Minute No. 299
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Public Works - March 9, 2004

Item No. 4 Amendment to the City of Winnipeg Traffic By-law No. 1573/77 - Provencher Bridge Weight Restriction
Files ST-5.2 and SB-13

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and adopted the following:

1. That the City of Winnipeg Traffic By-law No. 1573/77 be amended by deleting Section (A) (8) of Schedule 6, being a restriction that limits the gross vehicle weight of vehicles on the Provencher Bridge to 36,500 kilograms.

2. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be requested to prepare the necessary amending by-law for submission to Council for approval.

3. 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 Steeves,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 17, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 9, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Re: AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF WINNIPEG TRAFFIC BY-LAW No. 1573/77 PROVENCHER BRIDGE WEIGHT RESTRICTION

For Submission To: STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

Original Report Signed By: Acting Director of Public Works

Report Date: February 27, 2004

Recommendations (s):

That:

1) The City of Winnipeg Traffic By-law No. 1573/77 be amended by deleting Section (A) (8) of Schedule 6, being a restriction that limits the gross vehicle weight of vehicles on the Provencher Bridge to 36,500 kilograms; and that

2) The City Solicitor/ Manager of Legal Services be requested to prepare the necessary amending by-law for submission to Council for approval.

REPORT SUMMARY:

Key Issues:

- The newly constructed Provencher Bridge, with 2 traffic lanes in each direction, is now fully open to public usage.

- This new bridge has been designed to carry vehicles having a gross vehicle weight which is similar to that legally allowed on the vast majority of City bridges and all City streets, including elsewhere along the Provencher Boulevard/Water Avenue/ Pioneer Avenue route.

- There is no longer a need for the Traffic By-law to specify a 36,500 kilogram weight restriction on the Provencher Bridge.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION(S):

General Implications:

[X] None
[ ] For the organization overall and/or other departments
[ ] For the community and/or organizations external to the City
[ ] Involves a multi-year phase in process

Comment(s): The recommendations contained herein are consistent with past practice of amending the Traffic By-law whenever the weight carrying capacity of a bridge is increased either as a result of structural upgrading, or complete replacement of a bridge structure with a design meeting current standards, such as is the case with the Provencher Bridge.

Policy Implications:

[x] No
[ ] Yes

Comment(s): The recommendation contained herein is consistent with the Public Works Department's practice whenever a new bridge is constructed to current standards and made available to public usage.

Environmental Implications:

[X] No
[ ] Yes

Comment(s): There is no net impact on the environment associated with implementation of this recommendation**.**

Human Resource Implications:

[x] No
[ ] Yes

Comment(s): There is no expenditure of human resources required to implement this recommendation, other than that associated with processing the legal documents which will be undertaken with existing personnel funded by the Current Budget.

Financial Implications:

[x] Within approved current and/or capital budget
[ ] Current and/or capital budget adjustment needed

Comment(s): There is no cost associated with implementing this recommendation.

REPORT

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

An amendment to The City of Winnipeg Traffic By-law No. 1573/77 requires concurrence by the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and approval by Council.

DISCUSSION:

Provencher Boulevard is a Regional (arterial) Street, a Bus Route, a Snow Route, and a Full-Time Truck Route. It is part of Route 57 that includes a major crossing of the Red River (Provencher Bridge). In the east, this route connects with rue Archibald (Route 30), and in the west, it includes Notre Dame Avenue, Cumberland Avenue, Portage Avenue and Main Street.

Based on a study undertaken between February 3 and 14, 2004, with both the eastbound and westbound bridge structures fully open to public usage, in a typical 12-hour weekday between 07:00 and 19:00, Provencher Bridge carries approximately 27,100 vehicles. Of the 27,100 vehicles, approximately 950 (4%) are trucks as defined in the Traffic By-law, namely a motor vehicle or semi-trailer truck that has more than 4 tires.

On average, on Truck Routes City-wide, trucks account for 7% of all traffic - varying from 2% to 18%. Of the 950 trucks using Provencher Bridge, the majority, 490 (52%) are of the smaller variety having only 6 tires.

Work first began on the replacement of the old Provencher Bridge in early 2001. The old bridge had limitations such as the lack of separation of opposing traffic flow since it contained a 4 lane undivided roadway, a significant vertical and horizontal curve at its west end, and a 36,500 kilogram weight restriction because of the age of the bridge.

The new bridge consists of two through traffic lanes in each direction divided by a centre median and a short turning lane onto Tache Avenue. The new bridge has been designed using modern bridge design codes and is, therefore, now capable of carrying vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of up to 62,500 kilograms, being the maximum gross vehicle weight legally allowed on the vast majority of City bridges, and on all City streets, including elsewhere along the Provencher Boulevard/Water Avenue/Pioneer avenue route.

This new structure, the design and construction of which is compliant with the latest version of the Canadian Bridge Construction Code, is structurally capable of carrying

the maximum gross vehicle weight legally permitted on the City's 2,700 kilometres of streets. Accordingly, there is no longer a requirement for a weight restriction on this new bridge structure.

It is therefore recommended that the City of Winnipeg Traffic By-law No. 1573/77 be amended by deleting Section (A) (8) of Schedule 6, being a restriction that limits the gross vehicle weight of vehicles on the Provencher Bridge to 36,500 kilograms.

Financial Impact Statement Date: February 26, 2004

Project Name:

Amendment to The City of Winnipeg Traffic By-law no. 1573/77
Provencher Bridge weight restriction

COMMENTS:

There is no financial impact as this report is for information only.

"Original signed by Darcy Stewart, CA"
Manager of Finance & Administration

Approved by Divisional Accountant Trainee: ✓

In preparing this report, there was consultation with and concurrence by: N/A

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Department: Public Works Department
Division: Transportation Division
Prepared by: Carl Sitarz, Traffic Analyst Ph 986-5067
Processed by: Carol Kawaza, Secretary to Traffic Management Ph 986-5288
File No. R-13
Document Name: ProvencherBridgeSchedule6Traffic By-law AmendmentReport