Minute No. 574
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – June 9, 2022

Item No. 2 Funding for Consultant to Assist with a Plan to Reduce Transit Fares to $1.00

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and adopted the following:

1. That funding for a consultant which would assist Winnipeg Transit in refining and calibrating the planning model of the Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan (WTMP) in order to reduce cash transit fares by approximately $0.25 cents annually until such time as the cash fare is $1.00, be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Allard,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 15, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 9, 2022, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works considered the Council Motion of May 26, 2022, and recommended to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That funding for a consultant which would assist Winnipeg Transit in refining and calibrating the planning model of the Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan (WTMP) in order to reduce cash transit fares by approximately $0.25 cents annually until such time as the cash fare is $1.00, be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process.

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

COUNCIL DECISION:

On May 26, 2022, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works:

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – June 9, 2022

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

Moved by Councillor Santos,
Seconded by Councillor Allard,

WHEREAS the Transit Fare Structure and Fare Reductions report (the Report) submitted by the Public Service at the May 4, 2022, meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, suggested that a reduction in fares might yield a nominal increase in net operating revenue, due to increased ridership offsetting the fare reduction;

AND WHEREAS the Report also stated that the results of the modelling of fare reductions in PM peak period show that although ridership continues to increase as fares decrease, revenue appears to be maximized at an approximate 20% reduction in fares;

AND WHEREAS the Report stated:

> *"Should Council direct Winnipeg Transit to consider the reduction of fares to this extent to coincide with the introduction of the WTMP route network, significant additional work would be required on the part of Winnipeg Transit to refine and calibrate the planning model of the WTMP network, and to carry out the analysis. The assistance of a consultant would likely be needed for this work, which would require additional funding. Ideally, Winnipeg Transit would only report back on the results of this modelling when seeking approval to implement the WTMP network."*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that funding for a consultant which would assist Winnipeg Transit in refining and calibrating the planning model of the Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan (WTMP) in order to reduce cash transit fares by approximately $0.25 cents annually until such time as the cash fare is $1.00, be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process.