Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – April 21, 2021

REPORTS

Item No. 19 Affordable Housing Program – Assisted Living Units

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 1, 2021, the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee recommended to the Executive Policy Committee that the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to:

1. Liaise with officials in the Manitoba Department of Health and Seniors Care and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to determine the provincial government's timeline with respect to their 1,200 personal care bed commitment.

2. Report back in 180 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development on options to leverage the Provincial personal care bed commitment noted in Recommendation 1 above with the City's affordable housing program to create new affordable assisted living units for low-income seniors including those living with dementia.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 1, 2021, the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg was designated an Age Friendly City in 2015 by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the World Health Organization;

AND WHEREAS January was Alzheimer's Awareness Month in Canada, traditionally a time to address disease-related stigma; reinforce the human rights of those living with dementia and consider policy that may assist;

AND WHEREAS Alzheimer advocates say there are gaps in the healthcare system and are pressing for change;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg 2020 Comprehensive Housing Needs Assessment found that as the City's elderly population increases there will be growing demand for assisted living units for low-income seniors;

AND WHEREAS during the 2016 election the provincial government committed to the creation of 1,200 new personal care beds;

AND WHEREAS the Public Service is currently working on an affordable housing program that will assist affordable housing developers in leveraging funding from Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee request the Executive Policy Committee to direct the Winnipeg Public Service to:

1. Liaise with officials in the Manitoba Department of Health and Seniors Care and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to determine the provincial government's timeline with respect to their 1,200 personal care bed commitment.

2. Report back in 180 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development on options to leverage the Provincial personal care bed commitment noted in Recommendation 1 above with the City's affordable housing program to create new affordable assisted living units for low-income seniors including those living with dementia.