Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 13, 2023

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – March 2, 2023

Item No. 2 Temporary Patio Registration Program Extension

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. That the Temporary Patio Registration Program be extended from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

2. That fees for the Temporary Patio Registration Program be waived from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

3. That fees for existing patio Encroachment Licenses be waived during the Temporary Patio Registration Program.

4. That the Public Service evaluate the feasibility of establishing a long-term Temporary Patio Program and report back in one year.

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

Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 13, 2023

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – March 2, 2023

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

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

Yea:	Gillingham, Browaty, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins	6
Nay:		0

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 2, 2023, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Temporary Patio Registration Program Extension

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
J. Veitch	M. Pittet (Acting)	C. Kloepfer	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Planning, Property and Development Department implemented the Temporary Patio Registration Program to help businesses during reduced restaurant occupancy restrictions.

The Temporary Patio Registration Program enabled restaurants to quickly and easily start up open-air patio spaces. Plan review by the City was not required for summer patios, provided restaurants followed the registration process and adhered to safety guidelines. The program was offered at no cost to customers.

The current program is scheduled to end on March 31, 2023. The Public Service is seeking approval to extend the Temporary Patio Registration Program through March 31, 2024, as the feasibility of establishing a long-term program is evaluated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Temporary Patio Registration Program be extended from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

2. That fees for the Temporary Patio Registration Program be waived from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

3. That fees for existing patio Encroachment Licenses be waived during the Temporary Patio Registration Program.

4. That the Public Service evaluate the feasibility of establishing a long-term Temporary Patio Program and report back in one year.

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

REASON FOR THE REPORT

The current Temporary Patio Registration Program is scheduled to end on March 31, 2023. Council approval is required to waive fees.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

If the recommendations are approved, the Public Service will extend the Temporary Patio Registration Program from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, at no cost to customers. The projected revenue loss for the City is anticipated to be roughly $110,000.

Extending the program will:

1. Continue to support economic development, downtown revitalization, and increased vibrancy in the city,

2. Continue to offer red tape reduction,

3. Provide service continuity for restaurants that have utilized the program since March 2020, and

4. Support restaurants that will be offering services during the World Police and Fire Games at the end of June 2023.

If the recommendations are not approved, restaurants that would like to establish a patio in the Right-of-Way may not be ready to operate for April 1, 2023, due to the approval timelines for encroachment license agreements.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Province of Manitoba's Restoring Safe Services Plan, the Temporary Patio Registration Program was created in March 2020.

The program addressed reduced restaurant occupancy restrictions by making it easy and fast to establish a temporary open-air patio. Temporary patios were granted on an expedited basis (within two business days), provided the restaurant could adhere to the general safety requirements outlined on the application form.

The program has been extended a number of times since its creation, with the most recent extension and fee waiver approved in the 2021 budget. The program is scheduled to end on March 31, 2023, unless extended again.

In 2022, 77 restaurants registered for a temporary patio.

Prior to the Temporary Patio Registration Program, establishing a patio in the Right-of-Way would typically take up to three months to finalize the encroachment license agreement, building permit and occupancy permit. Similarly, a patio on private property would require a number of weeks to approve the development permit, building permit and occupancy permit.

Over the last three years, the Public Service has collaborated with other Canadian jurisdictions on their temporary patio programs, which many municipalities established during the COVID-19 pandemic. Most recently, the Public Service has been contacted by counterparts in Vancouver and Toronto who are evaluating the establishment of their programs on a long-term basis. As the City looks toward evaluating a long-term program, the Public Service will continue to share and receive information from other cities that are considering similar policy initiatives.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: February 3, 2023

Project Name:

First Year of Program 2023

Temporary Patio Registration Program Extension

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
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	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	(110,000)	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 110,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	110,000	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: The proposed waiver of fees is reflected as "lost" revenue of $110,000. While there is no budget specifically for this waiver, for the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the foregone revenue will be offset by other regulation fee revenue in excess of budget and, as such, no budget adjustment is required.

Mike McGinn Feb. 3, 2023

Mike McGinn, CPA, CA
Manager of Finance

CONSULTATION

N/A

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

OurWinnipeg and the Complete Communities Direction Strategy 2.0 include policies that encourage patios downtown and along mixed-use corridors. Specific references as follows:

Policy 8.9 under Downtown
Encourage the creation of a patio culture to enliven streets and draw people throughout the day.

Policy 3.1.4 under Urban Mixed Use Corridors
Encouraging balconies and public spaces, such as plazas, patios, or other pedestrian amenities.

Policy 2.2 under Established Neighbourhoods
Encourage the location of commercial or mixed-use buildings at or near the front and corner side property lines to create a pedestrian orientation. Use setbacks to reinforce the public realm through landscaping and pedestrian amenities, such as entryways, patios, benches, and bicycle parking.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

Consideration was given as to whether this report connects to any of the Strategic Opportunities and Key Directions in the Climate Action Plan and it was determined that the Plan is not applicable to this specific report.

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

Consideration was given as to whether this report connects to any of the specific Goals and Objectives in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, as well as the corresponding 2021-2023 Implementation Plan, and it was determined that the Strategy is not applicable to this specific report.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Planning, Property and Development
Division: Office of the Director
Prepared by: Catherine Peters
Date: February 6, 2023
File No: N/A