Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – July 14, 2021

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development – July 6, 2021

Item No. 4 Land Use Regulations – Retail Cannabis Locations

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back within 120 days on the following:

    A. An update on the number and geographic distribution of new retail cannabis store locations established since the previous two-year report back in October 2020.

    B. Discussion on best practices from other Canadian municipalities in terms of regulatory approaches to prevent cannabis retail stores clustering and to ensure compatible signage and storefront design for cannabis retail stores, and include guidelines and suggested practices on locations and recommended distances from schools, playgrounds, and parks.

    C. Discussion of any land use issues or recommendations for policies and/or By-law amendments that may be necessary to address the aforementioned concerns.

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

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development – July 6, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Yea:	Bowman, Allard, Browaty, Gillingham, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins	7
Nay:		0

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 6, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development considered the Council Motion of June 24, 2021, and recommended to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back within 120 days on the following:

    A. An update on the number and geographic distribution of new retail cannabis store locations established since the previous two-year report back in October 2020.

    B. Discussion on best practices from other Canadian municipalities in terms of regulatory approaches to prevent cannabis retail stores clustering and to ensure compatible signage and storefront design for cannabis retail stores, and include guidelines and suggested practices on locations and recommended distances from schools, playgrounds, and parks.

    C. Discussion of any land use issues or recommendations for policies and/or By-law amendments that may be necessary to address the aforementioned concerns.

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

Councillor Eadie, Mynarski Ward, submitted a communication dated July 5, 2021 with respect to the matter.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development – July 6, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On June 24, 2021, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development:

Moved by Councillor Eadie,
Seconded by Councillor Sharma,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has seen a steady increase in the number of retail cannabis stores being established over the past year;

AND WHEREAS some areas of the City have seen multiple retail cannabis stores being clustered in close proximity to one another;

AND WHEREAS exterior storefront treatments of these stores, including signage and opaque windows negatively impact the aesthetic value of our commercial retail streets.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back within 120 days with:

    A. An update on the number and geographic distribution of new retail cannabis store locations established since the previous two-year report back in October 2020.

    B. Discussion on best practices from other Canadian municipalities in terms of regulatory approaches to prevent cannabis retail stores clustering and to ensure compatible signage and storefront design for cannabis retail stores.

    C. Discussion of any land use issues or recommendations for policies and/or By-law amendments that may be necessary to address the aforementioned concerns.