Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 21, 2023

BUDGET REVIEW

Item No. 16 2023 Operating and Capital Budget

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That the following recommendations with respect to the 2023 Preliminary Operating Budget be approved by Council:

    A. That the 2023 Preliminary Operating Budget (page 81), including the budget for reserves (Appendix 3), be amended in accordance with the following recommendations and approved by Council; and

    B. That the City's mill rate be decreased from 13.468 to 12.900 for 2023, for the purpose of raising revenue as required for the annual operating budget.

        Notes:

        i. This mill rate of 12.900 in 2023 includes a 3.50% property tax increase. The income generated by this 2023 increase will be dedicated as follows:
            a. a 1.17% property tax increase dedicated to the tax-supported operating budget,
            b. a 1.70% property tax increase dedicated to the renewal of local streets, lanes and sidewalks;
            c. a 0.30% property tax increase dedicated to the renewal of regional streets and sidewalks, and bridges; and
            d. a 0.33% property tax increase dedicated for payments for the Southwest Rapid Transitway (Stage 2) and Pembina Highway Underpass project

        ii. The 2023 0.33% property tax increase dedicated for payments for the Southwest Rapid Transitway (Stage 2) and Pembina Highway Underpass project is the last of an eight-year commitment begun in 2016.

        iii. The 0.33% property tax increase for 2024 and 2025 is to fund the annual debt and financing costs incurred from the replacement of the North Garage capital project.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

C. That, effective January 1, 2026, the Transit Infrastructure Reserve be funded through an annual 0.33% property tax increase for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, in alignment with the Transit Master Plan, and the purpose of the reserve be expanded to include:

   i. Transit infrastructure, including but not limited to, bus rolling stock and related charging infrastructure; and

   ii. Land acquisition; and

   iii. Associated costs.

D. i. That the City's business tax rate remain at 4.84% in 2023; and

   ii. That Council enact a Small Business Tax Credit By-law for 2023 under section 219(2) of The City of Winnipeg Charter, which will provide a tax credit in the amount of all municipal business taxes owed for businesses with an annual rental value of $ 47,500 or less in 2023 ($44,220 in 2022).

E. That the Street Renewal Frontage Levy be increased for properties fronting on:

   i. water mains by $0.40 (from $1.40 to $1.80 per frontage foot); and

   ii. sewer mains by $1.10 (from $4.05 to $5.15 per frontage foot),

   for an increase in the combined rate of $1.50 per frontage foot.

F. That Council approve transfers between funds, including reserve funds, outlined in the 2023 Operating Budget (Appendix 4 Transfers from/to the General Revenue Fund) to take place in 2023, subject to the following conditions on transfers from reserve funds:

   i. The Chief Financial Officer must first certify that the amount remaining in each reserve fund after the transfer is greater than the amount required for the purpose for which the fund was established; and

   ii. The fund must not enter into a deficit position as a result of the transfer.

G. That Council approve the new and above-inflation fees and charges as outlined in Appendix 8.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

H. That, in response to COVID-19 pandemic, Council direct Winnipeg Transit to:

i. Maintain 2022 Transit service levels effective January 1, 2023 through the end of the 2023 spring service schedule (tentatively scheduled to end June 17, 2023) (which is a 6% reduction from 2019 service levels);

ii. Increase service levels effective the 2023 summer service schedule (tentatively scheduled for June 18 to September 2, 2023) to reflect a 3% reduction from 2019 service levels;

iii. Fully restore transit service to 2020 budgeted levels effective the 2023 fall service schedule onward (tentatively scheduled to start September 3, 2023).

I. That Council direct Winnipeg Transit to adopt On-Request Transit as a way of providing demand-responsive transit service in Winnipeg and that the Dial-a-Ride Transit system be cancelled at the same time.

J. That Council require that prior to payment of grants exceeding $10,000 approved in the 2023 operating budget, the City enter into, execute and deliver a grant agreement with each grant recipient, and the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of each grant agreement in accordance with the budgetary approval and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

K. That the 2023 grants and grant delegations as set out in the Listing of Grants/Payments in the Supplement to the 2023 Budget and Appendix 2 Listing of Grants/Payments be approved.

L. That Council enact amendments to the Tax Certificate Fees By-law 53/2015 to increase the following fees to the following amounts:

i. For the making and mailing of a paper tax certificate to $62.00 ($60.00 in 2022); and

ii. For the electronic making out and mailing of a tax certificate requested electronically to $46.00 ($44.00 in 2022).

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

M. That prior years' tax supported cash to capital ($960,160), frontage levy ($504,873) and other surpluses, generated due to capital projects being completed for less than the budget amount (identified in Appendix 5A), be used to reduce the transfer to the General Capital Fund in the 2023 tax supported operating budget.

N. That further to Council approval on March 24, 2022 to establish a new reserve fund for climate change initiatives funded by the net proceeds of the sale of natural gas, and its approval on September 22, 2022 of the creation and terms of reference of the Climate Action and Resilience Committee, that Council approve the following for the said reserve:

i. Name of the Reserve: Climate Action Reserve;

ii. Purpose: funding climate action initiatives in alignment with the City's strategic plans to meet the goal of net zero emissions. These initiatives will focus on studies, analysis and the development of policies, strategies and procedures relating to climate action;

iii. Fund Manager: Director of Water and Waste Department;

iv. Committee name and role: Climate Action Steering Committee consisting of representatives of internal City departments tasked with prioritizing the climate action initiatives to be funded from the Climate Action Reserve.

O. That Council reiterate its prior direction to the Public Service to continue to pursue a new agreement with Shared Health Inc. for the provision of Emergency Medical Services by the City that reflects full cost recovery, including but not limited to, the leasing cost of any new fire paramedic stations.

P. That Council enact amendments to the Cemetery By-law 130/2007 to allow for up to 75% of the yearly earnings from the Perpetual Maintenance Reserve Funds to be utilized to undertake improvements or maintenance in cemeteries.

Q. To reduce deficit risks, that any additional, unbudgeted and unallocated revenue received from inter-governmental transfers or other similar sources in 2023, that is not earmarked for any specific incremental purpose, be dedicated to reduce in-year Corporate Efficiency targets.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

R. That in order to replenish the Financial Stabilization Reserve that has been depleted due to increased external cost pressures such as COVID-19 pandemic, inflation and snow clearing costs, and notwithstanding Council restrictions that may have been placed on the funding of the Financial Stabilization Reserve, that Council approve a one-time transfer of $15 million in 2023 from the retained earnings of the Waterworks Fund to the Financial Stabilization Reserve (FSR).

S. That Council direct the Planning, Property and Development Department to report back to the appropriate committee of Council on or before September 30, 2023 on:

i. Status update on the implementation of Provincial statutes and regulations concerning the approval of land use planning decisions and building permits (Bills 34, 37 and 38);

ii. Resources required to address these statutes and regulations; and

iii. Potential changes to the Permit Reserve in order to implement service and system changes necessitated by Bills 34, 37 and 38.

T. That the Chief Financial Officer be granted the authority to do all things necessary to ensure that a program of insurance is in effect at all times to adequately protect the City from losses or claims, and to this end that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of contracts of insurance, subject to the contracts including terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

U. That Provincial Grants revenue be increased by $16.718 million (an increase in unconditional operating grants from $121.2 million to $137.9 million) in 2023.

V. That one-time Provincial grant revenue COVID-19 funding of $12.4 million be increased by $600,000, to a revised total of $13.0 million.

W. That, as one of the initial steps to replenish the Financial Stabilization Reserve, a one-time transfer from the General Revenue Fund to the Financial Stabilization Reserve of $4.616 million be made in 2023.

X. That the Corporate Efficiencies target be decreased by $11.4 million (from $33.5 million to $22.1 million) in 2023 to balance the tax supported budget.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

Y. That, subject to the approval of Recommendation 2.P. (relating to the Community Centre Renovation Grant Program), an increase of $91,000 in 2023 and $185,000 thereafter be approved for the incremental debt and finance charges related to this project to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

Z. That additional funding be approved for Corporate Finance to deliver Phase 2 of the Sustainable Procurement Action Plan as adopted by City Council on July 21, 2022, including:

i. One Full-Time Equivalent Position (FTE) 'Sustainable Procurement Liaison' (WAPSO 4) at an annualized salary and other costs of $122,000 (prorated to 0.75 FTE, $92,000 in 2023); and

ii. $168,000 in other consulting and honoraria over three years ($99,500 in 2023, $37,250 in 2024 and $31,250 in 2025).

to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

AA. That $150,000 be added to the Community Services – Recreation Services Division budget in 2023 to facilitate better recruitment and retention of Instructor Guards, Aquatic Instructors, and Recreation Technicians, to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

BB. That, subject to approval of Recommendation 2.N. (the Disaster Financial Assistance Program eligible projects), an increase of $30,500 in finance charges be approved to support $774,000 in debt-financed capital costs to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

CC. That regarding the public washroom called Amoowigamig (715 Main Street):

i. the grant to Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre relating to the provision of on-site services be increased to $250,000, which may be funded in part by the $20,000 in savings contemplated in Item 11 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated March 13, 2023, with the balance being funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in Recommendation 1.U.

ii. The Public Service report back on increasing hours, including to 24/7 operation, including types of services to be provided, by whom and investment for each option within 90 days.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

DD. That the budget for General Library and Electronic Materials within the Libraries Budget be increased by $100,000 in 2023; funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

EE. That the Public Service be directed to:

i. Report back in 90 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services on:

a. a framework to review the Winnipeg Library Services for improvement and investment;

b. types of employment within the library system, identifying jobs which are difficult to fill and providing recommendations to attract and retain staff in those positions;

ii. Provide recommendations to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services by May 31, 2023 on improving safety of the Millennium Library and other libraries after the interim safety measures end, including costs; and

FF. That, in relation to recommendation 1.EE., Council recognize that an in-year Operating Budget adjustment and/or a first call on the 2024 Capital Budget may be required once Council approves the community safety recommendations relating to operations of the Millennium Library after interim safety measures end.

GG. That the following be approved in order to proceed with the creation of a City of Winnipeg Community Safety Officer Team (Transit Security Initiative):

i. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) be authorized to hire one FTE Community Safety Officer Service Leader (Service Leader) to report to the CAO, at a salary to be determined by the CAO (prorated to 0.75 FTE in 2023);

ii. Subject to approval of a Transit Security training and operations plan by City Council, the Community Safety Officer Leader be authorized to hire up to 26 FTEs (pro-rated to 19.50 FTEs in 2023), including two administrative support staff and up to 24 Peace Officers (Community Safety Officers);

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

iii. The CAO may charge any 2023 costs for this corporate initiative to a maximum of $1.75 million to the $5.0 million fund identified for the "Transit Security Initiative" in Winnipeg Transit's 2023 budget, with $3.25 million in 2023 from the one-time provincial transfer retained in the General Purpose Reserve to fund charges for the initiative in 2024.

HH. That the Director of Customer Service & Communications:

i. be authorized to increase the FTE complement in the 311 division by up to 9 (6.75 FTEs prorated in 2023) in accordance with the 2023 Budget increase to ensure retention and increase recruitment; and

ii. report back to Council within 180 days on the progress to improve customer service and wait times within 311 service, including on-going FTE requirements.

II. That the Director of Public Works:

i. be delegated the authority to establish a new Neighbourhood Action Team as a division within the Public Works Department;

ii. be authorized to increase the FTE complement by up to 10 (7.5 FTEs prorated in 2023) for the division in accordance with budget allotment in 2023 Budget; and

iii. report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works within 180 days on the status of the creation, on-going FTE requirements and early operation of the new division.

JJ. That to ensure full integration of road safety design practices into road design and repair:

i. any report authorizing action on a specific street or active transportation policy or project must set out an opinion provided by the Road Safety Branch as to the extent to which the recommended policy or project design conforms to Road Safety Action Plan priorities as approved by Council; and

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

ii. The Road Safety Branch must report quarterly to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works respecting current project awards or other project activities that are inconsistent with Road Safety Action Plan priorities and policies as adopted.

KK. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development in 90 days with a review of the Permit Reserve Fund with respect to how the fund is used and replenished.

LL. That the following be referred to the 2024 – 2027 Multi-Year Budget process:

i. a transition process to reduce reliance on the Permit Reserve Fund for general revenue;

ii. Funding for one Project Coordinator for the creation of a city-wide Community Garden Strategy; and

iii. The elimination of real property tax credits and the repeal of the Unserviced Residential Premises Tax Credit By-law No. 7075/97.

MM. That the term for the FTE in Indigenous Relations Division (Chief Administrative Office Department), whose focus is the housing program as part of the poverty reduction strategy and/or Rapid Housing Initiative be extended to December 31, 2024.

NN. That funding from the Sewage Disposal Fund be approved for the following positions and required estimated annual salary and benefits, increasing annually in accordance with the Collective Agreement, related to the Community Energy Investment Roadmap (CEIR):

i. One Senior Planner (one [1.0] FTE, WAPSO 4) to lead high level strategies and projects, including the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan update and the Climate Resiliency Strategy ($121,651), prorated to three-quarters (0.75) FTE ($92,000 in 2023);

ii. One Green Building Specialist (one [1.0] FTE, WAPSO 3) to support the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan update, Climate Resiliency Strategy, and policy and program development related to the city building retrofit initiative ($108,142), prorated to three-quarters (0.75) FTE ($81,000 in 2023).

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

OO. To ensure operational readiness and staffing availability, that three permanent FTEs (personal protective equipment (PPE) technicians) be added to the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service staff complement for Centralized Turnout Gear Cleaning and Maintenance Program by:

i. converting one (1) existing temporary FTE position to a permanent FTE, and;

ii. creating two (2) new FTE positions,

with all three (3) FTEs funded from current amounts already included in the Program budget.

PP. That the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services submit such by-laws as necessary to implement the intent of the above recommendations directly to Council by way of communications through the Office of the City Clerk.

2. That the following recommendations with respect to the 2023 Preliminary Capital Budget and 2024 to 2028 Five-Year Capital Forecast be approved by Council:

A. That the following be reviewed and approved by Council:

i. 2023 Preliminary Capital Budget (pages 83 and 323); and

ii. 2024 to 2028 Five Year Capital Forecast (pages 83 and 323).

B. That Council approve new capital borrowing authority as follows:

i. $53.310 million external borrowing for 2023 tax-supported operations, including Transit and Municipal Accommodations;

ii. $2.100 million external borrowing for 2023 tax-supported internal financing; and

Note: A separate borrowing authority in the amount of $10.9 million for the Winnipeg Fleet Management Agency SOA is being put forward for Council consideration and approval as part of the SOA's 2023 Business Plan report.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

C. That Council approve the following cash to capital contributions:

Year	$ Millions
2023	6.858 (budget)
2024	24.211 (forecast)
2025	22.900 (forecast)
2026	24.520 (forecast)
2027	23.836 (forecast)
2028	27.553 (forecast)

D. That Council approve all other transfers from prior years' surplus or authorizations, to and from reserves and other funds outlined in the 2023 Capital Budget (identified in Appendix 4 of the Supplement to the 2023 Preliminary Budget), subject to the following conditions on transfers from reserve funds:

i. That the Chief Financial Officer must first certify that the amount remaining in each reserve fund after the transfer is greater than the amount required for the purpose for which the fund was established; and

ii. The fund must not enter into a deficit position as a result of the transfer.

E. Whereas the following expenditures – in addition to the expenditure of funds authorized by the Expenditure before Budget Adoption By-law 8164/2002 – do not exceed 30% of the expenditures estimated in the capital budget for 2023, that Council authorize expenditures on the following projects in 2023 or prior to the adoption of the 2024 capital budget as a first charge against the General Capital Fund, in accordance with Subsection 288(2) of The City of Winnipeg Charter to facilitate timely work on the projects:

i. Up to $48.100 million for various Regional Non-accelerated Street Renewal projects (Attachment 1);

ii. Up to $23.200 million for St. Vital Bridge Rehabilitation;

iii. Up to $162,000 for Public Works' Portable Traffic Study Equipment;

iv. Up to $2.992 million for Transit's Hoist Replacement at Fort Rouge Garage;

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

v. Up to $1.013 million for Radios and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Replacement; and

vi. Up to $31.000 million for the Transition to Zero Emission Buses.

F. That Council approve the suspension of applications and new grants from the Community Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) effective March 22, 2023, with the result that no additional funding under that program may be approved after that date but previously approved funds will continue to be made in accordance with agreement made pursuant to the approvals. A ward-by-ward community granting program will be developed ideally through the modification of an existing program, with details to be confirmed in advance of the new multi-year budget.

G. That the following CIGP amounts, less any amounts approved pursuant to the CIGP in respect of those wards between September 30, 2022 and March 22, 2023, be expended in each applicable ward in accordance with the Land Dedication Reserve Policy expenditure criteria and approval process.

Balance as of September 30, 2022:	
Charleswood – Tuxedo – Westwood	$ 326,142
St. James	304,722
Waverley West	125,927
Daniel McIntyre	289,949
Fort Rouge – East Fort Garry	78,059
River Heights – Fort Garry	192,214
North Kildonan	99,483
Elmwood – East Kildonan	49,487
Transcona	12,616
Mynarski	7,077
Old Kildonan	221,074
Point Douglas	53,251
St. Boniface	6,129
St. Vital	5,786
St. Norbert – Seine River	73,488

H. That Council approve the transfer of $90,000 surplus funds related to the Ron Duhamel Tennis/Pickleball Courts and Shirley Render Park Pathways projects from the 2020 Golf Lands Repurposing Review and Recreation Amenities capital program to the Land Dedication Reserve for use in the St. Vital ward.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

I. That, contrary to Council direction on October 28, 2015, instead of automatically revising the threshold for Major Capital Project reporting for annual capital construction inflation, the same threshold as 2022 Budget be maintained at $25 million for 2023 Budget.

J. That the Multi-year Budget Policy (City Policy CO-016) be amended to provide that, at the start of each multi-year budget cycle, the Public Service assess the threshold set for Major Capital Project reporting and be authorized to propose increases or decreases to that threshold, and that the following paragraph be added immediately after paragraph 4.2 of the Policy in order to implement the intent of this recommendation:

4.2.1. In the first year of each multi-year budget cycle, the Chief Administrative Officer shall ensure that the Public Service considers the Major Capital Project threshold that is to be used over the period of the four-year budget cycle and, if necessary, presents recommendations for increases, decreases or other changes to the Major Capital Project threshold to the appropriate Committees for consideration and discussion.

K. That a capital project be approved to remediate the easterly portion of Mission Park in 2023 for a cost of $139,000 and the Weston Memorial Community Centre hockey rink in 2024 for a cost of $311,000 funded by cash to capital.

L. That the following amendments be made to the capital detail sheets included in the Supplement to the 2023 Budget:

i. Regional and Local Street Renewal, under Thin Bituminous Overlay section, remove “Other locations to be determined ($3 million)”; and

ii. That the first paragraph on the capital project page (page 55 of the Supplement to the 2023 Preliminary Budget) for Trade Route Corridors – Planning and Design be replaced with the following:

"Funds will support the development of post-preliminary design work for priority major capital transportation infrastructure projects to address priority transportation network improvements. The post-preliminary design work must include an independent value for money assessment for evaluating business case and alternative project delivery methods which may include traditional design/bid/build, public private partnership, and/or construction management delivery methods."

M. That Council approve additional Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) eligible capital projects from the 2022 spring flood, as identified in Attachment 2 totaling $4.2 million to be funded by:

i. Departmental existing funding sources $3,417,000; and

ii. External debt $774,000.

N. That a proposal to allocate $980,000 annually in the Capital Budget Forecasts for the Regional and Local Renewal Program to the Road Safety Improvement Program to support the implementation of priority recommendations outlined in the Road Safety Strategy be referred to the 2024-2027 Multi-year Budget process.

O. That the Financial Stabilization Reserve funding of $1.035 million in each of 2022 and 2023 (for a total of $2.070 million) for the Community Centre Renovation Grant Program be replaced by External Debt.

P. That the Director of Assets & Project Management be directed to prepare an estimated timeline for the Class 3 cost estimate update, design, site preparation and construction of the East of the Red RecPlex, based on funding participation by other levels of government, and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services within 180 days.

Q. That the Community and Neighbourhood Parks capital program be increased by $411,000 in 2023 for the following projects: $65,000 for William Johnstone Park; $100,000 for Riel Park; and $246,000 for Dean Finlay Park. These capital projects will be funded by $300,000 Cash to Capital and $111,000 Prior Year Surplus (Tache Promenade project).

R. That the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services submit such by-laws as necessary to implement the intent of the above recommendations directly to Council by way of communications through the Office of the City Clerk.

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

BE IT RESOLVED that the following 2023 Operating and Capital Budget recommendation be concurred in and forwarded to Council, namely:

1. That the following recommendations with respect to the 2023 Preliminary Operating Budget be approved by Council:

    A. That the 2023 Preliminary Operating Budget (page 81), including the budget for reserves (Appendix 3), be amended in accordance with the following recommendations and approved by Council; and

    B. That the City's mill rate be decreased from 13.468 to 12.900 for 2023, for the purpose of raising revenue as required for the annual operating budget.

        Notes:

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            a. a 1.17% property tax increase dedicated to the tax-supported operating budget,
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        ii. The 2023 0.33% property tax increase dedicated for payments for the Southwest Rapid Transitway (Stage 2) and Pembina Highway Underpass project is the last of an eight-year commitment begun in 2016.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

C. That, effective January 1, 2026, the Transit Infrastructure Reserve be funded through an annual 0.33% property tax increase for the years 2026, 2027 and 2028, in alignment with the Transit Master Plan, and the purpose of the reserve be expanded to include:

   i. Transit infrastructure, including but not limited to, bus rolling stock and related charging infrastructure; and

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   for an increase in the combined rate of $1.50 per frontage foot.

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G. That Council approve the new and above-inflation fees and charges as outlined in Appendix 8.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

H. That, in response to COVID-19 pandemic, Council direct Winnipeg Transit to:

i. Maintain 2022 Transit service levels effective January 1, 2023 through the end of the 2023 spring service schedule (tentatively scheduled to end June 17, 2023) (which is a 6% reduction from 2019 service levels);

ii. Increase service levels effective the 2023 summer service schedule (tentatively scheduled for June 18 to September 2, 2023) to reflect a 3% reduction from 2019 service levels;

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I. That Council direct Winnipeg Transit to adopt On-Request Transit as a way of providing demand-responsive transit service in Winnipeg and that the Dial-a-Ride Transit system be cancelled at the same time.

J. That Council require that prior to payment of grants exceeding $10,000 approved in the 2023 operating budget, the City enter into, execute and deliver a grant agreement with each grant recipient, and the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of each grant agreement in accordance with the budgetary approval and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

K. That the 2023 grants and grant delegations as set out in the Listing of Grants/Payments in the Supplement to the 2023 Budget and Appendix 2 Listing of Grants/Payments be approved.

L. That Council enact amendments to the Tax Certificate Fees By-law 53/2015 to increase the following fees to the following amounts:

i. For the making and mailing of a paper tax certificate to $62.00 ($60.00 in 2022); and

ii. For the electronic making out and mailing of a tax certificate requested electronically to $46.00 ($44.00 in 2022).

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

M. That prior years' tax supported cash to capital ($960,160), frontage levy ($504,873) and other surpluses, generated due to capital projects being completed for less than the budget amount (identified in Appendix 5A), be used to reduce the transfer to the General Capital Fund in the 2023 tax supported operating budget.

N. That further to Council approval on March 24, 2022 to establish a new reserve fund for climate change initiatives funded by the net proceeds of the sale of natural gas, and its approval on September 22, 2022 of the creation and terms of reference of the Climate Action and Resilience Committee, that Council approve the following for the said reserve:

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ii. Purpose: funding climate action initiatives in alignment with the City's strategic plans to meet the goal of net zero emissions. These initiatives will focus on studies, analysis and the development of policies, strategies and procedures relating to climate action;

iii. Fund Manager: Director of Water and Waste Department;

iv. Committee name and role: Climate Action Steering Committee consisting of representatives of internal City departments tasked with prioritizing the climate action initiatives to be funded from the Climate Action Reserve.

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P. That Council enact amendments to the Cemetery By-law 130/2007 to allow for up to 75% of the yearly earnings from the Perpetual Maintenance Reserve Funds to be utilized to undertake improvements or maintenance in cemeteries.

Q. To reduce deficit risks, that any additional, unbudgeted and unallocated revenue received from inter-governmental transfers or other similar sources in 2023, that is not earmarked for any specific incremental purpose, be dedicated to reduce in-year Corporate Efficiency targets.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

R. That in order to replenish the Financial Stabilization Reserve that has been depleted due to increased external cost pressures such as COVID-19 pandemic, inflation and snow clearing costs, and notwithstanding Council restrictions that may have been placed on the funding of the Financial Stabilization Reserve, that Council approve a one-time transfer of $15 million in 2023 from the retained earnings of the Waterworks Fund to the Financial Stabilization Reserve (FSR).

S. That Council direct the Planning, Property and Development Department to report back to the appropriate committee of Council on or before September 30, 2023 on:

   i. Status update on the implementation of Provincial statutes and regulations concerning the approval of land use planning decisions and building permits (Bills 34, 37 and 38);

   ii. Resources required to address these statutes and regulations; and

   iii. Potential changes to the Permit Reserve in order to implement service and system changes necessitated by Bills 34, 37 and 38.

T. That the Chief Financial Officer be granted the authority to do all things necessary to ensure that a program of insurance is in effect at all times to adequately protect the City from losses or claims, and to this end that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of contracts of insurance, subject to the contracts including terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

U. That Provincial Grants revenue be increased by $16.718 million (an increase in unconditional operating grants from $121.2 million to $137.9 million) in 2023.

V. That one-time Provincial grant revenue COVID-19 funding of $12.4 million be increased by $600,000, to a revised total of $13.0 million.

W. That, as one of the initial steps to replenish the Financial Stabilization Reserve, a one-time transfer from the General Revenue Fund to the Financial Stabilization Reserve of $4.616 million be made in 2023.

X. That the Corporate Efficiencies target be decreased by $11.4 million (from $33.5 million to $22.1 million) in 2023 to balance the tax supported budget.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

Y. That, subject to the approval of Recommendation 2.P. (relating to the Community Centre Renovation Grant Program), an increase of $91,000 in 2023 and $185,000 thereafter be approved for the incremental debt and finance charges related to this project to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

Z. That additional funding be approved for Corporate Finance to deliver Phase 2 of the Sustainable Procurement Action Plan as adopted by City Council on July 21, 2022, including:

i. One Full-Time Equivalent Position (FTE) 'Sustainable Procurement Liaison' (WAPSO 4) at an annualized salary and other costs of $122,000 (prorated to 0.75 FTE, $92,000 in 2023); and

ii. $168,000 in other consulting and honoraria over three years ($99,500 in 2023, $37,250 in 2024 and $31,250 in 2025).

to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

AA. That $150,000 be added to the Community Services – Recreation Services Division budget in 2023 to facilitate better recruitment and retention of Instructor Guards, Aquatic Instructors, and Recreation Technicians, to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

BB. That, subject to approval of Recommendation 2.N. (the Disaster Financial Assistance Program eligible projects), an increase of $30,500 in finance charges be approved to support $774,000 in debt-financed capital costs to be funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

CC. That regarding the public washroom called Amoowigamig (715 Main Street):

i. the grant to Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre relating to the provision of on-site services be increased to $250,000, which may be funded in part by the $20,000 in savings contemplated in Item 11 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated March 13, 2023, with the balance being funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in Recommendation 1.U.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

ii. The Public Service report back on increasing hours, including to 24/7 operation, including types of services to be provided, by whom and investment for each option within 90 days.

DD. That the budget for General Library and Electronic Materials within the Libraries Budget be increased by $100,000 in 2023; funded by the incremental Provincial funding referred to in recommendation 1.U.

EE. That the Public Service be directed to:

i. Report back in 90 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services on:

a. a framework to review the Winnipeg Library Services for improvement and investment;

b. types of employment within the library system, identifying jobs which are difficult to fill and providing recommendations to attract and retain staff in those positions;

ii. Provide recommendations to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services by May 31, 2023 on improving safety of the Millennium Library and other libraries after the interim safety measures end, including costs; and

FF. That, in relation to recommendation 1.EE., Council recognize that an in-year Operating Budget adjustment and/or a first call on the 2024 Capital Budget may be required once Council approves the community safety recommendations relating to operations of the Millennium Library after interim safety measures end.

GG. That the following be approved in order to proceed with the creation of a City of Winnipeg Community Safety Officer Team (Transit Security Initiative):

i. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) be authorized to hire one FTE Community Safety Officer Service Leader (Service Leader) to report to the CAO, at a salary to be determined by the CAO (prorated to 0.75 FTE in 2023);

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

ii. Subject to approval of a Transit Security training and operations plan by City Council, the Community Safety Officer Leader be authorized to hire up to 26 FTEs (pro-rated to 19.50 FTEs in 2023), including two administrative support staff and up to 24 Peace Officers (Community Safety Officers);

iii. The CAO may charge any 2023 costs for this corporate initiative to a maximum of $1.75 million to the $5.0 million fund identified for the "Transit Security Initiative" in Winnipeg Transit's 2023 budget, with $3.25 million in 2023 from the one-time provincial transfer retained in the General Purpose Reserve to fund charges for the initiative in 2024.

HH. That the Director of Customer Service & Communications:

i. be authorized to increase the FTE complement in the 311 division by up to 9 (6.75 FTEs prorated in 2023) in accordance with the 2023 Budget increase to ensure retention and increase recruitment; and

ii. report back to Council within 180 days on the progress to improve customer service and wait times within 311 service, including on-going FTE requirements.

II. That the Director of Public Works:

i. be delegated the authority to establish a new Neighbourhood Action Team as a division within the Public Works Department;

ii. be authorized to increase the FTE complement by up to 10 (7.5 FTEs prorated in 2023) for the division in accordance with budget allotment in 2023 Budget; and

iii. report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works within 180 days on the status of the creation, on-going FTE requirements and early operation of the new division.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

JJ. That to ensure full integration of road safety design practices into road design and repair:

i. any report authorizing action on a specific street or active transportation policy or project must set out an opinion provided by the Road Safety Branch as to the extent to which the recommended policy or project design conforms to Road Safety Action Plan priorities as approved by Council; and

ii. The Road Safety Branch must report quarterly to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works respecting current project awards or other project activities that are inconsistent with Road Safety Action Plan priorities and policies as adopted.

KK. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development in 90 days with a review of the Permit Reserve Fund with respect to how the fund is used and replenished.

LL. That the following be referred to the 2024 – 2027 Multi-Year Budget process:

i. a transition process to reduce reliance on the Permit Reserve Fund for general revenue;

ii. Funding for one Project Coordinator for the creation of a city-wide Community Garden Strategy; and

iii. The elimination of real property tax credits and the repeal of the Unserviced Residential Premises Tax Credit By-law No. 7075/97.

MM. That the term for the FTE in Indigenous Relations Division (Chief Administrative Office Department), whose focus is the housing program as part of the poverty reduction strategy and/or Rapid Housing Initiative be extended to December 31, 2024.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

NN. That funding from the Sewage Disposal Fund be approved for the following positions and required estimated annual salary and benefits, increasing annually in accordance with the Collective Agreement, related to the Community Energy Investment Roadmap (CEIR),:

i. One Senior Planner (one [1.0] FTE, WAPSO 4) to lead high level strategies and projects, including the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan update and the Climate Resiliency Strategy ($121,651), prorated to three-quarters (0.75) FTE ($92,000 in 2023);

ii. One Green Building Specialist (one [1.0] FTE, WAPSO 3) to support the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan update, Climate Resiliency Strategy, and policy and program development related to the city building retrofit initiative ($108,142), prorated to three-quarters (0.75) FTE ($81,000 in 2023).

OO. To ensure operational readiness and staffing availability, that three permanent FTEs (personal protective equipment (PPE) technicians) be added to the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service staff complement for Centralized Turnout Gear Cleaning and Maintenance Program by:

i. converting one (1) existing temporary FTE position to a permanent FTE, and;

ii. creating two (2) new FTE positions,

with all three (3) FTEs funded from current amounts already included in the Program budget.

PP. That the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services submit such by-laws as necessary to implement the intent of the above recommendations directly to Council by way of communications through the Office of the City Clerk.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

2. That the following recommendations with respect to the 2023 Preliminary Capital Budget and 2024 to 2028 Five-Year Capital Forecast be approved by Council:

   A. That the following be reviewed and approved by Council:

      i. 2023 Preliminary Capital Budget (pages 83 and 323); and

      ii. 2024 to 2028 Five Year Capital Forecast (pages 83 and 323).

   B. That Council approve new capital borrowing authority as follows:

      i. $53.310 million external borrowing for 2023 tax-supported operations, including Transit and Municipal Accommodations;

      ii. $2.100 million external borrowing for 2023 tax-supported internal financing; and

      Note: A separate borrowing authority in the amount of $10.9 million for the Winnipeg Fleet Management Agency SOA is being put forward for Council consideration and approval as part of the SOA's 2023 Business Plan report.

   C. That Council approve the following cash to capital contributions:

Year	$ Millions
2023	6.858 (budget)
2024	24.211 (forecast)
2025	22.900 (forecast)
2026	24.520 (forecast)
2027	23.836 (forecast)
2028	27.553 (forecast)

   D. That Council approve all other transfers from prior years' surplus or authorizations, to and from reserves and other funds outlined in the 2023 Capital Budget (identified in Appendix 4 of the Supplement to the 2023 Preliminary Budget), subject to the following conditions on transfers from reserve funds:

      i. That the Chief Financial Officer must first certify that the amount remaining in each reserve fund after the transfer is greater than the amount required for the purpose for which the fund was established; and

      ii. The fund must not enter into a deficit position as a result of the transfer.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

E. Whereas the following expenditures – in addition to the expenditure of funds authorized by the Expenditure before Budget Adoption By-law 8164/2002 – do not exceed 30% of the expenditures estimated in the capital budget for 2023, that Council authorize expenditures on the following projects in 2023 or prior to the adoption of the 2024 capital budget as a first charge against the General Capital Fund, in accordance with Subsection 288(2) of The City of Winnipeg Charter to facilitate timely work on the projects:

   i. Up to $48.100 million for various Regional Non-accelerated Street Renewal projects (Attachment 1);

   ii. Up to $23.200 million for St. Vital Bridge Rehabilitation;

   iii. Up to $162,000 for Public Works' Portable Traffic Study Equipment;

   iv. Up to $2.992 million for Transit's Hoist Replacement at Fort Rouge Garage;

   v. Up to $1.013 million for Radios and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Replacement; and

   vi. Up to $31.000 million for the Transition to Zero Emission Buses.

F. That Council approve the suspension of applications and new grants from the Community Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) effective March 22, 2023, with the result that no additional funding under that program may be approved after that date but previously approved funds will continue to be made in accordance with agreement made pursuant to the approvals. A ward-by-ward community granting program will be developed ideally through the modification of an existing program, with details to be confirmed in advance of the new multi-year budget.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

G. That the following CIGP amounts, less any amounts approved pursuant to the CIGP in respect of those wards between September 30, 2022 and March 22, 2023, be expended in each applicable ward in accordance with the Land Dedication Reserve Policy expenditure criteria and approval process.

Balance as of September 30, 2022:	
Charleswood – Tuxedo – Westwood	$ 326,142
St. James	304,722
Waverley West	125,927
Daniel McIntyre	289,949
Fort Rouge – East Fort Garry	78,059
River Heights – Fort Garry	192,214
North Kildonan	99,483
Elmwood – East Kildonan	49,487
Transcona	12,616
Mynarski	7,077
Old Kildonan	221,074
Point Douglas	53,251
St. Boniface	6,129
St. Vital	5,786
St. Norbert – Seine River	73,488

H. That Council approve the transfer of $90,000 surplus funds related to the Ron Duhamel Tennis/Pickleball Courts and Shirley Render Park Pathways projects from the 2020 Golf Lands Repurposing Review and Recreation Amenities capital program to the Land Dedication Reserve for use in the St. Vital ward.

I. That, contrary to Council direction on October 28, 2015, instead of automatically revising the threshold for Major Capital Project reporting for annual capital construction inflation, the same threshold as 2022 Budget be maintained at $25 million for 2023 Budget.

J. That the Multi-year Budget Policy (City Policy CO-016) be amended to provide that, at the start of each multi-year budget cycle, the Public Service assess the threshold set for Major Capital Project reporting and be authorized to propose increases or decreases to that threshold, and that the following paragraph be added immediately after paragraph 4.2 of the Policy in order to implement the intent of this recommendation:

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

4.2.1. In the first year of each multi-year budget cycle, the Chief Administrative Officer shall ensure that the Public Service considers the Major Capital Project threshold that is to be used over the period of the four-year budget cycle and, if necessary, presents recommendations for increases, decreases or other changes to the Major Capital Project threshold to the appropriate Committees for consideration and discussion.

K. That a capital project be approved to remediate the easterly portion of Mission Park in 2023 for a cost of $139,000 and the Weston Memorial Community Centre hockey rink in 2024 for a cost of $311,000 funded by cash to capital.

L. That the following amendments be made to the capital detail sheets included in the Supplement to the 2023 Budget:

i. Regional and Local Street Renewal, under Thin Bituminous Overlay section, remove "Other locations to be determined ($3 million)"; and

ii. That the first paragraph on the capital project page (page 55 of the Supplement to the 2023 Preliminary Budget) for Trade Route Corridors – Planning and Design be replaced with the following:

"Funds will support the development of post-preliminary design work for priority major capital transportation infrastructure projects to address priority transportation network improvements. The post-preliminary design work must include an independent value for money assessment for evaluating business case and alternative project delivery methods which may include traditional design/bid/build, public private partnership, and/or construction management delivery methods."

M. That Council approve additional Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) eligible capital projects from the 2022 spring flood, as identified in Attachment 2 totaling $4.2 million to be funded by:

i. Departmental existing funding sources $3,417,000; and

ii. External debt $774,000.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

N. That a proposal to allocate $980,000 annually in the Capital Budget Forecasts for the Regional and Local Renewal Program to the Road Safety Improvement Program to support the implementation of priority recommendations outlined in the Road Safety Strategy be referred to the 2024-2027 Multi-year Budget process.

O. That the Financial Stabilization Reserve funding of $1.035 million in each of 2022 and 2023 (for a total of $2.070 million) for the Community Centre Renovation Grant Program be replaced by External Debt.

P. That the Director of Assets & Project Management be directed to prepare an estimated timeline for the Class 3 cost estimate update, design, site preparation and construction of the East of the Red RecPlex, based on funding participation by other levels of government, and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services within 180 days.

Q. That the Community and Neighbourhood Parks capital program be increased by $411,000 in 2023 for the following projects: $65,000 for William Johnstone Park; $100,000 for Riel Park; and $246,000 for Dean Finlay Park. These capital projects will be funded by $300,000 Cash to Capital and $111,000 Prior Year Surplus (Tache Promenade project).

R. That the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services submit such by-laws as necessary to implement the intent of the above recommendations directly to Council by way of communications through the Office of the City Clerk.

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

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

Carried

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 8, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee tabled and referred the Preliminary 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets to the following budget review process:

Friday, March 3, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Standing Policy Committee on Public Works
Monday, March 6, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Standing Policy Committee on Community Services
Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Standing Policy Committee on Water, Waste and Environment
Thursday, March 9, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.	Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development
Friday, March 10, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Winnipeg Police Board
Monday, March 13, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Executive Policy Committee – Budget Presentations
Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Standing Policy Committee on Finance and Economic Development
Thursday, March 16, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Executive Policy Committee – Budget Delegations
Tuesday, March 21, 2023 – 2:30 p.m.	Executive Policy Committee – Final Budget Recommendations to Council
Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.	Council