Minute No. 103
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – November 28, 2022

Item No. 5 Grant to Winnipeg Art Gallery for Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and adopted the following:

1. That a grant in the amount of $79,900.00 (plus GST, and MRST as applicable) from the 2022 Urban Forest Renewal capital budget to The Winnipeg Art Gallery for the Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard project be approved.

2. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a Grant Agreement with The Winnipeg Art Gallery and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

3. 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 this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the forgoing.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – November 28, 2022

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Orlikow,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 7, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 28, 2022, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Grant to Winnipeg Art Gallery for Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
D Domke	J. Berezowsky	C. Kloepfer	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Public Service is requesting that Council approve a grant, from within approved 2022 capital budget funds, to The Winnipeg Art Gallery ("The WAG") for $79,900.00 (plus GST and MRST as applicable) in order to support a tree-planting project on Memorial Boulevard. This tree-planting project was initiated by The WAG as part of a grant they received from the Government of Canada's Canada Community Revitalization Fund for their broader project entitled "Create a year-round outdoor community space at WAG-Qaumajuq."

Because this project involves tree-planting in the public right-of-way, The WAG consulted the Public Service after completing their application to the Federal Government. After these consultations, The WAG realized that it would require additional funds in order to comply with the City's standards for tree planting on downtown and regional streets. Construction is currently underway and the tree-planting project must be completed by December 31, 2022 for The WAG to benefit from federal funding.

For the street tree planting component of The WAG's project (the "Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard project") the total cost is estimated to be $207,600.00 (plus GST, and MRST as applicable) (as shown in Appendix A). The Public Service is proposing that the City contribute $79,900.00 (plus GST, and MRST as applicable) of this overall amount. Funds for this grant are available in the current approved capital budget for 2022, and no additional capital funding will be required.

A grant to The WAG for the Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard project will help to significantly improve one of Winnipeg's longest heavy-traffic downtown blocks into a people-centered welcoming place. It will allow the installation of necessary infrastructure in accordance with the City's Tree Planting Standards for Regional Streets and Downtown to ensure long-term success of tree planting along this corridor. This project also contributes to the addition of canopy cover in the downtown heat island to mitigate impacts of climate change, and contributes to the beautification of downtown.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a grant in the amount of $79,900.00 (plus GST, and MRST as applicable) from the 2022 Urban Forest Renewal capital budget to The Winnipeg Art Gallery for the Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard project be approved.

2. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a Grant Agreement with The Winnipeg Art Gallery and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

3. 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 this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

4. That the proper officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the forgoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Only Council has the authority to approve grants.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

Grant funding in the amount of $79,900.00 (plus GST, and MRST as applicable) is available in the approved 2022 capital budget – Urban Forest Renewal 003-181000-180605-1850000322. No new additional budget is required.

This project would provide a positive investment of public tree assets with the required infrastructure to redevelop canopy and enhance public space in the downtown area. The WAG is contributing 61.50% of the costs for the tree planting work and a 2-year warranty for the trees planted.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) is a two-year, $500 million national infrastructure program funded by the Government of Canada to revitalize communities across Canada. Not-for-profit organizations, municipalities and other public institutions, and Indigenous communities can apply for funding for projects that aim to:

- revitalize downtown cores and main streets
- reinvent outdoor spaces
- create green infrastructure
- increase the accessibility of community spaces.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery (The WAG) is a successful applicant of this CCRF program. The project is entitled “Create a year-round outdoor community space at WAG-Qaumajuq” with the objective of revitalizing the outdoor spaces of WAG-Qaumajuq along Memorial Boulevard and St. Mary Avenue to create physically and visibly accessible, safe, year-round community access to the collection and gallery. The intent of the project, overall, is to break down barriers so all Manitobans can enjoy the art and spaces year-round, regardless of ability – aligning with The WAG’s strategic plan to ensure all Manitobans can access their collection and their gallery.

The WAG’s project proposal under the CCRF program includes:

- installation of trees on the public right-of-way adjacent to the Memorial Boulevard ramp and creating a new public green space,
- creating a public patio with a view of the Inuit art vault,
- adding automatic sliding doors to entrances,
- upgrading all lighting, and
- adding interactive public art that visitors can program, touch and enjoy.

The total amount granted to The WAG by the Government of Canada is $420,235.00. The deadline for overall project completion is March 31, 2023.

A partnership with and grant to The WAG for the Memorial Boulevard tree planting will contribute to the improvement of one of Winnipeg’s longest heavy-traffic downtown blocks into a people-centered welcoming place, by investing in the necessary infrastructure to ensure long term growth of trees along this corridor in the downtown area. This tree planting project contributes to the addition of canopy cover in the downtown heat island to mitigate impacts of climate change, and contributes to the beautification of downtown.

Deadlines for work completion are listed below:

- Installation of lighting and landscaping in Qaumajuq Plaza – 9/30/22
- Completion of rooftop sculpture garden landscaping – 10/31/22)
- Installation of outdoor signage, furniture, and **frontage landscaping (tree planting along Memorial Boulevard) – 12/31/22)**
- Installation of outdoor permanent art – 3/31/23

The Public Service has been working with The WAG to ensure it meets City tree planting standards on downtown streets; this has resulted in higher costs for the project than originally estimated by The WAG (as shown in Appendix A). The Public Service was not involved in the funding application submitted by The WAG to the federal grant program.

The WAG has proceeded with the project under City-approved drawings and construction procedures due to time constraints imposed under the federal grant program. The funding agreement between The WAG and Government of Canada requires the tree planting to be completed this fall. If not completed within this specific timeline, the federal grant to The WAG will be lost.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** October 14, 2022

Project Name: **First Year of Program** **2022**

Grant to Winnipeg Art Gallery for Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ 83,296	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	83,296	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 4,759	$ 9,610	$ 9,610	$ 9,610	$ 9,610
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 4,759	$ 9,610	$ 9,610	$ 9,610	$ 9,610
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	4,759	9,610	9,610	9,610	9,610
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: Total estimated cost of $83,296 will be funded from the 2022 Urban Forest Renewal Capital Project (Public Works Capital Project 1850000322) to be paid to The Winnipeg Art Gallery for the Street Tree Planting on Memorial Boulevard project. Direct Costs represent estimated debt and finance charges on external debt financing. Incremental Revenue/Recovery represents estimated Departmental and Corporate Interest Overheads.

J. Ruby, 2022-10-17

J. Ruby, CPA, CA
Manager of Finance and Administration

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:
- The Winnipeg Art Gallery
- Legal Services (as to legal issues)

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

The report is in accordance with the OurWinnipeg:
- 2.1 Climate Action Targets
- 2.19, 2.20 and 2.21 Leverage Green Infrastructure
- 3.3 Economic Research and Innovation

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

The report is in accordance with Strategic Opportunity #7:
- 7.2 Increase and Preserve Tree Canopy (Primary Responsibility: Public Works Department).
- 7.3 Preserve and Manage Parks and Natural Areas to Support Climate Change Mitigation (Primary Responsibility: Public Works - Parks).

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

The information and recommendations presented in this report align with and advance the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy (2021 – 2031) as follows:

They embody the following Guiding Principles:
- We will Uphold Human Rights
- We will Honour Relationships and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples
- We will Address Systemic Oppression, Trauma and Social Inequity
- We will Promote and Maintain the Welfare of All Residents
- We will Develop Trust and Meaningful Partnerships to find solutions and drive change

They align with the following Goals and Objectives:
- Goal 1: Equity and a Culture of Caring are Demonstrated through Strategy Implementation and Systems Change
- Goal 6: All City Services are Equitable, Inclusive and Accessible

Related 10-year Objectives:
- D. The City advocates for and pursues partnerships to implement the Strategy.

The information and recommendations presented in this report also advance the following Actions, as listed in the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Plan (2021 - 2023):

Action 1.3 Grants – Alignment and equity

- When grant allocations are presented to Council and committees for consideration, prioritization and approval, include information to on how each grant application aligns or does not align with OurWinnipeg, the Indigenous Accord, the Poverty Reduction Strategy, and any forthcoming equity-based strategies Council may adopt.

Action 6.9 Community Benefits in City Funded Spaces

- Require, at every opportunity, that privately-owned spaces receiving public funding, and City-owned spaces managed by a private operator, are inclusive and accessible to all residents year-round through community benefit, grant, or legal agreements.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Public Works
Division: Parks and Open Space
Prepared by: Martha Barwinsky
Date: October 18, 2022

Attachments: Appendix A