Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – June 15, 2022

REPORTS

Item No. 13 Response to Catalytic Converter Thefts and Resale of High Value Precious Metals

COUNCIL DECISION:

On May 26, 2022, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Rollins,

WHEREAS catalytic converter thefts have been a growing problem in Winnipeg and in many Canadian municipalities;

WHEREAS anecdotal evidence suggests that these thefts are well organized and coordinated;

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has adopted new scrap metal regulations in recent years intended to curb the re-sale of metals from stolen property;

WHEREAS current market prices for precious metals contained in catalytic converters make them a highly lucrative target for theft, and economical to transport long distances to other jurisdictions for processing and re-sale;

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has had success in the past with specialised law enforcement responses to specific criminal phenomenon, such as the historic arson task force;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Public Service report back to Council within 180 days on a menu of options in response to the wave of catalytic converter thefts in Winnipeg, including but not limited too a catalytic converter task force to respond in a specialised way to the crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Public Service call on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Association of Manitoba Municipalities to discuss a coordinated response among municipalities, provincial and federal governments to the resale of high value precious metals which are economical to transport long distances for processing.