MANITOBA HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION
Unit #3-1680 Ellice Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3H 0Z2

July 11, 2023

Mayor Scott Gillingham and All Members of City Council
City Hall
510 Main St.
Winnipeg, MB
R3B 1B9

**Re: Agenda – Council – July 13, 2023, Report – SPC on Public Works – June 26, 2023; Item No. 5 Proposed Funding Strategy for Multimodal Roadway and Bridge Infrastructure Renewal**

Dear Mayor and Councilors:

The MHCA wishes to register its full support for and endorsement of the concurrent recommendation of Executive Policy Committee (July 5, 2023) – arising from the June 26, 2023, report of the SPC on Public Works Committee – on the proposed multi-year funding strategy for roadway and bridge infrastructure referenced above.

As we represented at the Public Works and EPC meetings, the MHCA strongly recommends long-term and predictable funding for the renewal of local and regional streets, in keeping with the initial strategy that gave rise to the dedicated, two-percentage point tax increases annually.

With this proposal before you, you are potentially at the point of making a legacy decision, as it relates to the sustained, predictable incremental, results-driven investment in core infrastructure.

The recommendations from the Public Works Committee set out continuance of the dedicated tax revenues, to 2027, with broadened scope for utilizing the tax revenue reserves for additional infrastructure renewal. Those include industrial streets; bridge renewal; alley renewals; tree preservation/replacement on renewal projects; roadway safety improvement programs; pedestrian and cycling program. These are all pressing priorities, demanding attention and multi-year budget certainty and we support their inclusion in the proposed overall program.

MHCA is mindful the recommended adoption of the amended scenario – Scenario 3 – contemplates the establishment of a working group to review and refine the strategy's options, including financial forecasts, revenue demands and levels of service, in time for the next phase of the 4-year balanced budget cycle.

Respectfully, we encourage you Mayor and City Council to accept and adopt the recommended, amended scenario.

MHCA is a ready and willing partner in the discussions and considerations that follow.

Sincerely,

Chris Lorenc, B.A., LL.B.
President & CEO, MHCA

cc. MHCA Board of Directors