Minute No. 45
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – November 10, 2020

Item No. 1 Initiating Transit Plus Service based on Conditions of Roads and Sidewalks

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Committee within 180 days on a policy for determining when winter Transit Plus service should be initiated based on a defined metric of "appropriate conditions of our roads and sidewalks based on ice and snow and or other conditions worthy of consideration for safety".

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Allard,

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

Carried

(See Minute No. 44 for opposition recorded by Councillor Nason)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 18, 2020, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 10, 2020, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works considered the Council Motion of October 29, 2020, and submitted the following to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Committee within 180 days on a policy for determining when winter Transit Plus service should be initiated based on a defined metric of "appropriate conditions of our roads and sidewalks based on ice and snow and or other conditions worthy of consideration for safety".

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

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – November 10, 2020

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On October 29, 2020, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

WHEREAS Council recently changed the policy for winter-only eligible users of Transit Plus from a system where users would be eligible for Transit plus service automatically on October 15 annually;

AND WHEREAS The original policy didn’t recognize that often our roads and sidewalks are free of snow and ice significantly later than October 15;

AND WHEREAS the discretion to start access to winter seasonal Transit Plus service now lies with the Manager of Transit Plus and that power has not been utilized as of today, despite there being significant ice and snow on streets and sidewalks;

AND WHEREAS many in the community and on Council believe that given today's conditions winter seasonal Transit Plus service should now be available;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the public service develop a policy for consideration and approval of Council for determining when winter Transit Plus service should be initiated based on a defined metric of "appropriate conditions of our roads and sidewalks based on ice and snow and or other conditions worthy of consideration for safety".