Minute No. 507
Report – Executive Policy Committee – June 12, 2023

Item No. 9 **Funding the Municipal Infrastructure Chair at The University of Manitoba**

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council referred the item to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works.

Report – Executive Policy Committee – June 12, 2023

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

Moved by Councillor Lukes,

That the item be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works.

Councillor Allard called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Santos, Schreyer, Sharma and Wyatt 14

Nay: Councillors Allard and Rollins 2

and the motion to refer the item was declared carried.

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 12, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service with the following amendment:

- That the following new Recommendation 3 be added and the remaining recommendation be renumbered accordingly:

  "3. That funding for future agreements with the University of Manitoba, for the Municipal Infrastructure Chair, be referred to the 2024 Budget Review process."

and submitted the matter to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Funding the Municipal Infrastructure Chair at The University of Manitoba

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
B. Neirinck, P.Eng.	J. Berezowsky	C. Kloepfer	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2016, the City of Winnipeg entered into a five-year funding agreement to establish the Municipal Infrastructure Chair at The University of Manitoba with additional funding being provided by the Province of Manitoba and private sector partners. The goal of the partnership was to develop new technologies, techniques and materials to achieve more efficient and cost-effective solutions to infrastructure issues. The deliverables from the research undertaken provided demonstrable value to the City of Winnipeg.

The City now wishes to enter another two-year funding agreement with the University of Manitoba in the amount of $100,000 ($50,000 per year) for research related to the following:

- Rut-resistant asphalt mixtures for intersections and heavy-duty pavements;
- Balanced asphalt mix design; and
- Non-destructive deflection testing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a two-year funding agreement with The University of Manitoba totaling $100,000 ($50,000 per annum), commencing on date of Council approval and ending on March 31, 2025.

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the funding agreement with The University of Manitoba in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

3. 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

Council approval is required to enter into a multi-year funding agreement with The University of Manitoba.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The term of the funding agreement is two years; from the date of Council approval to March 31, 2025.

On March 22, 2023, Council adopted the 2023 Operating Budget. In accordance with Section 6.00 – Contribution Payments and Schedule B of the funding agreement, the payment for Year 1 in the amount of $50,000 will be issued to the University of Manitoba upon the signing of the agreement and receipt of invoice from the University. This payment will be allocated to the 2023 Public Works Operating Budget – Director's Division. The payment for Year 2 in the amount of $50,000 is scheduled for April 1, 2024; however, it remains subject to annual budget approval by Council.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The City of Winnipeg and The University of Manitoba have partnered on infrastructure research initiatives for many years, including funding the establishment of the Municipal Infrastructure Chair in 2016 and completing research including, but not limited to:

- Smoothness specifications for pavements;
- Implementation plan for flexible and rigid pavements;
- Specification harmonization with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure; and
- Warm mix asphalt applications.

Previous research conducted under the 2016-2020 funding agreement provided demonstrable value to the City.

Research to be conducted under the current funding agreement includes:

- Rut-resistant asphalt mixtures for intersections and heavy-duty pavements;
- Balanced asphalt mix design; and
- Non-destructive deflection testing.

The term of the funding agreement is two years; from date of Council approval to March 31, 2025. The funding agreement requires that The University of Manitoba submit quarterly reports regarding progress and funding and final research reports to be submitted no later than November 15, 2024.

The City may terminate the agreement at any time by giving 30 days' notice in writing to the University. Funding for future years remain subject to annual budget approval by Council.

Public Works staff will be responsible for the ongoing evaluation of the deliverables from this partnership and the administration of the agreement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: May 12, 2023

Project Name:

Funding the Municipal Infrastructure Chair at The University of Manitoba

First Year of Program **2023**

	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	$ 50,000	$ 50,000	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 50,000	$ 50,000	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	50,000	50,000	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments:

The Direct Costs above represent the annual grant payments to the University of Manitoba for another two-year funding agreement with the University for the purpose of funding a Municipal Infrastructure Chair. The term of the funding agreement is from date of Council approval to March 31, 2025. Year One of the funding agreement will be funded by the 2023 Public Works Operating Budget – Director's Division. Funding for Year Two remains subject to annual budget approval by Council.

J. Ruby, 2023-05-16

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

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Legal Services Department

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

2.16 Waste Minimization

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

6.1 Reduce Consumption and Increase Waste Diversion from Residential, Commercial and Industry

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

Consideration was given as to whether this report connects to the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and its Goals and Objectives, and it was determined that the PRS is not applicable to this specific report.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Public Works
Division: Engineering
Prepared by: B. Kibbins, P.Eng., Pavement Management Engineer
Date: May 16, 2023