want to see the development community succeed. We want to see the development community profitable. And we note that as our city grows and as our population grows, so too will the demand for new housing and new businesses and that's a positive thing that I know all members of Council share and desire in supporting. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'll call the question on Item 3. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, Item 5.

Item 5 – Appointments of Interim Chief Administrative Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor, do you wish to introduce the item?

Mayor Bowman: Yes, thank you Madam Speaker. As I mentioned in my opening remarks today, I wanted to thank Doug McNeill for his service as CAO. This motion is seeking council support to appoint an interim Chief Administrative Officer and interim Chief Financial Officer. I do want to note for council's information, that the CAO Selection Committee has recently met about two days ago and I want to thank Madam Speaker as well as Councillor Eadie, Councillor Rollins and Councillor Allard for participating in that exercise. There is a lot of work to be undertaking in the coming weeks and months to select the next CAO. And there was an RP that was put out, there was a successful organization, Harris that has been selected to assist in the efforts to really try to find as broad a scope for…to try to attract applicants for the new position that ultimately Council will look to appointing in the coming months. But I want to thank the selection committee. I also understand that there will be consultation with all members of Council as part of that exercise if it hasn't already happened today, in the coming days there will be outreach to all members of Council seeking their input on what are they looking for in the next CAO and look forward to hearing back from my council colleagues and working with the CAO Selection Committee in the process. But in the meantime, we know Doug McNeill is retiring at the end of next week, I believe, and we want to ensure that there is continuity of service and, of course, I believe that Mr. Mike Ruta is as well as Paul Olafson are certainly capable of serving in those interim capacities as put forward for Council's consideration with this motion, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you, Madam Chair. Of the four positions within…of the four statutory positions within the City, oversight of the CAO's position comes only from the Mayor and his Executive Policy Committee, not all of Council. From the Procedural By-law, "The Executive Policy Committee shall have the specific power and duty to; supervise the Chief Administrative Officer, authorize changes in compensation levels of the Chief Administration Officer within council approved budgets." So it's not Council. It's non…so non-EPC members have no oversight or input at all to the performance of the CAO. This was also noted in the current CAO's contract section 4, 4.1 and 4.2. As I'm not a member of the Mayor's Executive Policy, and I have publicly stated I do not support the concept of EPC and therefore will never be a member of EPC, I believe my vote of support or of no support is irrelevant. I have no oversight, no input to the performance of the CAO, but…and because I have to vote, and I won't be leaving the chamber to avoid the vote, I will not be voting in support of the appointment of the CAO and I ask that we have two separate votes on this motion.

Madam Speaker: Okay. Thank you Councillor Lukes. Any further speakers? Councillor Klein.

Councillor Klein: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm also going to be opposed, but for the reason that there is no material really provided that we can make this decision on or base this decision on. It's not a personal…Mike Ruta seems like a very nice person. We've got to know him over the last several months. Seems very dedicated to this city. But I would like to know what other candidates were considered. What the skills and experience of…for those other candidates. Essentially, of course, they are internal candidates at this time and I have to agree with Councillor Lukes that there is no oversight, no input for all members of Council. So I believe that this is a very important move in the city. Even an interim

leader is an important role within an organization, and it's one that we have to give serious consideration and it's one that will help direct the entire public service over the next couple of months while the search is on for a replacement.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Klein. Councillor Eadie followed by Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise…I'm actually in support of these two moves to have an interim CAO and then replace the CFO with an interim CFO in the meantime. And I think I should take some responsibility, Madam Speaker, as one of the longer serving members of council, I believe Councillor Browaty is the longest serving. Is that right? I have to say, Madam Speaker, it's difficult when you're new to make a decision about people, but Madam Speaker, almost all the time I don't agree with the proposed interim CAO as his position as CFO. But Madam Speaker, I have to say that Michael Ruta is…been part of this city for quite some time. He is quite qualified to act as CAO and to continue at least the direction that's been given, and many of those directions I don't agree with, Madam Speaker, but according to the Charter, we have to have a CAO in place. And so I am not sure exactly who all was considered, I know a couple of others, but maybe some people might think about this: that maybe some of the other people who might have been considered might be applying to become the new CAO. Who knows? I don't know. But I have to stand by this decision. I believe Michael Ruta is the best person at this time to act as the interim CAO and I support that. And even though that position is accountable to EPC, very difficult, I don't like the power structure of EPC, but I have to say, Madam Speaker, that we have to work with what we have and I'll leave it at that. So I'll be supporting this and I just wanted to stand and say that there is probably nobody more qualified, at least to guide the ship as they say for the next, I don't know, maybe five, six months, I don't know how long it's going to take to find a new one. And I also encourage all councillors, because there is a consultation, we are demanding more of that from EPC and our mayor and that is what's happening. The consultant will be interviewing all of Council to get their feedback about how we can make a decision. This is a non-biased decision that will be made into the future, but you can't have a hiring committee of 16 people. It's unmanageable. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Eadie. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I…what I'm saying is not a contradiction to those concerns raised by Councillors Lukes and Klein. I truly appreciate their concerns in terms of the decision making process here at City Hall and it's their prerogative to have these concerns and basically, best for us to heed their concerns. And I do. I'm not saying we have a great process by which we have come to this decision. It happens to be that we can come to an adequate…a more than adequate result by virtue of Mike Ruta himself, and that he happens to be, in this case, a candidate that is more than adequate. We all know that Mike Ruta has been serving the city in serious capacities for many years over various incarnations of this council, and he is very well placed to take over these responsibilities, at least in an interim situation. And on that basis, I will support the motion. But having said that, Madam Speaker, those concerns raised by Councillors Lukes and Klein still stand. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Any further speakers? Mr. Mayor, do you wish to close?

Mayor Bowman: Sure, thank you, Madam Speaker. I can respond to the questions or the comments that were raised. The reason why Mike Ruta was recommended by Executive Policy Committee to Council is quite simply, we have four statutory officers, these are the most senior members of the public service that guide the collective efforts of members of the public service. We have a Clerk, we have an Auditor, we have a CAO and a CFO. Our CAO is retiring. Our CFO, Mike Ruta, has served as an interim CAO in the past and he does from time to time when Doug McNeil is out of town or otherwise not able to provide those services, albeit on a much more temporary basis, for weekends and when Doug occasionally has time off. And so, in making the recommendation, it was looking for that business continuity as well as the experience in the role. There is a possibility that other members that serve in chief positions or director positions may choose to apply for the position and there is a desire certainly on my part not to provide any individual with an advantage that would really not provide a level playing field for all those potential applicants whether they are from within the City of Winnipeg or external. And those were the reasons. Had either Councillor Lukes or Councillor Klein reached out to me over the last week, I would have been happy to have this conversation with them as I know other members of Council did take time to reach out and have dialogue with me. My understanding is in the past, these interim positions were not brought to Council. I thought only it appropriate in…early in my first mandate to bring the decision of an interim CAO to Council because I think all members of Council should have a say. Members of Council can ultimately decide to vote or not vote, to vote yea or nay on these decisions, but I thought it only appropriate given the calls from some of the very councillors who are criticizing the process who want greater opportunities for input to be able to bring it to this floor in an open and transparent and accountable way and let members of Council have that opportunity to vote for an interim CAO as well as an interim Chief Financial Officer. And again, I would simply urge members of Council, should they have questions, especially questions on a matter as important as choosing an interim CAO, you know, simply walk down the hallway and let me know if they'd like to discuss it because I'm more than happy to have that discussion and that input, and I would encourage them to be part of the process to the extent that is afforded in the selection of the next CAO. As I

and others have indicated, there will be opportunities for that consultation and that input and I would encourage all members of Council, feel free to reach out to me and let me know what you're looking for in the next CAO. Ultimately, the CAO serves Council as well as the citizens of Winnipeg and I believe the input of members of Council on something like this is obviously very important. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'll call the question on Item 5. And there was a request to vote for Clause 1 and 2 separately which is in order. All in favour of Clause 1 appointing Mike Ruta as the interim Chief Administrative Officer? All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Clause 2 is appointing Paul Olafson as the interim Chief Financial Officer. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Yes.

Mayor Bowman: Can we find out who voted yea and nay. It's not clear.

Madam Speaker: The first clause was two in opposition, is that correct? Okay. Councillor Klein and Councillor Lukes, the Clerk had noted that and Clause 2 passed unanimously. That is correct? Okay. And Clause 3. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We will now move on to By-laws under Executive Policy Committee, Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-law 34/2019 be read a first time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 34/2019.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I move that By-law 34/2019 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 34/2019.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I move that the rule be suspended and By-law 34/2019 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We will now have question period for the Mayor. Time on the clock, please. Councillor Eadie.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, upon the occasion of us ratifying the school division levies for the property tax bills, I have brought up the concern that the Province had made a decision that when applying the education tax credit that no longer would they allow any amount left over from the $700 to be applied against the municipal portion of the property taxes. So for example, the issue was…so somebody who had a $500 school division tax bill, it used to be the $200 would then be applied against the municipal portion. That no longer is happening and I…Madam Speaker, I called an attack on the poor. And I'd just like to ask the Mayor if he could tell us about the repercussions of the Province's decision to do so.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Councillor Eadie for the question. He and I have discussed this matter. I have discussed this matter with several members of Council. There was a change made by the provincial government unilaterally with respect to the education property tax credit that disproportionally affects those least able to pay in our community, Madam Speaker. The net result is as follows. In Councillor Eadie's Ward for example, there are 637 property owners were advised that were affected by this change. As he rightfully pointed out, and I will absolutely provide Councillor

Eadie with credit for identifying this early on in the discussion, it's one of the reasons…one of the several reasons why I've indicated that next year, certainly while the provincial is undertake…provincial government is undertaking a review of education that they should remove the education property tax from City…municipal government's tax bills. For a variety of reasons, it's not good public policy. I don't believe it holds the school divisions as accountable as they would be had they would be required to send out tax bills on their own, but also there are changes like this that we see that sadly I believe will not be as clear as could be for the citizens that receive their municipal tax bill. So I've indicated and I'll repeat it once again that next year when and if the Province fails to take action to remove it from the tax bill, I certainly will not be voting in the general course of how this council has historically voted to a group. And so, once again I would urge the provincial government to make the necessary changes this year as they're undertaking their review. With respect to this change though, this education property tax credit has benefited many citizens in our communities especially in those communities where folks are least or less able to pay. And that change was made unilaterally by the Province changing the program and the net result is for approximately 1,500 citizens or residents who benefited from this education property tax credit. They will not have an off-setting credit to their municipal property tax. This is not the education property tax, but the municipal property tax. So where this credit would allow them to have that out-of-pocket municipal property tax bill reduced, they will now be paying significantly higher rates. And for those that are listening, there are approximately 1,525 residents that are affected, 637 nearly half are in the Mynarski Ward, in Point Douglas…in Point Douglas 367 residents, in Daniel McIntyre 280 homes, in Elmwood 145 homes, Fort Rouge 30, St. James 33, St. Boniface 12, Transcona 12, North Kildonan 1, St. Norbert/Seine River 3, Charleswood/Tuxedo 1, River Heights/Fort Garry 2, Old Kildonan 1, St. Vital 1 and I don't believe there's any in Councillor Lukes' Ward as far as I'm aware. It disproportionately is asking citizens in Councillor Eadie's Ward in particular 637. And I'll give you some numbers for those that are watching, the maximum property tax change. So this is how much the tax credit will impact and how much out of pocket residents will be asked to pay. In one case, a resident is going to be paying $334 more this year as a result of the provincial change. That is 124.77% increase. The average amount of increase dollars that would be paid by the 637 residents in Councillor Eadie's Ward is $137. The average is a 34.22% increase as a result of this provincial change. In Point Douglas for example, there's a homeowner or a property taxpayer that will pay $352 more. This is 110% increase as a result of a unilateral change made by the provincial government. The average is $104 more and this is the average for these affected 367 property owners and the average increase will be 23%. Keep in mind our property tax increase is dedicated to infrastructure needs and it's a 2.33% increase. But these least able to pay are paying on average, in Councillor Eadie's Ward 34% more, in Daniel McIntyre, the 280 residents, the average will pay 24.49% more, the average dollar out of pocket increase, $96.06. And in one case, this is a 475.70% increase. Again, as provincial decisions are made unilaterally, this is the net result. And so Councillor Eadie was quite right to point this out early in the discussion. I thank him for that and the dialogue we've had on this. And the City of Winnipeg, I understand has written to each of the 1,525 affected residents to let them know about this change and the reasons behind it. But for those that are concerned, I would encourage them to contact their MLAs to better understand the rational and the policy consideration that is unfortunately disproportionally affecting those least able to pay these increases. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Any further questions? Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I just wanted a little of clarification regarding the consulting firm hiring the CAO. I'm wondering if the Mayor can clarify if the organization is also using a headhunter to seek out qualified CAO or is the consulting firm just to facilitate the hiring process?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Lukes. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: I thank Councillor Lukes for the question. My understanding is the organizations…Harris is also going to be conducting outreach. I know this was a request of Councillor Lukes that we…as she terms it headhunts, but that there be some proactive outreach. That will be something that will be discussed by the hiring committee and members of Council will be apprised in due course regarding things going forward but I'm very pleased to say that we, the City has had that RFP awarded and the expectation is in fact that there will be outreach nationally if not internationally for possible candidates and I would encourage all members of Council to be part of that process when those consultations happen.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to ask Mr. Mayor that now that the dates of the two strategic planning sessions have been set, what he hopes will result from this strategic planning exercise, what his desires and goals are.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: I thank Councillor Lukes for the question. Ultimately, my hope is that we'll be able to build a more collaborative council. Multi-year budgets are not going to be easy. The reason they haven't been something of the past here or at the provincial or federal levels is because they're difficult. They will force very difficult questions on Council to be more long term and strategic. This of course is a strategic plan that is intended to help provide input for our Finance Chair, in particular on how we can build multi-year budgets in…with respect to more long term planning and in a much more collaborative fashion. And so these strategic planning sessions recommended and requested by Councillor Lukes in the budget process, ultimately voted against by Councillor Lukes but supported by the majority of members of this council will provide a platform for greater collaboration. And I would encourage her and all members of Council to participate in a meaningful and a truly collaborative way so that we can really get the input that she and others have demanded of all members of Council through the budgeting process to a much greater extent we have in the past. Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Third question, final question Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: Yes, thank you. I would like to ask Mr. Mayor if he could provide Council and viewers with an update. I understand the core services review has started and I was just wondering if he can provide us with an update, how non-EPC members of Council will be involved.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Lukes. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: The core services review again was something that was voted on by Council. I know Councillor Lukes chose to vote against it. I support a core services review in my voting record demonstrates that as well as, of course, our Finance Chair who has been really trying to work collaboratively with all members of Council for many years to do in fact, the core services review. And so we've been leading on that initiative. I'm looking forward to hearing from the public service over the course of this year how that review is ongoing and I would anticipate that updates will be provided through the Finance Committee.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Councillor Nason. Councillor Lukes, your questions are done for now. Councillor Nason followed by Councillor Klein.

Councillor Nason: Madam Speaker, I've had several inquiries through seniors that are concerned that the Human Rights Committee does not have representation directly for them under this reconstituted group. I'm wondering if the Mayor could provide us with who specifically seniors can reach out to on that committee to represent their concerns.

Madam Speaker: Okay, thank you Councillor Nason. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: They can start by reaching out to me, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Klein.

Councillor Klein: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm just wondering…I know I've asked this question a couple of times, if the Mayor would again instruct the chairs of our standing policy committees to share all the weekly briefings with all members of Council. He made a great suggestion last time when I made that request of making sure that the Police Board put one out. I have been doing that on a regular basis. I'm just wondering if that is something that could be shared with all members of Council in a collaborative way of course.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Klein. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Madam Speaker, the…my understanding is the public service conducts briefings with all members of Council. I know members of the public service regularly meet with Councillor Klein as well as Councillor Lukes and others, and do provide updates on their efforts. I do appreciate the fact that Councillor Klein did provide an email. My understanding is based on the information that was provided that was all of course publicly available information through the Police Board. I wouldn't suggest that the confidential information that he obtains through the Police Board be shared publicly and as it's appropriate for the work that's carried out, but of course, members of the Executive Policy Committee and chairs including the Chair of the Police Board. I do have the committee structure in place to provide updates and information in due course. But again, I would suggest if he wants to have more collaborative dialogue with members of Council that's just simply as walking down the hallway and speaking with members of Council about their work in providing meaningful input to them in due course.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Nason, back to you for the second question.

Councillor Nason: I keep forgetting about…unfortunately my problem this week left me a little short on following up. But we had a situation involving using rope on a Transit bus or a Handi-Transit bus, Transit Minus, whatever it may be called these days, but I'm wondering if the Mayor could also update us on a Human Rights Committee who specifically is representing those views on the committee.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We've just voted on the terms of reference amendments that…that do deal with the Access Advisory becoming the Accessibility and Inclusion sub-committee of the Human Rights Committee, as well as the Citizens Equity Committee becoming the Equity and Diversity sub-committee of the Human Rights Committee, and so I can certainly provide him with the contact information that's appropriate. And again, the Councillor, any other individual can certainly contact me in my capacity as Chair of the Human Rights Committee of Council.

Madam Speaker: Further questions for the Mayor? Seeing none. Let's move on to the Standing Policy Committee on Innovation. We'll now get into question period for the chair. Any questions for Councillor Orlikow? Councillor Browaty.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Browaty: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm going to ask this question but I appreciate you may not have an answer for me today and getting back to me is more than fine. The question is, the Innovation Committee prior to Mr…my colleague being the chair, launched a project to install Wi-Fi on busses. I was wondering if there is any update as to how well that is being used. How well some of the other technologies are going to be studied at that time tying into security and safety on busses, tying into improved performance of the Peggo system. The former Chief Innovation Officer was working on those things and spoke of those things. I was just wondering if there's any update or if you could provide one at a future meeting.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Browaty. Councillor Orlikow?

Councillor Orlikow: Yeah, it will be my pleasure. I'll confer there's still a little bit of grey area with this. We'll be meeting with the committee about terms of reference. Is that a Transit issue specifically? Any technology in the transit system, which then would be going through Transit, and not through the Innovation which is more of looking at cross-departmental transformative things. But again we understand…it's still quite confusing. There is a report coming shortly on some of these projects, but I'll double check if that's there. And if it's not there, I'll talk to Councillor Allard as well, we'll figure it out then get to you that information.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question.

Councillor Browaty: Is the Councillor aware that this was originally a project that was funded through the Innovation Capital Fund which was administered by the Committee?

Madam Speaker: Thank you.

Councillor Orlikow: That's why we're doing the terms of reference to (inaudible) because it got confusing, who's doing what and where. So that's why the terms of reference are getting revamped at this time for consideration, but yeah I know that's not that old project, program which is now moved more internal. So it could be on that list and I'll follow up with Glen, like I say and follow up with our Chief Dave Wardrop as well.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Seeing none. The next committee is Standing Policy Committee on property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development. Councillor Mayes on the report dated April 23, 2019.

**REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
DATED APRIL 23, 2019**

Councillor Mayes: I'll introduce the report dated April 23rd, 2019 and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Items 1 through 7 inclusive.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Councillor Klein.

Councillor Klein: I just wanted to talk to Item 1 for a second.

Madam Speaker: Item 1? Yes. I'll call the question on Items 2 through 7. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 1 – Remediation at 450 Augier Avenue

Madam Speaker: Councillor Mayes to introduce the item.

Councillor Mayes: Yes, some very good work done by Councillor Klein on this Augier Avenue file. Some good collaboration with the residents with Mr. Kiernan and the department. Interested to hear what Councillor Klein might have to say but it's very unfortunate business with homes that are involved now in litigation with elements of the construction and the City having to do some remediation to bring them into compliance with codes. But we supported this at the committee. We supported it at EPC, so some good work done by Councillor Klein with his residents to try and move through what's really a very unfortunate set of facts.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Klein.

Councillor Klein: Thank you Madam Speaker. Not much to say Councillor Mayes, other than I just wanted to thank everybody on the committee for their efforts. It wasn't just myself that did work for the residents at 450 Augier. I think the committee did a wonderful job asking a lot of questions and listening to the detail provided. And I do want to commend the department for their work and efforts in working with this group that is facing some very troublesome times right now. So I wanted to take this moment to of course stand in support of the motion and to acknowledge the efforts of the others on the committee, not just Property and Planning but also the community committee who all supported this as it moved up the chain.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Klein. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Councillor Mayes do you wish to close or I can call the question on Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now move on to by-laws under this committee. Councillor Mayes.

**STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS**

Councillor Mayes: Yes. I'll move that By-law 38/2019 be read a first time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 38/2019.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I'll move that By-law 38/2019 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 38/2019.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I'll move that the rule be suspended and By-law No. 38/2019 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now have question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Mayes? Councillor Lukes.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Lukes: Thank you. It's not really a question, it's more of a "did you know". Did you know, Councillor Mayes that I think over the past, probably two, two and a half years had the City worked collaboratively with the development community, I think that we would have probably gotten to a point where we wouldn't be sitting with a lawsuit. We've been in here two, two…for two and a half years of a lawsuit, and have we spent that time working collaboratively with the community, we may not be in this position right now. And contrary to what some may believe, there is definitely market uncertainty and the City is losing opportunities. It's just more of a 'did you know".

Madam Speaker: Thank you for the question. And just a reminder questions will come to the Chair. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Well, that's your opinion. Yes, there is some uncertainty that there was a debate. That's…there was a lengthy debate here about the impact fee and there was certainly a divided vote. It was a good example of democratic process. People have the right to question it. It went through a number of iterations. Councillor Orlikow steered it through all of those. You know, it's in litigation now. Some of us would change certain things. Some of us like it the way it is. I think there will be further opportunity should be upheld by the courts to discuss how do we want to use this to shape planning or to shape revenue in the City. There are different views on that. Some would say exempt to commercial, some would say exempt to infill, some would say no let's have the same fee uniformly that take the revenue and deal with issues that can arise from that. Speaking personally, I share the Mayor's view that I'd like to see…(inaudible), more nuance. I share Councillor Gillingham's view that we shouldn't spend it until the Board decision is rendered. I do however share the Mayor's view that some of that certainly to go towards South-West Rec Centre. I'd like to see some go towards the South-East Rec Centre of the impact fee. But I think the need undeniably greater in the South-West part of the city. And personally I'd like to see spending targeted to where the money has been raised to date. Others would probably disagree with that. So there will be…there will be a good debate yet to come over where to implement it, what rate to do it at, should it be a different rate in different parts of the city. But it was a divisive debate in many respects but it's also a policy direction that other cities have undertaken. Some of them have done it in a different way than we did it but it's certainly a revenue opportunity for the City. It will bring if upheld revenue for the City that can be spent in areas where there are needs for capital projects. So I hope I'm here long enough to announce some sort of expansion of the Southdale Community Centre in the Bonavista part of my ward using the impact fee. Maybe I won't be but that's my hope of what I would like to see in my ward. I think there's an opportunity here to do some creative work with that. How we will go about implementing it, we don't know because we don't know if we'll win the court case. So a long way to go on this file yet, a lot of debate yet to be had. I think it's arguable what the impact has been, but certainly there's a lot of debate and a lot of input we'll be seeking from the industry as we go forward, should the City succeed in the court case. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Mayes. Any further questions? Seeing none. The next committee is the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks. Councillor Rollins on the report dated May 3rd, 2019.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PARKS
DATED MAY 3, 2019

Councillor Rollins: I would like to move the Consent Agenda Items 1 and 2 for the report of May 3rd, 2019.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer. I'll call the question on Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 2 – Community Incentive Grant – Old Grace Not For Profit Housing Co-operative Limited (OGGC)

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins to introduce the item.

Councillor Rollins: Yes. Substantially my colleague, Councillor Cindy Gilroy had received at City Centre delegation from Old Grace Not for Profit Housing Co-operate Limited to assist with the cost of car sharing for a Wolseley project. And it was supported through the City Centre Committee up to the Standing Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm pleased to see this on the agenda for a couple of reasons. It's very important. I have been talking about car sharing for a couple of years and how it's a very distinct aspect of transportation and an important aspect of transportation, urban transportation especially, Madam Speaker. So I'm pleased to see it here in the essence of its actual intent, what car sharing is. It's important, Madam Speaker. There is car sharing and then there is cars for hire. And I found it rather distasteful that we were swapping terminology as if cars for hire have something to do with car sharing. They don't. And it's important, Madam Speaker. Car sharing is something that different in urban jurisdictions throughout North America deal with it in different ways, Madam Speaker, to the extent that if you have in some places like in California, even outside the cities, in between cities, if you have more than one person in a car, you get a separate freeway lane. That's how important car sharing can be. In this case, Madam Speaker, I'm pleased to see an indication of real, true car sharing having to do with sort of what might consider a car club. It's a not-for-profit in which people make most efficient use of their time with a vehicle, that's what car sharing is about. It minimizes costs, Madam Speaker. People can share cars. It's not a car for hire or like, it's not like a taxi. And it's efficient economically, it's efficient environmentally. It's not a taxi or a car for hire. I think, Madam Speaker, it would make more sense to use the terms taxi for car for hire. I see that. I understand why people would call an Uber a taxi. I get that. Calling it ride sharing, truly unfortunate in terms of what ride sharing can be. This shows us what it's about and it's another way of people in a neighbourhood to share the costs of a car. Not have as many vehicles on a road. Madam Speaker, car sharing has to do with sharing rides with your neighbours, your coworkers when you're sharing a destination or your family when you share the source of the destination, your point of takeoff, Madam Speaker, which is what I do on a regular basis. In this case, the Old Grace Not for Profit Housing Co-operate Limited, applying to Councillor Gilroy for some assistance. I see that the administration recommended waiving the criteria in this case, Madam Speaker. I'm glad to see that in this case, we're seeing a case of recognition of what real ride sharing can be and car sharing and pleased to vote for this one, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Councillor Rollins, do you wish to close?

Councillor Rollins: Well, I do. I was not aware of Councillor Schreyer's advocacy on car sharing, but this is pleasing given the climate change and affordability options and so many things he iterated, Madam Chair. This $16,520 Daniel McIntyre Ward allocation is supported by my colleague and Councillor Gilroy for the Old Grace Not for Profit Housing Co-operative Limited. It is absolutely what you'd expect of my colleague, the innovative Councillor Gilroy, especially when she has been given the mandate by our beloved Mayor Bowman, the mandate by His Worship of climate change. So it was an exciting moment at City Centre. It was great to confirm it through Protection, Community Services and Parks and I'm hoping that this council approves it today.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Rollins. With that I'll call the question on Item 2. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now move into question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Gilroy? Okay, seeing none, the next committee…Councillor Rollins? I'm sorry. Yes, any questions for Councillor Rollins? Seeing none, let's move on to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. Councillor Allard, the Chair, on the report dated May 2nd, 2019.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
DATED MAY 2, 2019

Councillor Allard: Yes, I'd like to move the Consent Agenda 1 and 2.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Eadie. Okay, Item 2 has been stood down so I'll call the question on Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 2 – Award of Contract for the Provision of Accessible Transportation Services for Winnipeg Transit Plus, RFP 1259-2018

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard to introduce the item.

Councillor Allard: I'll wait to hear from my colleagues.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie followed by Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker. I'll be voting to support this report, Madam Speaker. But I need to bring, I guess some ideas. I noted that this particular contract in context to all the problems, Madam Speaker, that the transit plus users have been experiencing and Councillor Nason's concern about the accessible transit bus that had the rope holding the door together, Madam Speaker. And so, Madam Speaker, I heard people talking about rather than contracting this out that we could bring some service in. So just on a historical perspective because I worked on this, first time I spoke at Council was in regard to at the time Handi-transit in 1991. And the issue back then was we had…we've always had private transporters contracted to move people…transport people with disabilities because they were unable to use our regular transit system. And there was improvements to our regular transit over the years, I don't want to get into that, Madam Speaker. But at the time, the City actually had City bus drivers, driving larger accessible, I'll call them, small buses. I believe they carried up to 18 passengers, around there. And they could carry X number of wheelchairs and so on. And what used to happen, Madam Speaker, is that those buses, they would actually form routes because they were transporting a lot of people back and forth, from home to work, those high priority trips, Madam Speaker. And yes, some of those routes were quite long. But Madam Speaker, today's registered transit plus users is a much larger group today. And one great idea would be we, the City who could and maybe should be considering into the future, we're still waiting for all the software, we still hear problems, Madam Speaker. But we should be putting out a contract to buy some 12 to 18 passenger buses, and I'm sure there are a number of routes and scheduling that could be accomplished, that would make or at least improve the service for a number of people who are given less priority, Madam Speaker, although I still don't understand why the woman was cancelled her trip to go to a funeral. A funeral? That's not a leisure thing or anything, Madam Speaker. I can't believe this happened to this woman. A close friend dies and she books a trip and then they cancel it. That's crazy. So we need to do things better and I know transit plus is working to improve it, but we should be looking at these ideas where we, the City could be running maybe bus routes, this new software hopefully they can, you know, put all…crunch the numbers and come up with good information in, good information out and maybe we could do something better. But I must say though, we will always need…I heard somebody say, make it totally publicly run, but the reality is, ever since Handi-transit started, I believe, in the early '80s because of the efforts of people like Al Simpson and Jim Doerksen and a number of people who used wheelchairs who pushed for their rights. And so since then, private contractors have been used because the reality is for ambulatory passengers, ambulatory meaning maybe you just use a walker or you are able to move in and out of your chair, different things, so you are using a regular taxi or vehicle or an accessible van. And what the now vehicle for hire industry, what they are really good at, Madam Speaker, is getting people from point A to point B the most efficiently. And so when you have people in the outlying areas that I believe we need to serve that 500 meter rule and all that kind of stuff, for some of those individuals, the private vehicle under contract as long as they follow all the rules and everything. I know the person who runs transit plus and senior management, they have high expectations of their contractors. It's difficult to find…it is better if you bring them in-house because supervision and so on, and education and good practice are easier to deal with directly if they are your employees. So I'll leave it at that. Just different ideas and there's much bigger ideas. I guess I better answer the…there is the consultation on transit and includes all of transit. Have to throw some ideas out there, but Madam Speaker, I just had to talk about this because of the problems that we're seeing with transit plus, that there are and should be some better ways to deliver service, but we still have to contract with private providers because when you have people way out in the outlying areas, there is no bus routes, so the most efficient way is a taxi. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Eadie. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I suspect we'll be returning to this subject matter over the next few months. I will vote for this. As I said at EPC, I will vote for this report today. It's relatively straightforward, relatively small share of the rides being provided by the transit plus service. But Councillor Eadie has hit a number of points and I want to commend his remarks. What I said at EPC and that I would reiterate today is I think we need to take a very serious look at bringing some of the Handi-transit, transit plus service back in-house to be delivered directly by the City. That would mean delivering it with the Amalgamated Transit Union as the bargaining agent. Obviously, that's having some private, some public is not unprecedented. In fact, if you look at the report, by 1996 private contractors delivered 70 percent of the total service so obviously in the '90s there was some being done publicly, some being done privately. I think that's a model we should look at very seriously. We are starting to look at that in terms of our garbage/recycle collection but that was a trick year model, right. You had one big vote on like a seven year contract city-wide. Here, to

some extent, we've got more flexibility. A number of different private contractors operating throughout the city so a number of votes. So I think Councillor Eadie is right that we should be looking at purchasing some of our own fleet, looking at restarting this service. We'll probably be told what we were told with garbage, well, we don't have the expertise to do that anymore. We don't have the hardware to do that anymore. But the opportunity is certainly there to buy the buses and to start training and getting ready to do some of this service delivery ourselves. And people have said, when I…after I brought this up at EPC, well, it's 100 percent contracted out, what could be more competitive? Well, I would look at the numbers that are in our own budget. Not numbers I have made up, not numbers the ATU made up, numbers from our own Volume 1 of our budget. If you look at that; 2009, $17.39 per ride that had climbed to $20.89 by 2012. From 17 to 20.89 and then escalated up to $26.66 by 2016. So in the last…from 2013 to '16, a 26 percent increase in the cost per ride, 53.3 percent increase in the cost per ride from '09 to 2016. Did…did come down a tiny bit in '17, that's fair enough, but 50 percent increase over a seven year period. I wish it was because we'd abolished the 500 meter rule and now we were going out way south of the perimeter in parts of what was my ward and now Councillor Chambers' ward, out to the outskirts of Transcona. I wish it was…that was the cost increase, but of course it wasn't because we haven't abolished that rule yet and I think there are a number of us here who would like to see that rule be changed pursuant to the Ombudsman's report. I think we will have our chance this fall to debate that. So speaking personally, I would very much like to see us move toward a model where we bring some of this work back in-house because frankly, I'm not sure a 50 percent increase in the cost per ride reflects a stirring victory for the private sector here and shows that we are getting maximum efficiency. I think perhaps if you look at that Ottawa garbage/recycle model, some of it in-house, some of it privately delivered, there is a competitiveness there in the bidding. So no aspersions on any of the people delivering this service, I'm sure they are doing their best, but I have to say, when you look at numbers from our own budget that indicate a 50 percent increase in the cost per ride from '09 to '16 and we didn't change the 500 meter rule to trigger any cost increases, I think you have to kind of take a step back and say, well maybe we should try and deliver some of this in-house. Maybe that would create some more competitiveness. We would have to work out a collective agreement with ATU to do that, but I do think that time has come to take a look at that issue. I look forward to being part of that review as we go forward in the whole debate about our transit system. So I'll vote for this again today and I know there are some other issues that have been raised with transit plus, but frankly, I think the time has come to take a look at bringing some of this service back in-house. And here we have a chance to do that. Garbage and recycle, we kind of got to the finish line of the RFP and then had CUPE come forward here. The timing is better. We are doing step-by-step these awards, so I'm trying to flag to our administration, flag the public that I for one would like to see a debate on this later this year to say, hey, how much could we bring back? What would that cost? What's the timeframe in which we could do that? I look forward to having that debate later this year. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes. Councillor Nason followed by Councillor Klein.

Councillor Nason: Madam Chair, just following on Councillor Mayes' comments, he seemed to indicate that it was a small portion, but I believe the actual…it's nearly 25 percent of the actual rides at this, and we are voting on today. To me, that represents a very significant portion of the transit plus ride program. And one that, you know, given several of our conversations that we have had of late regarding contracts and, you know, third-party properties that are used for different programs, I would wonder, you know, the $1 leases always comes to mind. I'm just wondering if this would not be a better point in time to have the contract or continue on in a hold position. And then have a wholesome review with regards to, is there an opportunity for ATU to vote on delivering the service? Or put together a bid opportunity themselves? You know, if they want to deliver the service, they feel that they have the organizational manpower to deliver it, you know, Councillor Mayes brought up about, you know, buying more buses to support it, Councillor Eadie did as well. You know, delivering this service to people who need it so that they can get to their funerals, so they can get to their medical appointments, so that they can see their family members on the weekend. We're setting…you know, administration is setting the policy and the transit contractors are delivering to that policy. If there is rides that are cancelled, it's being cancelled by policy not by the transit contractors. So I would like to see this actually stood down and status quo until we can have that debate, so that we can have a talk about the future of delivering what I perceive as a very core service to those that need it most. And that's the only point I'd like to put up at this point. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Klein followed by Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Klein: Thank you, Madam Chair. And I think with the comments made by Councillor Eadie, Councillor Mayes, Councillor Nason, coupled with the complaints that we are hearing from residents about transit plus service and those complaints are rising, clearly we have a system flaw and I believe that it is being looked at right now but maybe it's inappropriate at this time to enter into another multi-year, multi-million dollar contract. This is an essential service for Winnipeggers. They count on this service and I would like to see some accountability clauses added and some other items to the contract that gives us the ability to address concerns as they happen and have a mechanism in which to cancel a contract if somebody who is not improving their service or not delivering on the needs of our riders. So I feel at best to the City of Winnipeg should grant a one year extension for this particular service understanding and respecting there are many people involved with their own separate contracts and do this, we'd grant the one year extension for all

contracts that come up for renewal during this time period. We could use that one year to evaluate that specific contractor's service levels and to develop accountability clauses for their specific contract and others, we could use that as a template, to ensure we address service issues well into the future. We have heard from taxpayers, we've heard from many councillors that they're very disappointed with the service levels. And I believe that it is more appropriate and more prudent to possibly enter into a one year contract as opposed to a multi-year contract that would lock us in.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Klein. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't have too much to say on this. Quite a bit has been said, but I do want to touch on what Councillor Mayes has said regarding the inflation of costs regarding contracts between, I believe he said 2009 and 2015, 16? So in a period of five, six to seven years, we had a 50 percent increase. He did mention this before last term…mentioned, you know, these concerns that, Madam Speaker, we should all have for a 50 percent increase in contract costs after a period of only six or seven years. Madam Speaker, where in the public sector did we have a 50 percent increase, you know, in the last term or in the last decade, sorry, in the last decade regarding costs? Where did we have a 50 percent increase in costs? Did CUPE have a 50 percent increase over seven years ever? Madam Speaker, we're talking about things in which we make judgments, Madam Speaker, we have to make analysis. We have to be able to compare. We have to be able to compare sectors. In fact, Madam Speaker, there is no other way of going about the responsibility of doing budgeting without comparing different sectors, Madam Speaker. The problem, as Councillor Mayes pointed out, is we didn't have a check and balance in terms of certain sectors of City services and Winnipeg is one of the few…the only major city in Canada that didn't have, as an example, a public sector or City workers working at least one quarter of…or one sector of the city in terms of garbage and/or recycling service. And, Madam Speaker, that's irresponsible. We shouldn't be doing that in Canada. We've made the mistake of doing that across the country, and we've recognized the mistake across the country. We did not do that here to such an extent that we actually reduced the number of sectors or geographic units in the city, so we were less in a position to do anything about what Councillor Mayes had just spoken about. A 50 percent increase in seven years, Madam Speaker. So I ask the question again because it's not rhetorical; did the City workers have an increase, Madam Speaker? I ask that question because every councillor here, everybody in this room, all Winnipeggers really should have the question; did the CUPE workers have a 50 percent increase in seven years? So you don't have to tell me. Just, we should all answer that question to ourselves. And then we get perspective, Madam Speaker in terms of where we're at or where we're at regarding construction inflation, where we're at regarding the over-inflation of large capital private contracts, Madam Speaker. That's the situation we're in at the City of Winnipeg, Madam Speaker. That's why we're paying more and getting less, more than anything else and I'm open to discuss all sorts of inadequacies that we have at the city. That's our job. But Madam Speaker, we're not dealing with that one, Madam Speaker, and that's irresponsible.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Schreyer. Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Chambers: Yes, good morning. I rise in support of this motion here. Just speaking to Councillor Klein's comments earlier about providing a one year extension to the existing contracts for the purpose of review is good. But I think what contractors are also looking for is the opportunity to make investments to purchase new equipment that will speak to the safety of the passengers that it's providing that service for. We do need to have longer vision plans in place in terms of dealing with contractors that allow them to provide the equipment necessary as Councillor Nason had indicated. You know, we don't want to subject our citizens, our passengers to equipment that is faulty, that could add to risks while being on our roadways. So again, having a longer term plan in place and a longer term contract does provide the opportunities for these contractors to purchase the equipment that is needed to roll out this service. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Chambers. Seeing no further speakers, Councillor Allard, do you wish to close?

Councillor Allard: Yes, thanks Madam Speaker. There's been a lot of comments today. I think many of the…I think many issues that were raised in discussion today are addressed in the report. Not all issues that were raised today are addressed in the report. We do have a transit master planning process which is under way. I would urge my colleagues to vote for this report today with the understanding that we do have a transit master plan going on. Some of the ideas today I think are a significant policy changes which would be a real diversion from the way that we have been delivering transit plus. I would encourage my colleagues if they have those types of ideas to either work through the transit master plan, communicate with me as the Chair of IRPW, consider some motions to bring forward. But to take…to vote…to vote against this report because you disagree with the way that Handi-transit is being delivered I think has some risks. The report does identify that this contract is essential to continue delivering transit plus service, so I would suggest that if you are voting against this report you are potentially voting against…you are potentially voting to put the service at risk. I mean, it's just how it works. To…Madam Speaker, to Councillor Nason's comment of 25 percent of the force, this is not 25 percent of the force. The report identifies this as being 7 percent of the fleet. So I wanted to address that question there. There's actually some really good historic information in the report as well. If you look at how Handi-transit

originally started. It started as a pilot and then it was a public service provision and then there was some contracting out and then we went to full contracting out. So on the private versus public service delivery, I would suggest that's probably a broader discussion than this report here today. I would encourage you to have conversations with me, bring forward motions. And perhaps just to try to drive the point home, you know, I know there's been specific issues that were raised. Councillor Nason, you mentioned the rope on the Handi-transit vehicle, I understand that situation has been addressed. Looking forward to more updates from administration on, you know, precisely what the policy framework is there. But I don't think that's what we're talking about here today. I think today if you…we're talking about the provision of a contract to continue service and if we don't approve this contract, there is risks in terms of…in terms of the service itself. And you know, to Councillor Klein's suggestion of a one year extension, there is all sorts of operational questions that come to mind. You know, is that a single source contract? You know, this is the result of an RFP. I think our public service has done its work. Also to my colleagues, to most of my colleagues who have objections today, this is from the IRPW report from May 2nd, there's been opportunities to come and present at IRPW, at EPC and today…you know, today is the…it's the 11th hour and if we don't vote on this today, there is potential repercussions for our service. So you know, please vote for this report today and if you don't, I think you are putting the system at risk. And if you do have some policy suggestions in terms of how we can change the system, we have the transit master plan process that's going on right now and we can always entertain motions or ideas in terms of how to change the service. But I think the public service has done its job here and if you don't vote for this, you're maybe causing some problems to some of our most vulnerable people in Winnipeg.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Allard. With that I'll call the question on Item 2. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now have question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Allard? Councillor Nason.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Nason: I have a couple for the Chair of the Committee. So we just talk about and I've thrown it out a couple of times, the challenge of utilizing rope as a secure of…securing doors in the transit busses. I have asked the Administration for specific information pertaining to policy. The biggest challenge, yeah they fixed it. Challenges they continue to operate throughout the day with this as a broken item. Several members of the community, I believe there was one person that is a constituent of Councillor Allard, another that's a constituent of Councillor Orlikow, that have raised a significant concern that it continue to operate. So I'm hoping that the Chair can either find out or you know make sure that when these issues come up, that he can reassure us and the public that this is not standard operating procedures of a Transit Plus bus.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Nason. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Yes, thank you Madam Speaker. To Councillor Nason, thank you for raising the question, well today and in the media as well. I understand that this issue is being investigated and as soon as I have information to share with my colleagues, I'll be happy to do so.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question. No preamble, the question.

Councillor Nason: No preamble. Could the Chair please provide us some input with regards to lowering residential speed limits to either 30 or 40 km/h as most recently Vancouver and now Edmonton have entertained?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thank you for raising the question. I would be pleased to hear what Councillor Nason's position would be on that, actually. However, I understand it's not an order but I am pleased to see Councillor Nason raising the question. We had…I think it's been a couple of months ago, I was chomping at the bit to renew the…this, the report that Public Works IRPW had recommended the reduction speed on Marion Street to 50. There had been…that had been the recommendation both from the IRPW Committee as well as our public service. We're holding on that for now because the public service wants to have recommendations in terms of how we do address speeds in Winnipeg. It is now sole jurisdiction of the City of Winnipeg to set our speed. So we asked for it. Councillor Browaty was there at AMM when we asked the Province for this power. I was…at the time I was frustrated with having asked for 50 to the Manitoba Highway Traffic Act Board and having been denied not once but twice. So it's…it's our…it's in our jurisdiction now expecting a report from the public service in the coming months. They are aware and they had already…they were already working on a response when I asked the question and I brought forward the item at IRPW. So thank you for the….the question I think there's some…there's going to be some very…there's going to be some very big risk conversation on the issue of

speeds. And I think the reason why people are so interested is because of the link to speed and safety. As we all know, we'll all know…I'll voted to…for a $2.5 million budget allocation out of federal dollars if the federal budget passes, dedicated specifically road safety which I think is unprecedented in Winnipeg. So thank you to Councillor Rollins, Mayor Bowman and everyone involved in that conversation. Mindful that I want to probably allow for more questions, Madam Speaker. I would have more to say on this but I think the answer is we're on it. We're expecting a report soon.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Nason, final question.

Councillor Nason: I had three up in question.

Madam Speaker: That is three.

Councillor Nason: Anyway, so on the prospect of safety, you know, there's a big perception that the 30 km/h school zone playground limits are nothing but a tax grab or you know as I'd like to sometimes refer to an idiot tax. Is there an opportunity to look at that as a year-round as opposed to from a September to June By-law?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Pleased to…again, to hear Councillor Nason with ideas such as that one, I've had similar thoughts in the past. We're…Council is supreme. So Councillor Nason if you're willing to bring that forward, we'll be happy to hear it at Public Works and probably have a good debate there. I do think that that policy idea has merit in that I think much of the…some of the criticism comes when you…when tickets are issued on holidays, when tickets are issued when some drivers aren't necessarily thinking that the limits are still in effect. And I can also say as a parent of young children, my kids don't stop using the playground at school when school's out. Actually they might even use the playground more than they would when it's just recess time. So I think it's a very valid debate to have and welcome future conversations on it.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Allard. Councillor Lukes followed by Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you, Madam Chair. Those are very good questions brought forward and I think it's all part of a bigger, you know, like you said we're getting a report but also part of a bigger conversation related to our Vision Zero strategies and our plan. So I'm appreciative of the fact that we're using $2.5 million towards infrastructure and also towards a plan. And I'm just wanting to clarify from the Chair…when does he think that we will have…that the City of Winnipeg will have a road safety strategy, an actual comprehensive plan in place. What time frame?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Yes, thanks Councillor Lukes for the question. Councillor Lukes is very much aware of I think where we're at in terms of all the public information. We've had verbal reports in terms of where we're at with road safety. We currently are subscribers of the provincial strategy towards Zero. You know, I think there's tremendous interest from the public, from the City Council and I think we've seen unprecedented work on road safety in the last few years. We have a first of its kind, pilot in terms of traffic calming in the Lord Roberts Community. We have these unprecedented dollars on road safety. There's a lot going on and we are subscribers of the Towards Zero Strategy and that's part of the provincial plan.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Allard. Any further questions? Councillor Lukes, second question.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you, Councillor Allard. Yes, I'm very aware that we're subscribing to the…or looking to the provincial strategy. The question was what time frame does the Chair feel that Winnipeg will have a road safety strategy of its own? What time frame, in months, years, what…that's the question. I'm not clear on that from all the information that's come public.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Well, I refer Councillor Lukes to the Appendix Report at the before last Public Works meeting where there was information about the Winnipeg subscription of the Towards Zero policies. There's also since then been clarification at EPC from our Director of Public Works. There's also been a new website that's been created to talk about all the different road safety initiatives. And also at Public Works, we had heard from our administration that as far as the Transportation Master Plan, there will be a road safety component to that. So there's a number of touch stones, tough points going on right now and I'd refer to Councillor Lukes' public record. And if there's more questions, be happy to entertain more questions.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question, Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: So I appreciate that all that information is out there, but nowhere does it say clearly and I'm asking for people on Council to understand this and for the viewing audience to understand this.

Madam Speaker: Your question, Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: When do you think the City of Winnipeg will have a formal road safety strategy in place?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: I think I'd refer Councillor Lukes to the public…the public information that's already out there like the Appendix Report, Public Works' meeting, a couple of Public Works meetings ago. I thank Councillor Lukes for the question. I'm happy to continue this conversation perhaps offline.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Chambers followed by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Chambers: Yeah, so thank you Councillor Nason for bringing up the issue of road safety. Over the last couple of weeks, I've been working with residences in my ward to address road safety in terms of having Slow Down signs placed on their lawns and boulevards to bring more awareness to motorists that they're driving through residential areas. I've also reached out to our media to highlight this story in terms of road safety. I note that, you know, there was a report that was done or a survey that was done, talking about reducing residential speeds to 30 km/h and 65% of Winnipeggers had indicated that it was a very bad…a bad or a very bad idea. And only 35% of Winnipeggers were in support of it. My question is in it…it's an opportunity maybe even with the committee chair of Safety as well as to look at increasing fines on where motorists are exceeding the speed in residential areas to the point where they're…it's more prohibitive for them to drive in excessive speeds based on the fines that are associated with being caught speeding in residential zones.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Chambers. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thank you for the idea and the question. I believe that would be the jurisdiction of the Manitoba Highway Traffic Act. However, if my colleagues do have some ideas in terms of what we might ask the Province for, that's certainly something that we can look into.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, a number of years ago, the former Councillor Harvey Smith and I moved a motion to slow it down to 40 on residential streets. And at the time, Madam Speaker, there was a lot of public scrutiny on that. And many people, although there was no official survey, Madam Speaker, what was happening was, most people were "don't make it 30 that's too slow". It was a lot better when you were saying 40 km/h. And at 40 km/h, there was a pilot like years and years ago in Edmonton and it's good to see that they're finally looking at applying their 40 but that's where Councillor Smith and I got the inspiration, Madam Speaker. And I don't think, Madam Speaker, in terms of that…people are also…when I get speed studies done where people say people are speeding, there is the odd person going over 50 but it's interesting that the current condition of our streets has people slow down. But usually the speed on those residential streets, Madam Speaker, the average speed is about 42 km/h which is not speeding but it looks kind of fast but injuries are less than that. And so my question, Madam Speaker, is will the Chairperson be looking at implementing a 40 km/h on residential streets where the school zones are not indicated before we get an overall strategy in terms of safety on streets.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thanks for the question. Yes, I think…I think we do need to wait for the proposed process from the public service in terms of how to move forward. You know whether it's 30, 40, whether it's status quo, I think we need to look at the big picture in terms of where we are in the city…where we are as the City. We know that Winnipeg…Winnipeg is I mean it's cliché that it's…when you talk to the Municipal Government that that to say that your municipality is different than you know all other municipalities. But Winnipeg is a city that has an arterial road network. We don't have a whole lot of overpasses, underpasses. What might work in another jurisdiction may not be appropriate here. Our arterial and collector road network in Winnipeg is a vital part of our transportation system. So I do think we need to take a look at all these ideas all together and as Council decide how we should move forward.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie, second question.

Councillor Eadie: Madam Speaker, the studies are done on residential streets for 40 km/h in Edmonton. I'm just…I'm not talking about arterials. We're talking about moving forward with the 40 km/h on residential streets unless there's a School Zone which is 30. So can we implement that? Studies are done. All is we've got to do is look at it.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Eadie. Councillor Allard. Pardon me.

Councillor Allard: So I mean…why 40, Councillor Eadie? Vancouver just passed a pilot for 30. You know like I think that we need to have a discussion as a council. I'm not going to take position without having a serious conversation with all my council colleagues and the public service defines what might be or what is the direction that we should be going towards as a city and as a council.

Madam Speaker: Thank you.

Councillor Allard: I mean it's clear to me that speed is…the more that you increase speed, the more that you increase the corresponding risk.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Allard, thank you.

Councillor Allard: And I look forward to talking about this more with all of you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. That concludes our question period. Next committee is the Standing Policy Committee on Finance. We will now have question period for the Chair. Any questions for Councillor Gillingham? Okay, seeing none. Our last committee is the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment. Any questions for our chair, for Councillor Gilroy? Councillor Lukes.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
WATER AND WASTE, RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Lukes: Madam Chair, just a South End question about the flood. Just…if there's any little update on the flood that wasn't the flood, where they're at with finishing off probably winding up, maintaining, just any insight would be great.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: We've made it through the flood season. So happy to announce that. I think everyone knows that. I will get back to Councillor Lukes because one question I was asking public service but haven't got an answer back yet is what's happening with some of the sandbags, some of the area residents in Councillor Chambers' Ward, in particularly, they do have sandbags up. So I'm just trying to find out what's happening with those sandbags. Maybe I can get back to you on how they're handling the clean-up after and the aftermath of it all.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Nason.

Councillor Nason: Just a quick question if the Chair might be able to respond where the, you know, to entertain Councillor Eadie with the North Winnipeg Water & Waste Treatment Plant project. Where…it standing with the City Auditor and when we might expect it to come back.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: I'd have to get back to the Councillor on that. I don't have an answer.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Seeing none. Councillor Lukes, will you move adjournment? All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, your last roll call. Congratulations on your retirement.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Schreyer.

Council adjourned at 11:48 a.m.