Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – June 12, 2023

REPORTS

Item No. 19 Bicycle Registry System

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to consult with the Winnipeg Police Service, Bike Winnipeg, and the WRENCH., and report back within 120 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services on the following:

    A. The feasibility of replacing Winnipeg's bicycle registry with a new system that:

        i. Provides the service free of charge to registrants;

        ii. Is part of a larger multi-jurisdictional network to ensure wider tracking of bicycles;

        iii. Provides City staff and the Winnipeg Police Service with access to a dashboard of data tracking and administrative tools to effectively manage and reduce bike thefts;

    B. Any budget implications involved with the adoption and maintenance of the new system.

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

The Chairperson called Councillor Lukes to the Chair in order to move the following motions:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

WHEREAS bicycle theft continues to be a persistent problem within the City of Winnipeg, causing frustration among residents, contributing to a negative perception of public safety, and discouraging the use of sustainable modes of transportation;

AND WHEREAS the City's current bicycle registry is a closed database system, potentially leading to difficulties in tracking bicycles that may be stolen and transported outside of Winnipeg, limiting the effectiveness of the system;

AND WHEREAS only a small share of the total bicycles in Winnipeg are registered, in part because of the fee associated with Winnipeg’s bike registry and technical limitations of the system;

AND WHEREAS other cities have successfully implemented free, online bicycle registries, such as 529 Garage and Bike Index, which have significantly increased the number of bicycles registered and contributed to a reduction in bicycle thefts due to their expanded reach and multi-jurisdictional network;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to consult with the Winnipeg Police Service, Bike Winnipeg, and the WRENCH., and report back within 120 days to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services on the following:

    A. The feasibility of replacing Winnipeg's bicycle registry with a new system that:

        i. Provides the service free of charge to registrants;

        ii. Is part of a larger multi-jurisdictional network to ensure wider tracking of bicycles;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

iii. Provides City staff and the Winnipeg Police Service with access to a dashboard of data tracking and administrative tools to effectively manage and reduce bike thefts;

B. Any budget implications involved with the adoption and maintenance of the new system.

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

Carried

His Worship Mayor Gillingham resumed the Chair.