Minute No. 293
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services - March 8, 2004

Item No. 2 **Renewal of Contract with Winnipeg Regional Health Authority for Provision of Emergency Medical Response and Inter-Facility Transport Services**
File GF-5

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That the City of Winnipeg enter into an agreement with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) for the provision of emergency medical response and inter-facility transport services in the City of Winnipeg by the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service for a period of five (5) years from the effective date of the agreement.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gerbasi,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 17, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 8, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted its recommendation to the Executive Policy Committee and Council. Further, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services requested that a Council Seminar be scheduled within the next forty-five (45) days to discuss the agreement between the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) for the provision of Emergency Medical Response and Inter-Facility Transport Services.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

RE: RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH WRHA FOR PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE AND INTER-FACILITY TRANSPORT SERVICES

FOR SUBMISSION TO: Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: Wes Shoemaker
Fire & Paramedic Chief

REPORT DATE: January 30, 2004

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the City of Winnipeg enter into an agreement with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority for the provision of emergency medical response and inter-facility transport services in the City of Winnipeg by the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service for a period of five (5) years from the effective date of the agreement.

REPORT SUMMARY:

Key Issues:

1. The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) is responsible for the provision of ambulance service within the City of Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) provides pre-hospital emergency medical care and non-emergency transfer services within the City of Winnipeg by contract with the WRHA. The most recent City of Winnipeg contract with the WRHA for these services was for a three-year period from September 18, 2000, to September 17, 2003.
2. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) approved an extension of the contract up to and including December 31, 2003 or until such time as a new contract is ratified, following the terms and conditions of the contract.
3. The WFPS has negotiated and finalized the terms and conditions of the proposed contract for a further five years.

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General implications:

None

For the organization overall &/or for other departments

For the community and/or organizations external to the City

x Involves a multi-year contract

Comment(s): Contract renewal five (5) years from effective date of agreement.

Policy implications:

x No

Yes Comment(s):

Environmental implications:

x No

Yes Comment(s):

Human Resources implications:

x No

Yes Comment(s):

Financial implications:

Within approved current and/or capital budget

x Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s): The current budget adjustment represents the tax supported portion of the 2004 to 2006 draft estimates.

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

Council must approve renewal of a multi year contract with the City of Winnipeg and the WRHA for the provision of ambulance service within the City of Winnipeg.

HISTORY:

The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service has historically provided pre-hospital emergency medical care and non-emergency transfer services to the citizens of Winnipeg by contract with the WRHA. The most recent contract was for a three-year period from September 18, 2000 to September 17, 2003. An extension of the contract up to and including December 31, 2003 or until such time as a new contract is ratified was approved by the CAO on October 20, 2003.

On July 17, 2002, Council approved in principle a long-term funding agreement for ambulance service provision and directed the FPS to proceed with service amalgamation. This contract formalizes all the terms of this agreement.

DISCUSSION:
The City of Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, with assistance from Legal Services, has negotiated and finalized the terms and conditions of the proposed five-year contract with the WRHA to provide long-term funding for the provision of ambulance services. The contract includes the following:

- Financial recognition for contribution of firefighter first responders.
- Commitment to participating in group purchasing, logistics pharmacy services, etc., where beneficial.
- A minimum of 50% of cost of service shall be derived through user fees.
- The City and WRHA shall share surplus or deficit equally.
- WFPS will have the exclusive right to provide medical response services (911 Community Emergency Response).

The new funding framework is reflected in a memorandum of agreement between Manitoba Health and the WRHA. Impacts of additional ambulances and binding arbitration for paramedics are contemplated. Allowances are made for differences in fiscal years between the City and WRHA.

The WRHA will continue to include the FPS in its business planning process.

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS CONSULTATION WITH, AND CONCURRENCY BY:

Corporate Services Department
Legal Services Division

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Prepared by: Michelle Weimer, Executive Assistant
Division: Administration

Approved:

"original signed by"

W. H. Shoemaker

Financial Impact Statement

Date: January 30, 2004

Project Name:

First Year of Program 2004

Renewal of the agreement with WRHA for the provision of Emergency Medical Response and Interfacility Transfer Services for five (5) years from effective date of agreement.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 22,292,346	$ 22,920,905	$ 22,994,627	$ 23,454,520	$ 23,923,610
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	16,973,062	17,527,745	17,757,724	18,113,399	18,475,667
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 5,319,284	$ 5,393,160	$ 5,236,903	$ 5,341,121	$ 5,447,943
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ 5,319,284	$ 5,393,160	$ 5,236,903	$ 5,341,121	$ 5,447,943

Additional Comments: 2004 to 2006 costs and recoveries are based on the departmental draft 2004 to 2006 estimates. 2007 and 2008 costs are adjusted for inflation. The net budget adjustment required represents the City's portion of the funding for the costs of EMS service. The 2004 to 2006 amounts for the City's portion of funding have been included in the departmental draft estimates for those years.

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Manager of Finance & Administration