Agenda – Council – February 23, 2023

Report – Executive Policy Committee – February 14, 2023

Item No. 5 St. Boniface Street Links Grant Request

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 14, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee considered the Council Motion of January 26, 2023, and submitted the following to Council:

1. That a grant in the amount of $200,000 to St. Boniface Street Links be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process for consideration.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 14, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee submitted to Council that a grant in the amount of $200,000 to St. Boniface Street Links be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process for consideration.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On January 26, 2023, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Schreyer,

WHEREAS in 2022 addictions and housing were top of mind for Winnipeg voters;

AND WHEREAS the homelessness and addictions crisis remains a top priority for Winnipeggers;

AND WHEREAS St. Boniface Street Links provides outreach services in the City, east of the Red River, and have advised that City of Winnipeg funding in the amount $80 000 per year is an insufficient amount to support the level of service provided;

AND WHEREAS the Executive Director of St. Boniface Street Links indicated in January 2023 that without a contribution in the amount of $220 0000 from the City of Winnipeg for their outreach program, they will not have the resources to continue their outreach;

AND WHEREAS in on June 24, 2021, Council approved a grant to St. Boniface Street Links for mobile outreach support;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg, through the 2022 budget update, provided funding to St. Boniface Street Links through an administrative process;

AND WHEREAS St. Boniface Street Links has demonstrated that they are an excellent resource for unsheltered populations, proactively connecting people to housing and existing social supports and subsidies;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

AND WHEREAS the current crisis of the unhoused is caused by a methamphetamine and opioid crisis;

AND WHEREAS St. Boniface Street Links, as an incremental component to their outreach program, has received funding from the federal government for addictions support;

AND WHEREAS if the St. Boniface Street Links outreach program were to close, the federal funding to address addiction would be at risk;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a grant in the amount of $200,000 to St. Boniface Street Links be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process for consideration.