Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – July 14, 2021

REPORTS

Item No. 16 Mother Earth Recycling

Councillor Mayes, St. Vital Ward, has submitted the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee for consideration:

WHEREAS Mother Earth Recycling, an Indigenous owned and operated work integrated social enterprise, has diverted 50,000 mattresses away from Brady Landfill over the last five years.

AND WHEREAS Mother Earth Recycling provides unique and reliable recycling services, while also creating meaningful jobs and training opportunities in the community.

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg provides Mother Earth Recycling with an annual grant of $120,000 from the Solid Waste Utility.

AND WHEREAS Mother Earth Recycling staff separate mattresses into individual components, to be sent elsewhere: wood goes to Transcona's Greensite Recycling; springs stay in the local scrap market and are sent to the foundry in Selkirk; foam is sent Reynolds Urethane Recycling in Madison Wisconsin.

AND WHEREAS Mother Earth Recycling has experienced higher than usual volume in 2021 and will complete its annual complement of 8,000 mattresses recycled within the next several weeks.

AND WHEREAS one of the byproducts of the pandemic has been enhanced home improvement projects, including furniture purchases such as new mattresses.

AND WHEREAS given that the Solid Waste Utility has reported slightly lower waste diversion rates throughout the pandemic being able divert an increased volume of mattresses would help improve the City's waste diversion efforts.

AND WHEREAS Mother Earth Recycling provides a service for the City of Winnipeg in that it diverts nearly 98% of the mattresses it receives from being disposed of at Brady Landfill.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee recommends to Council:

1. That the Public Service provide a grant of $60,000 to Mother Earth Recycling, from the Solid Waste Utility, to cover the cost of services required to recycle 4,000 more mattresses to the end of 2021.

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and the Ancillary Agreements, in accordance with Recommendation 1 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.