Agenda – Council – March 25, 2021

Report – Executive Policy Committee – March 17, 2021

Item No. 14 Memorandum of Agreement – Inter-Radio Frequency Subsystem Interface for Public Safety Communications Systems Between the City of Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 17, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a Memorandum of Agreement with the Government of Manitoba regarding the bi-lateral usage of the P25 ISSI system and such other agreements as determined necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

2. That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Agreement in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

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

Report – Executive Policy Committee – March 17, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 17, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Memorandum of Agreement – Inter-Radio Frequency Subsystem Interface for Public Safety Communications Systems Between the City of Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
O. Jegede	G. Cottick	N/A	M. Ruta, Interim CAO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Winnipeg's P25 Public Safety Radio Communications System was recently connected to the Provincial P25 Public Safety System via the connection standard known as the Inter-Radio Frequency SubSystem Interface (ISSI). This connection allows for interoperability of agencies (e.g., The City of Winnipeg: WPS & WFPS, Government of Manitoba: RCMP & Shared Health, etc.), as well as greater radio coverage.

A Memorandum of Agreement ("MoA") has been jointly drafted and reviewed by the City of Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba. The purpose of the MoA is to stipulate the conditions under which agencies can make use of the new capabilities enabled by the ISSI.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a Memorandum of Agreement with the Government of Manitoba regarding the bi-lateral usage of the P25 ISSI system and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

2. That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Agreement in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. That the proper officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Approval by Council is required for the City to enter into the MoA with the Government of Manitoba.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

As the Inter-RF SubSystem Interface is currently free of charge, there are no current financial implications of this recommendation. In accordance with the MoA, any future changes to the Public Safety Radio Communications System fee structure will be communicated through the appropriate channels and will only become effective on the date noted therein should said changes be deemed appropriate.

Approval of these recommendations will allow for the City of Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba's various agencies to interoperate through the P25 Radio Communications Systems.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The City of Winnipeg's P25 Public Safety Radio Communications System ("PSCS") was successfully deployed by L3Harris Canada Systems Inc. in 2017. The Radio Communications System was designed with the capability to connect to a separate P25 Radio Communications System deployed by another vendor. This enabling infrastructure is called the Inter-RF SubSystem Interface ("ISSI"). The ISSI is the P25 industry standard for connecting P25 Radio Systems deployed by different vendors.

The City's Radio System was deployed by L3Harris while the Government of Manitoba's (Province) was deployed by Motorola and BellMTS. Connecting both Radio Communications Systems through the separate ISSI allows for Interoperability of agencies (e.g., City of Winnipeg: WPS & WFPS, Government of Manitoba: RCMP & Shared Health, etc.) using either of the Radio Systems, as well as extension of radio coverage of each system. This would allow radios of the aforementioned agencies on either system to communicate across both Radio Communications Systems as needed.

The MoA will stipulate the conditions under which agencies can make use of the new capabilities enabled by the ISSI. The MoA, as of the date of the last communication from the Province, stipulates that the use of the Provincial PSCS is free to participating public safety entities once such entities have been approved by Manitoba in writing. As per the MoA, any future changes to the PSCS fee structure will be communicated through the appropriate channels and will become effective on the date noted therein. The MoA also stipulates that a committee (ISSI Operation Committee) be established by the City and the Government of Manitoba to handle ongoing issues related to the ISSI bridge. The Committee is to comprise of two (2) people selected by the City and two (2) people selected by the Government of Manitoba. In addition, members of the Committee will review airtime usage at least once a year (or the duration agreed upon) during the term of this MoA. The findings will then be brought back to the Manitoba's Public Safety Communications Service Business Management Committee and the City of Winnipeg's P25 Governance Committee to aid in determining if the ISSI service should remain free of charge to both partners.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: February 12, 2021

Project Name:

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT – INTER- RADIO FREQUENCY SUBSYSTEM INTERFACE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS BETWEEN THE CITY OF WINNIPEG AND THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

COMMENTS:

There are no financial implications associated in the recommendations of this report. Any future changes to the Public Safety Radio Communications System fee structure will be communicated through the appropriate channels.

Electronically signed by
Tanis Yanchicshyn
Manager of Finance
Campus Finance

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

Legal Services (as to legal issues)

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

This request aligns with Our Winnipeg Policy 01-2 Safety and Security, ensuring emergency preparedness, response and recovery support and services are available.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

Not Applicable

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Innovation, Transformation and Technology
Division: Connectivity – Communication Systems Branch
Prepared by: O. Jegede
Date: February 25, 2021
File No: n/a