COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Thursday, July 13, 2023

The Council met at 9:43 a.m.

The Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Orlikow.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer and Wyatt.

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Madam Speaker: Thank you. I would like to now welcome our pages for today's meeting. Joining us once again is Max Novak from Seven Oaks School Division MET School, who resides in the Old Kildonan Ward and Abigail Rojo from the University of Winnipeg Collegiate, who resides in the Daniel McIntyre Ward. Thank you for serving Council today. We'll now move into morning announcements. Mr. Mayor, you have the floor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It's good to see everyone today. Good to see members of the Clerks here today as well in the gallery. I am not sure who's running city…the city, but nonetheless, good to see you all here today so. It was an honour just yesterday to be able to present three members of Team Canada's men's hockey team the Mayor's Award for Sports Excellence. Team Canada forward, Cody Glass, goaltender, Joel Hofer and the manager of hockey operations, Kurt Keats, who were all at city hall to receive their award. Certainly, our city has a long-standing history of producing exceptional athletes and coaches, and Cody, Joel and Kurt are prime examples of this legacy. We wish them all great success in their future endeavours, as certainly, Cody and Joel go back to their NHL teams for training camp fairly soon. Fringe Festival is coming up. The thirty-sixth annual Winnipeg Fringe Festival begins next week. Through July 19th to the 30th, Winnipeggers can enjoy free entertainment in Old Market Square or buy tickets to indoor shows at venues around the city. I think all of us can agree that Winnipeg's summer festivals are part of what makes our city great. And I was also happy to recently attend the Winnipeg…the 48th annual Winnipeg Folk Festival at Birds Hill Park. So, congratulations to all the organizers of another successful festival. I want to especially congratulate the Winnipeg Folk Festival Executive Director, Lynne Skromeda for her leadership and organization over the past 11 years or so and wish her well in her new role at Manitoba Film Festival. And let me take the opportunity, also, just to acknowledge the thousands of Winnipeggers who volunteer for festivals and the upcoming games. Really, our city is really, really blessed to have a strong volunteer base, men and women, teenagers come out time and time again. Some people take their holidays just to volunteer at festivals, whether it's Fringe or Folk Fest or some other festival. So, a big shout out to all of Winnipeg's outstanding volunteers. And thank you to them for all the work that they do. I would like to extend, once again, my deepest condolences to the Harris and Myran families as they continue to advocate for a search of Prairie Green Landfill. I had a phone conversation yesterday with minister…Federal Minister Mark Miller. I urged the Federal Government to contact the Harris and Myran families with a response to the feasibility study on Prairie Green Landfill as soon as possible. The families are stuck between two senior levels of government who do not agree on the next steps forward. Meanwhile, as we all know, a critical piece of the city's waste management system, Brady Road Landfill is being blockaded to protest inaction at a privately-owned landfill that's 30-kilometers away outside of the city of Winnipeg in a rural municipality. The City does not own, does not operate or have any jurisdiction over the Prairie Green Landfill, but we are required by law to ensure that the safe and sustainable operation of the Brady Road facility, and it's critical that that facility continue to operate. Families need a clear indication of the path ahead and the City needs a resolution to the Brady Road protest. And the entire community needs the senior levels of government to reach an agreement on this issue. Finally, Madam Speaker, I want to take the opportunity also just to say thank you to and congratulate our Clerk, Mr. Marc Lemoine. Today, of course, is his last Council meeting with us. And Mr. Lemoine has had just a remarkable career at the City of Winnipeg in public service serving the citizens of Winnipeg and the members of council…councils over the years. And certainly, working with all of the departments, also, through the many, many years. I think everyone understands and appreciates that, through you, Madam Speaker, that Mr. Lemoine has been a strong leader, someone who is steady, dependable, reliable, all the qualities that are critical to being a good clerk and making sure that the Clerk's Department Division of the City of Winnipeg continues to be, as I've said, the oil in the machine that keeps this place running. And so, I certainly, on behalf of all of us,

I know others will probably speak; Mr. Lemoine, I'll speak directly to you, but I just wish you a long and rewarding and enjoyable retirement. Thank you, again, for all of your work and for all of your service to the people of Winnipeg. Merci.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it's my pleasure to address Council at this time. As the Mayor noted, today is the final Council meeting where we will be joined by Mr. Marc Lemoine in his capacity as City Clerk. Mr. Lemoine is the 17th City Clerk and served honourably at the City of Winnipeg for 37 plus years, from June 12th, 1986 to July 14th, 2023. He started with the Computer Services Department where one of his first tasks was to upgrade and support the computer programs for the 1986 civic election using the mainframe computer and punch cards to program it. Mr. Lemoine has worked on 43 elections and by-elections for the City of Winnipeg in his career and has supported or been an official observer in many others in Canada and the United States for over 37 years. Mr. Lemoine joined City Clerks in 1993 where for the…for the last 30 years, he served as the City's Election Automation Director, the City Records Manager, the City Archivist, Deputy City Clerk and finally, City Clerk. He worked proudly with the previous four City Clerks; Meryl McCullough, Bob Hayes, Dorothy Browton, and Richard Kachur. Mr. Lemoine helped elect six mayors during his time with the City; Mayors Norrie, Thompson, Murray, Katz, Bowman, and His Worship Mayor Gillingham. Almost 80 plus city councillors and innumerable school trustees. He has served on many official boards for the City including the Records Committee, the Museum Committee and the Police Pension Board, just to name a few. He has proudly had the pleasure to oversee many changes during his years accomplished in large part through the introduction of automation, including the development of the DMIS system, the Decision Making Information System that we still use today. Mr. Lemoine spearheaded and created that system. He also had the pleasure of working on various high-profile projects including the renaming of the Administration Building to the Susan A. Thompson Building. Council took great pride as Mr. Lemoine served as President of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks in 2014, a professional organization that represents over 15,000 city clerks working in 14 English speaking countries around the world. For members of Council to be successful, as the Mayor noted, we need the highest level of support from City Clerks, and Mr. Lemoine, you have ensured that you and your team delivered consistently in a professional manner. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Mr. Lemoine should be extremely proud of his exemplary record at the City of Winnipeg. Council and the citizens of Winnipeg have been well served by his dedicated long service. We extend our deep gratitude to you. We wish you much joy in this next chapter of retirement. Congratulations to you and Sandy. You will be missed dearly. You are one of a kind. Thank you. And one standing ovation is not enough. I would like to recognize now my colleague, Councillor Mayes, en français.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We figured Gillingham and Sharma would handle the English part of the tribute. So, some of the rest of us have decided to speak en français.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Mayes: So, to recognize our City Clerk, Marc Lemoine, and his 37 years of service, we would like to say a few words in French since this is his last Council meeting. Marc contributed to expanding services offered to the francophone community of Winnipeg. And on the subject gravel back lanes, Marc is the only person who understood why I was given the title of King of Gravel.

Councillor Mayes: Which is saying, the only person who understood when I referred to myself as Gravel King in French was Marc Lemoine.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Mayes: Marc, happy retirement.

Councillor Mayes: Very briefly, a couple of sentences, as well, on another great francophone speaker in the city of Winnipeg, Guy Savoie, former councillor passed away recently. I know a motion's coming from Councillor Allard. Guy was a St. Boniface rep, lived in St. Vital in the latter part of his life, was wonderful to work with. Guy worked with us on…Dan Vandal and I on Sentier Gabrielle Dafoe. Certainly, worked with us on the restoration of the Louis Riel statue. And someday, when we're opening the Sumka Forest trails, I will say something in favour of Guy Savoie. The best…the best wording, though, from La Liberté and an entire page just entitled, 'Homage' was,

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Mayes: "Guy Savoie, an emblematic figure of the French-speaking Métis community."

Councillor Mayes: And it also says,

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Mayes: "Guy Savoie, he really carried our heritage in his heart."

Councillor Mayes: So, I wanted to put on the record a few words in favour of…in regard to Guy Savoie, but really, I wanted to speak well of our Clerk for all of these years. So,

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Mayes: Happy retirement, Marc.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes. Next is Councillor Schreyer.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would also like to say a few words about the retirement of Marc Lemoine who has a good French-Canadian name. A good Métis name as well in the prairies of this country. And I can say that maybe the Clerk's Office was my office…maybe it was my favourite office with which I have worked with over my years here. And maybe it was something to do with the leadership of the office, of Mr. Marc Lemoine. So, I will simply say that it was really, really a pleasure, an honour to have worked with you over the years here, Marc. Congratulations. And from this point on, best wishes. And we will miss you. Thank you and megwich. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, through you to the Clerk, and (inaudible), Marc Lemoine. The Clerk's Office moves our city. Beyond our agendas and elections, these are essential services. Today, I join my colleagues in marking the end of a remarkable career of Marc Lemoine. It is hard to say goodbye to someone essential. I will always remember the remarkable work, the devotion and the engagement towards the city; its citizens, its councillors and its Public Service. Thank you to all the Public Service. Marc Lemoine is a world class civil servant and thank you, Madam Speaker, for highlighting this fact. I will miss…Madam Speaker, through you to Marc Lemoine; on behalf of the residents of Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry, I wish you a happy retirement. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Allard.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Through you, I would also like to thank Marc Lemoine for his service. I would also like to note the fact that Marc Lemoine is a person who speaks one of the two official languages of Canada. A right as a resident of Riel to be served in both official languages of Canada and by the Winnipeg Charter. So, it's the second time that I have the honour to recognize the contributions of Marc, but I think that, for me, Marc is the best example of a public servant who I have seen be completely impartial, who has always followed the rules of Council, who always made sure that he was a person of integrity. In very difficult moments, we always knew that we had integrity with the City Clerks, and also with the City Clerk, in the records, in the procedures that are his responsibility. So, there is not a lot of…there is not a lot of confidence in the government these days, but I think if we had more Marc Lemoines in the world, we would have more confidence in the government. So, thank you for being an exemplary public servant, Marc, and we will miss you. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Councillor Allard, I believe you also wanted to say some words about the late Guy Savoie.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Allard: Yes, Madam Speaker, I would also like to speak about Guy Savoie in his mother tongue. I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Savoie after his political career and I saw in him a person who is very…very…I will say it in English, warm. A very welcoming person. A person who, as I understood in my conversations with him, who was a (inaudible) politician at the level of politics of St. Boniface and in Winnipeg. He told me that he was the president of the Executive Policy Committee, which at the time, was a Council elected position. It was a large council of 30 something councillors. So, it was possibly…it was quite possibly the most powerful municipal politician of St. Boniface in Winnipeg. But I would like to offer my condolences to the family, to the community and to recognize his excellent service to Winnipeg. I

remember…if you would permit me an anecdote, I remember when we spoke about…there was a council debate about Upper Fort Garry, and I saw a presentation from Mr. Savoie that is probably in our council archives, I would have to look for it. I know that I…I took a copy. But it was one of the best presentations that I have seen in this council chamber. He certainly had the capacity to innovatively express himself. So, it's a huge loss for the community. And I offer my condolences to the family. And it's a huge loss to the community to not have him. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Allard. Madam Clerk, would you please read the condolence motion into the record for former Councillor Guy Savoie. Moved by Councillor Allard and seconded by Councillor Mayes.

MOTIONS

Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Mayes,

THAT Council place on record its profound sorrow at the death of former Councillor Guy Savoie, which occurred on June 16, 2023.

Mr. Savoie served as Councillor for the Tache Ward from June 20, 1979 to 1986.

This Council extends to his family, its deepest sympathy and condolences in their bereavement.

Madam Speaker: Please rise for a moment of silence. All in favour of that motion? Contrary? Carried. We now have a hard copy motion on the long-dedicated service of our City Clerk, Mr. Marc Lemoine. It is a motion on behalf of all of Council. Madam Clerk, would you please read it into the record.

Motion No. 8
Moved by Councillor Sharma,
Seconded by All Members of Council,

WHEREAS Marc Andre Lemoine began his career with the City of Winnipeg on June 9, 1986, with the Computer Services Department as an Analyst Programmer;

AND WHEREAS Marc Lemoine was appointed to the position of City Clerk by the City of Winnipeg Council on February 22, 2018, becoming Winnipeg's 17th City Clerk on March 5, 2018;

AND WHEREAS Marc has faithfully served City Council and the City of Winnipeg for over 37 years;

AND WHEREAS over those 37 years, Marc has served Members of Council for more than eight terms of office, including five different Mayors;

AND WHEREAS with 17 years as Deputy City Clerk, Marc is the longest serving Deputy City Clerk since the commencement of Unicity in 1972.

AND WHEREAS Marc has announced that he will be leaving his position as of July 14, 2023 to enjoy a well-deserved retirement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this City Council express its admiration and appreciation to Marc Lemoine for his many years of service to Council and the Citizens of Winnipeg and that he take with him Council's best wishes for a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Madam Speaker: The Mayor moves suspension of the rules to deal with this motion before us. All in favour? Contrary? Our City Clerk sees you all. And that carries. Thank you.

MINUTES

Councillor Rollins moves that the Minutes of the meeting held on June 22, 2023 be taken as read and confirmed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Do not have any delegations today. We will now move in to the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated July 5th, 2023. Mr. Mayor.

REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JULY 5, 2023

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. I would like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent agenda Items 1 through 11, Madam Speaker. 1 through 11, 13 through 19. I'd like to pull Item No. 12, please.

Madam Speaker: 12 is CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund. 12 is pulled. Councillor Wyatt? 11 – Public Engagement on the 2024-2027 Budget Review. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: I'd like to pull the appointment of the new Clerk; 6, I think it is.

Madam Speaker: 16 – Appointment of City Clerk.

Councillor Eadie: And also 13.

Madam Speaker: 13 – New and Modified 2023 Capital Projects Funded by the 2023 Provincial Strategic Infrastructure Basket. Okay, any others? I'd like to pull Item 17 as well. Thank you. Okay, I will call the question on the others; 1 through 10 and 14, 15, 18, and 19. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried.

Item 11 – Public Engagement on the 2024-2027 Budget Review Process

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I look forward to hearing from my colleagues.

Madam Speaker: Item 11. Any speakers? Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: I look forward to hearing, also, from the movers of this motion, which was moved by Councillor Gilroy, seconded by Councillor Allard. I think I know what their intent is. If I could defer to them to speak first, and then I could speak maybe after, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This motion was brought on because in lieu of my work on the Governance Committee, and Councillor Allard as well, we found out that there was an ask for a budget for…a budget for…to be able to go out and do community consultation. And that budget wasn't allotted. So, my concern in the last year's budgets, my concern is that moving forward, that we do have a budget to really allow for in-depth discussions. One of the things that our…one of the things that our communications people are working on is working within communities that don't usually get out and vote, that have a low voter turnout, that maybe do not understand the issues pertaining to the election…pertaining to the budget, sorry. And so, we really want to engage those communities and be able to work with communities that maybe are here as a newcomer for the first time, have very little experience working…working and understanding city budgets, but really are impacted by the decisions that we make every day on our budgets. And those are usually in low-income areas and, really, in aging areas that really need a lot of work. So, the idea is to really engage these communities. And there might be an outside organization that is needed to do this engagement because these people have maybe some different needs. If it is a newcomer population, they may be needing to have interpreters to understand what is being said to them. They may need people…groups like the Social Planning Council coming in and helping to bring people together. Or even organizations like the West Central Women's Resources Centre that where…people are already gathering and really work with those organizations to really do an in-depth budget. And what…understanding what budget means to them and how it impacts them. So, that is something new that our…that our community consultations that the City is wanting to partake in, but it will really need the fine resources to do that. So, it wouldn't need the normal resources that you might require in community consultations by putting things in the paper and maybe one meeting overall, this would require a little bit more in-depth and really engaging in the communities that are impacted the most by some of the city budgets. So, that is why the motion came forward. And it was understanding and learning about the budget process the last time through our administration. So, this is just making sure we prioritize it. I see that it's gone to the Budget Working Group so they can take a look at it and maybe have those discussions with our

communications people and see what that budget is required in order to do that work. So, it's really about engaging more with communities that really need a little bit more support and understanding in the budget. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. And thank you Councillor Gilroy and Councillor Allard for your motion. I was part of the Budget Working Group this last time and there is a lot of information that's shared. And I'm thinking maybe…maybe Councillor Gilroy may have forgotten this, but we insisted that the…a percentage, and I can't even remember if it was 8 or 10%, be removed from the Corporate Communication budget to allow for discussions regarding the strategic action plan related to the budget. So, that funding will be used for better communication and budget consultation. We, at the time, spoke about if individual councillors wanted to have support to go out into their wards to do consultation. If they wanted a different support from the Corporate Communications Department. So, to my understanding, that exactly supports the motion that Councillor Gilroy and Councillor Allard brought forward, that there is funding to do different, better, unique, specialized consultation on the budget process and the strategic action plan.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Lukes. Councillor Wyatt, and then Councillor Allard.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you. Yes, I will support the…Councillor Gilroy's motion and her…I think her request is reasonable. The…in the last two days, I had very good friends from outside the city come and visit. A friend that goes back to the days of university who moved to California. And so, he was here with his son and his relatively new partner and her children. And had the opportunity to take them on the boat tour on the river and Assiniboine Park Zoo and bike riding. And apparently, I am famous for…famous for the tour of Winnipeg and tour of Transcona, which we did two days ago. And it really, actually, opened my eyes, Madam Speaker, because I do a…kind of an in-depth tour of the history of the city, but also…try to do the history, but also, the neighbourhoods of the city. And you know, so I took them into the historic North End of Winnipeg and drove the neighbourhoods there. And then, I said, would you like to see where, you know, the more affluent area of the city lives. And after they were in the North End, they say, actually, yeah, we would like to see that. So, then, we went across the river, across Assiniboine south into Tuxedo, River Heights and Wellington, though it was blocked off for cyclists, we couldn't drive the whole thing. And it was really…it was a stark reminder to me of, you know, I guess, you know, the tale of two cities. The night and day of Winnipeg where you have a certain area of the city where you literally...

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt, you may continue.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you. Thank you. Where you have, you know, grown…grown out yards, burnt out buildings, dilapidated homes, garbage piled up against trees and mattresses against trees. And then you drive to the other part of the city where it's kind of…it's immaculate. It's well looked after. It was really an eye-opener to them and it was really…it was actually an eye-opener to me. Again, I have seen it. And maybe sometimes when you see it through the eyes of others who don't live here, it allows you to see things for a first time again. And therefore, we have a lot of work to do. Our budget is our main driving force in terms of addressing these historical issues. But you know, as I was talking to them about the history of the city and the strike of 1919 and the Bloody Saturday that occurred right outside of this building where two strikers were shot dead that day in 1919 and talked about the divisions of that time. And I felt that in so many ways that we are, you know, just as divided now in different ways and in similar ways as we were in 1919. And that indeed, there are some residents of Winnipeg who will never cross the underpass on Main Street across the CPR Main line here. You know what, they'll never head into the neighbourhoods just to the west of city hall here and see those communities. And there is so much work we have to do that our budget can assist and address these inequalities that exist across our city. But where the line is quite literally still north versus south, east versus west. And so, I say this with support with the intent of Councillor Gilroy and Councillor Allard to open the budget process up to make it more accessible. I think Council is…I want to give credit where credit is due, I think Council has made huge strides in public consultation of the budget. I remember arriving here originally, members of EPC at the time, we don't need to consult anybody. We don't need to have any open house. We don't need to do anything on budget consultation. Public engagement was not even a term. I mean…and it was an uphill battle. I remember arriving on EPC in '06 arguing the point that we should have public consultations. I mean, we should talk to the public about the budget. And the old guard on Council then, what are you talking about? We don't need to do that. It was a huge fight behind the scenes and publicly. So, I would like to commend Council for making…for moving and that has depoliticized that part. We have made huge strides. The question is, how can we engage people who are disengaged just because of their socioeconomic position, where they are, struggles in life or just paying the bills? A lot of poor people in my neighbourhood are just busy paying their bills. Food prices, inflation, price of gas, increasing in the cost of your mortgage; everybody is struggling and it's facing folks more and more. Those folks too, the working people of the city to get them engaged, not just the so-called…I don't want to use the special-interest groups as we refer to them, or whatever you…stakeholders we sometimes call them. Anyway, those are my comments. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. Councillor Allard, followed by Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wanted to give credit, I believe, where credit is due. I was part of the same meeting Councillor Gilroy was part of. My recollection at that meeting was that the Public Service was indicating that there was not available budget in order to do this work. And I believe that the motion that Councillor Gilroy moved was in response to that information that we heard from the Public Service. And so, if things have changed, that is excellent news, but I did want to give credit where credit was due. And I believe if there has been a change based on the information that we have…that we were provided at the informal session where we were speaking to the Public Service, then that is excellent. And I will be supporting this motion as I understand it should be accomplishing what we were talking about during that Governance meeting of Council. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank Councillors Gilroy and Allard for bringing forth this motion. On that basis, I want to thank His Worship and those involved in that process of informal consultation amongst the councillors that was involved in bringing forth a motion like this. I want to thank their comments. I want to thank Councillor Wyatt, once again, for his personal anecdotal direct insights right now. It is important to try and look at things to the extent that it is humanly possible through other people's eyes. Luckily, such as nature, humans have that capacity to one extent or another to be able to empathize with others. It's part of what makes humanity, what makes civilization worth something. And when you're talking about going from one area of the city to another area of the city and the differences. And you can see them physically. But what does this mean on the concept of identity of an individual or a group, who their state of mind, what they feel about life, what they feel about themselves and their society of which they are part. And I don't pretend to have all of the answers, Madam Speaker. I am just glad to be here sometimes because it takes a lot of people to be involved in that discussion. Madam Speaker, when Councillor Wyatt was talking about the socioeconomic differences throughout one city, one city is kind of like a microcosm of society. I would say, some societies do it better than others, but that is the struggle, that's the struggle of society, that's the struggle of government, that's the struggle of leadership. Madam Speaker, I've lived in half a dozen wards around this city. I've lived in the city, I've lived outside the city, I've lived in most capital cities of Canada, even if it's just for a couple of months or half a year. Madam Speaker, I've spent months eating out of soup kitchens in Edmonton, working as day labourer, waiting to get back working on the oil rigs, which pays more than a city councillor does. I've lived in a real palace for five and a half years. The record of which is very official, as a teenager. And I don't know what to compare that to. But here I am back at home in my 50s and representing and feeling inadequate, because how do we explain what is going on with our budget and with our society? I know we are just one city. I know we are just one municipal unit and the struggles we're going through are indicative of what's going through in cities across Canada, across North America. I have never called out any single individual here in Winnipeg saying it's that person's fault, or it's that group's fault. I don't be believe I have ever said that. But it is our responsibility to address it. That is our job. Winnipeg has its own City Council. We have our own governments. We elect different levels of government, that is our job right here, right now. And when…Madam Speaker, when it comes to the budget, well, I feel inadequate. I would hope everyone else does, too. Madam Speaker, how do we explain to people in terms of it making relevance of a public engagement process, Madam Speaker. Let me say a few things in terms of our obligation to the inadequacy of public engagement and communication. Madam Speaker, just a couple years ago, Madam Speaker, it has been said officially in this chamber, and because of that, I heard it on the media. It was out there. It's just black and white. It was…they said that the police budget was one quarter of the budget. This is just one indication of where we need to improve when it comes to public engagement. Public engagement is not merely listening to people, but providing them real information by which they as taxpayers and citizens can help us make decisions and say what the priorities are. But Madam Speaker, it is impossible to make proper decisions based on improper information. That's just nature. That's just human nature, that's just logic. If we were given improper information, false information, we are going to be making improper…improper decisions. If we are not given greater information, we've got less information by which to make adequate decisions. That is all of us, not just those at city hall, but the entire public by which…with which we engage in the process of making budgets, but during elections, too. It's part of the democratic process. Madam Speaker, the police budget wasn't one quarter of the budget, but the infrastructure budget was, and I mean, literally, the capital budget and the road repair budget. That was a quarter of the budget. The police budget was a little less than that. So, I've got to ask, why were we telling the people of Winnipeg this unusual thing that the police budget was a quarter of the budget, which it was not. It was over 20%. But there was something that was a quarter of the budget, not mentioned once. And we expect the people of Winnipeg to be able to sort of make proper decisions to help us so that we can make proper decisions, Madam Speaker? The public engagement process is really important, Madam Speaker. We have heard in this chamber by delegation that the reason that counties or cities in United States, they went…they…they went bankrupt was because of the emergency services pension plan. Well, Madam Speaker, we didn't look at the full graph because if you look at those places, such as Detroit, the increase in the city's budget, the major increase wasn't the emergency services pension plan, it wasn't the police and firefighter's pension plan. Is was not. It was infrastructure. What kind of public engagement are we capable of having when we give people that information? Do we expect for them to give us best advice? Do we expect to make the best decisions? My goodness, Madam Speaker, how can we? Well, I can't imagine it.

So, that is how important I think public engagement is. But Madam Speaker, to me, public engagement is something you do every day. And Madam Speaker, long-term vision for budgets, having budgets with a forecast of more than four-years, that's normal. I honestly thought that I was raised that way. I'm not…not just me. Because when I got here, we already had multi-year forecasts provided by the City administration, provided by the office of the Chief Administrative Officer, the Chief Financial Officer. So, I never voted against this stuff. It is a good thing. But Madam Speaker, when we raise…every year, we raise our taxes, our rates, our fines, our levies. We increase our water rates and increase our percentage from which we put into general revenue. On our wallets, face it, this is not exaggeration. To a record level, all right, that's our reality these days. We have spent…I remember when Councillor Allard and I were first elected, we talked about…half facetiously, about the reserves…the hidden reserve funds that were around. Well, those are gone, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker on this item? Seeing none…oh, Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Public consultation is important. I'm…we always need to move forward, Madam Speaker, with public consultation. But I've, you know, participated in a number of forums that we've had for public consultation regarding budgets. And I think we have to…definitely as we proceed over the four-year budget, we have to look at how we do those public consultations, Madam Speaker. And Councillors Gilroy and Allard have made a very good proposal. However, to do a consultation on a billion-dollar budget for people…like, we're…well, we're elected and paid to look after this and we have our Public Service who, you know, involved so many people in putting together over a billion dollars worth of budget items. Like, so Madam Speaker, there needs to be somehow a focus because I have met with young groups like some of the young people we have heard from at city hall over the last 10 years. And I did meet with them to try to explain sort of the whole budget process as well as get into the budget. And you know, it's so difficult to focus in on everything, everything. And we have to try to do that, Madam Speaker. And we do our best at that. But when we go ahead and we start putting on public consultations, we do get reports from groups like the Social Planning Council or CCPA comes out with their alternative budget, Madam Speaker. And they…they do some consultations as well when they put those…their proposals and ideas forward. There's others that, you know, we have our greenspaces, environmentally friendly, healthy city, green trees and all of that. And they present their position and they understand, you know, their issue, the budgets. But Councillor Wyatt was referring to public consultation, those people who may be disenfranchised. You know, it's difficult to do public consultations when you have a bunch of people who are just basically trying to do their every day things. And so, I think as it proceeds, I think we have to look at a different way of doing these public consultations regarding budgets because an example might be, you know, in my ward, in Councillor Santos, Councillor Gilroy's wards, we have…we have neighbourhoods that are, as Councillor Wyatt described them, they're falling apart on many different fronts. And so, when we're looking at budgets and a consultation going into these neighbourhoods and inviting people to provide their perspective and so on, I think we have to actually spend some time in sort of giving just a quick context in terms how, you know, we the City budget and how we might try to do it and balance it. But really, you know, we should be consulting about…asking here's what we are trying to do in our budgets regarding these issues, ask them for their opinions. Some people who are, you know, they're just trying to make ends meet, they're living in a neighbourhood and they're trying to keep their house and even renovating a house nowadays, Madam Speaker, the prices are way, way up and people who are living in homes that are sort of subject to what I call the infrastructure decay and so on, Madam Speaker. You know, a lot of them are going to say, well, I can't afford to pay more property taxes or whatever they might have to say regarding this, but that is a kind of public consultation where then we can answer questions and talk about ideas that I've been presenting to this city hall to help people who are living in poverty to deal with property taxes. We can do something, but always there is blockage, Madam Speaker. Always. But we could have a discussion with the public and talk about maybe this is a good method to help alleviate, because we do have to raise the money to solve these problems; how can we alleviate for those who cannot afford to continue? You know, they're…if you are trying to maintain a home, your insurance costs in R2W and I'm sure in whatever R…R whatever in Daniel Mc or Point Douglas, wherever it is, Madam Speaker, they are facing huge increases in insurance, if they can find it, Madam Speaker. That is one example. And then, we have to raise money. And yes, there is different ways of getting funding. I don't want to debate that. I just…when we go out and consult publicly, we need to go into areas, try to get as many people out and talk about the issues. But you know, how can you put on a proper consultation? There's a lot of people that want to defund the police. But it's not as simple as taking that money and putting it into something else that is a provincial (inaudible), whatever it is, Madam Speaker. And there's nothing simple about our…over a billion dollar budget. So, as we all know. So, I just wanted to point out that we really need to look at a better way, not only do it, but a better way to consult on our budgets that doesn't have to make people...it is up to us to figure out how it all fits into the big over a billion-dollar picture. But let's go to them and say, like, do you want…like, let's talk to them about it. Let's frame it a different way and go out there and do it. And so, anyway, I support public consultations, try to empower those who are quite disenfranchised. And you know, I won't go…you know, in the budget consultations, we can talk about…you know, there are other groups out there that we really need to talk to because some of the things we are budgeting, for example, the Selkirk Avenue BIZ, Councillor Lukes has seen an e-mail. You know, like, we have areas of great decay, all's we're trying to do is build hope, build something. When we do these renewals, that's going to be in the Public Works report, but ultimately, you know, we need to look at how our budgets actually are helping business improvement zones make their areas better places for customers to come

to and, you know, to help facilitate that. Because in life, there is a balance. I mean, we need to purchase goods and so on. So, anyway, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Mayor Gillingham to close.

Mayor Gillingham: I want to thank colleagues for their comments today. I thought there was a lot of good comments on this. So, I'll invite you to call the question please, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, Item 12.

Item 12 – CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to introduce the item.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stood this down just to highlight it to…for a couple of reasons. Once again to, as I've said before, express appreciation to the current Federal Government for their focus on investing in housing. We know in the city of Winnipeg we need more housing, we need more housing kind of at every…kind of every point along the housing continuum. Certainly, we need more housing to assist with the efforts to get those who are currently unsheltered and unhoused into housing with wraparound supports. And the program that we are…that is before us today, the CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund, is a positive step in that it is more flexible than previous federal funding programs related to housing. And I want to just take a moment, too, to also express appreciation to our Deputy CAO, Ms. Moira Geer, for her focus on, first of all, understanding the fund that has been announced by the Federal Government and then, preparing the application so that the City of Winnipeg can draw down into our community as much of the federal funding as possible. So, what we have before us today is a very bold ask of the Federal Government. The $192 million, it's a bold ask, it's a sizable amount of funding that could really transform our city and give us an opportunity for many units of housing to be brought on stream. It also would allow us the capacity based on the rules of this funding and the allowances within this program to do more than just build units, but also, even, you know, like, look at the potential of assisting with developing some of the housing enabling infrastructure and other things as well. So, this is really, really good news. We're looking for a favourable result and response from CMHC on our application. But once again, just want to thank our Public Service for their work and for the members of Council, too, who also expressed support for this fund and this application.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt, followed by Councillor Rollins.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to thank the Mayor for his comments and for his work on this. And I'm supportive of the report. I would just want to stress a number of things from reviewing the report. I also want to thank Moira Geer. And I've had discussions with the CAO's office about the upcoming program. The concerns, I guess that I would cite based on reading the report and the application going forward to the Federal Government for the $192 million; I understand the federal program is somewhat broad. It's an investment in the Housing Accelerator Action Plan, investment in affordable housing, investment in housing-related infrastructure and investments in community related infrastructure that supports housing. And you know, the one area that I am concerned about from reading the report that what we are looking at here for…with regards to making application are some areas, some of the initiatives. Initiative number 6, which refers to infrastructure and providing developer financial assistance. I'm hoping that the…this program, because $192 million, let's say if we get it, it's a lot of money, but believe it or not, when it comes to housing, it is not a lot of money. And I am really…I'm hopeful that we do not fall into the scenario of providing private developers assistance for projects for the sake of their project in areas that, you know, for whatever reason we want to target. My hope here is that, you know, based on all of the housing indicators or housing standards by not-for-profit groups, the number used is one-third. That no more than one-third of their gross income should be spent on housing for a roof over your head, a quality house. And I'm hoping that that is what we gear our program towards rent geared to income. I am concerned about reading that affordable housing units low…low-end of market housing, rents below 80% of the area medium market rent as identified by CMHC. CMHC, for example, Madam Speaker, has a…has been funding programs and providing private developers allowing them to remortgage their loans for their housing development and get 2% interest rates and turnaround and charge the consumer what they argue is below market rents, but they're using the national standard that includes Toronto and Vancouver and Montreal. And so, literally, I can tell you in my ward, I know of one project, one…he's an entrepreneur, I can't…business person, where he's charging $1,950 a month for a 900-square foot or less unit and he's getting 2% refinanced through CMHC. It's almost legalized corruption at the federal level, I hate to say it. You know, this is something that we have to work to avoid. You know, and I congratulated him for being so, you know…I mean, how could I…you know. So, Madam Speaker, we…I think it's crucial that we avoid…the other concern I have is putting money into infrastructure servicing costs for housing development such as sewer and water, that can eat up this money pretty quick. We know how much it costs to upgrade sewers, to upgrade sanitary capacity. Before we know it, a good chunk of the money will be gone. If we could have the discipline to invest with, especially…as well…as cited in the report, Indigenous and existing not-for-profit housing groups to invest in rent geared to income at the one-third level where we provide quality

housing, secure housing, we will be doing so much, Madam Speaker, to enhance neighbourhoods, so much to stabilize families in the city and provide quality housing with the…with the dollars that we are going to be getting. If we go in for the $192, maybe we'll come up with less, maybe we'll get the $192, but whatever the number, we have to maximize that investment in programs or in a rollout that will ensure that we are providing long-term affordable housing rent geared to income. Because right now, what's being offered out there through the existing federal programs, CMHC and what not, is not addressing the problem in any way, shape or form. And we know, Madam Speaker, from what has gone on in other western countries and we see the rise in the cost of housing in the private sector, rentals are largely driving that, that…and part of it is being passed on thanks to the higher costs of borrowing. But being even before the higher costs of borrowing started to be an issue as it is being an issue now, rents were rising at a rate far greater than inflation, exponential to inflation, rents were rising because of the demand for rental units because of the growth of the population of the city combined with the increase in the value of land to service the cost of housing and the inability for people to afford to buy a lot and a new home or an existing home and qualify for a mortgage, driving up rental costs exponentially. That this, Madam Speaker, we know when we introduce programs which actually subsidize from the Federal Government, keep rent at medium market rent, as been as experienced in countries like Germany or Israel or France, Italy. When they introduce these programs for aggressive affordable housing, it actually tempers the private sector increases in market rents. It slows down that rise. Why? Because literally, they are in competition and that is the best way to stem the rising cost of housing in the city. Other alternatives have been done and attempted over the years in city after city in this country such as mass rezoning of lands. Vancouver has done it. Other cities have done it where they try to flood the market. We've done it here, flood the market with rezoned land. What did it do? It actually led to a greater increase in market prices across the city. It actually accelerated it. Made the increase in the value of land even worse than…much higher than the rate of inflation. So, Madam Speaker, the policies…the program being developed here is wonderful, but we've got to make sure that it is targeted, that it's specific, that it works directly with existing not-for-profit groups. And finally, I would like to say, Madam Speaker, that the $1 million being earmarked here for staffing out of this program, I hope that it does not include...

Madam Speaker: Councillor Schreyer moves extension. All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Councillor Wyatt: I hope it includes greater results than what was delivered under Mayor Bowman when we had earmarked $150,000 a year for the homelessness initiative. And they…it took them years to get one project going. Never mind one project, one unit to be built for homelessness. $150,000 matched by the Province and the feds, $450,000 a year that (inaudible) and we're getting million dollars funding that office every year for staffing costs and we didn't see anything delivered in this city. I am hoping that we don't repeat that as well. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Councillor Rollins, followed by Councillor Schreyer. Councillor Rollins first, thank you. Thank you, Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like unequivocal, unanimous vote for this, as it is a generational opportunity to create more badly needed affordable housing and, really, cash for the City of Winnipeg from the Federal Housing Accelerator Fund. In the case of the National Housing Strategy, I would note, particularly in this moment, priority groups are currently defined to include survivors, especially women and their children fleeing domestic violence, Madam Speaker, seniors, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, people dealing with mental health and addictions, (inaudible) veterans, 2SLGBTQ2IA+, people's racialized groups, et cetera. While this isn't the City's sole plan for housing and to address the housing crisis, it's important to move the dial on the housing crisis. Governments need to be working together where meaningful and…where meaningful results are proven and communicated and that accountability and level of accountability is what people are starving to see, Madam Speaker, in a housing crisis. And that…that…that's…that is…that is public service excellence and excellence coming from Council. I'd note that councils across the country haven't been unanimous. I was in shock learning, Madam Speaker, about the lack of support in Calgary, for instance. Madam Speaker, I will announce that I will take all of Calgary's money for Winnipeg. My priorities from converting vacant office space in downtown, to amending zoning rules needed…needed infrastructure and supports for the permitting office that is so key to drawing down the money, improving our results in Winnipeg. That's why I stand and look forward to a unanimous vote from Winnipeg, Madam Speaker, to this Housing Accelerator Fund. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Rollins. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Grateful for the comments made by Councillor Rollins and Councillor Wyatt. You know, what is the foundation of civilization? What's the foundation of humanity as we know it? Isn't it lodging? Isn't it dwelling and food; food and shelter? So, we are at the basics here. Not that it is wrong, we should always be dealing with the basics here. So, basically, it's been getting worse and worse and it's harder and harder for working people to afford housing. It is harder and harder for people to afford adequate nourishment for themselves and for their…for their children. It's getting harder every year. Right before our eyes during the time that we are all adults, during the time that, as the years tick while we are elected here on Council. While we're elected here to be part of that official discussion and decision-making process. The rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer and the middle class is shrinking. And

for the most part, when it comes to the middle class and the working class, it is, for the most part, just how fast they are getting poorer. If I say anything that is sensational or an exaggeration or not factual, stop me right away. I didn't make this up. That's our reality. Not just Winnipeg, this is our society right now. I never said we can fix this ourselves, but I can tell you, we are not going to fix anything that we don't…can't talk about. But that's the facts. So, now what? Well, I am pleased we are talking about these things. This has to be part of the budget discussion, by the way. How…what kind of public engagement here we're going to have if this isn't what we are talking about. This is the basics, man. I am not saying that the City, a municipal government, is the one that's…can make all these solutions by themselves, but we've got some tools. We've got some responsibilities. And we've done it before. We as a society; our parents, our grandparents, I'm going to out there, this is my…this is my judgment on it, they did a better job. Not just by themselves, but in context of society they lived in. Why? Because the vast majority of people were getting more affluent. The working class, the middle class was growing. And by the way, check this out for yourself, each and every one of us. When you take a look at the world. What other countries that we can have the greater trust in in terms of representing their people? More or less in the 20th century and before that, the case has been, where the middle class is the majority. Check it out. Canada's been one of those countries where the middle class was growing, the middle class was the majority. The working class. Why? Because it is important that we work. We provide goods and services for each other, we care for each other. Hard to always put a value judgment on it, but that is the system we've created. I am in. So, now we are in the situation by which…while Councillor Wyatt gave us a great example of this, you don't want to stop entrepreneurialism, you don't want to stop the spirit of leadership in business. You can't. It is important. It's an important part of the mixed economy. So, when, you know, despite the incongruency which is taken advantage of by a certain business in terms of…in terms of housing developments, Councillor Wyatt said he congratulated this person for his ability to make the system work and do some real work building real houses. It's important. But at the same time, he recognises that incongruity that causes an in…can increase poverty. Even though they're providing lodging, it still provides poverty because now more than anytime since just after World War II, it is costing more and more just to live in the same neighbourhoods as a generation or two or three ago. And we've come a long way, Madam Speaker. But things are starting to get worse. It is a slow process. Didn't happen overnight. In fact, you can kind of pinpoint when it happened. And in a sense, in the '70s into the '80s, and by the '80s, we were sort of…it already was being put in place. Before then, when our economy was growing, when we had no recessions, major recessions. You know, corporations paid for about half the taxes in this country. Reduce that to less than 20% and after a few years and a few decades, guess what happens, Madam Speaker? Well, no surprise, you get a shrinking of the middle class, a shrinking of the working class. And then, the disparity between rich and poor could be perpetuated. Because those that can own, buy…and it creates a different type of inflation, a new inflation. A new inflation of those that own the resources of construction. And now, that's where we have our highest rate of inflation in construction. Whether it be infrastructure or whether it be housing. The construction of our infrastructure, our roads, our bridges, our hydro dams and the very houses we live in, the construction of those very houses. Madam Speaker, that is just reality. Again, I know I've put in some personal perspective on this, but I sincerely offer it because that…that information's been sincerely offered to us and to me. So, I am grateful for that and I come out with some perspective here, but for the most part, facts. You've got to make big…base our decisions here on facts. So, here is a little tool that we have to make it a little easier for some people, for a few people to have adequate lodging so that their families have a chance, so there's a chance they can have hope for the future. Because Madam Speaker, oh my goodness, you know, more and more people going to work living their lives, 10, 20,000 bus rides in their 50 year lives, working, as an example. And they'll get up at 6:30 in the morning when it's pitchy black, get on that bus, hopefully, there is a bus shelter for them along the way when it is -40, -30, not an exaggeration. They get to that factory at the other end of town, and when the…when the job's done at the end of the day, it's pitch black again, they get back on that bus, they transfer somewhere, get back home, they don't know if they have a pension, they don't have any money, they don't have any money for their post-secondary education for their children, but that is the facts, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Next speaker on this topic, Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Madam Speaker, I just want to quickly rise and say that I am supporting this effort and application for a large sum of, what was it, $190…$192. I am going to rise. I am in…I'm going to be voting for this, Madam Speaker. Despite the concerns I raised in our…we had a seminar on this, Madam Speaker. And you know, I have, well, actually, reflect some of what Councillor Wyatt had to say. But I think that our Public Service has put together a good application. And I'll be supporting it. Although, again, well, I will publicly say that I just…I just feel that downtown is important, Madam Speaker, very important, but all around the downtown, our neighbourhoods are falling apart. And I just…like, I know there is only a certain amount of money we could apply for, Madam Speaker. So, I am going to support this, but I hope that as we move more into the future on these issues that…of affordable housing and housing, we heard from a developer who's trying to do something in the neighbourhoods that I talk about having problems. I mean, how can we facilitate that more? I think that is very important, Madam Speaker because we do have people who…you know, I hate to say it, the private sector needs incentive. We need to smooth it out to make it easier for various development plans, Madam Speaker. And anyway, I will be supporting this. And…but I do have my concerns that...well, anyway, we can only apply for a certain amount of money, so I will let it go. And I support it.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to close on the item.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank my colleagues for their comments and for their support. I invite you to call the question on the matter, please, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour of Item 12? Contrary? Carried. Item 13.

Item 13 – New and Modified 2023 Capital Projects Funded by the 2023 Provincial Strategic Infrastructure Basket

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mayor Gillingham to introduce the item.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I look forward to hearing from my colleagues and I'll reserve my comments until close.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: I asked to have it stepped down. I support the plan re…I guess you'd call it a redistribution and allocation of unallocated money under the Provincial Basket Program, Madam Speaker. And so, the first thing I will mention about it is, thank you to the Public Service who is putting this forward, but I want to thank my colleagues. We are going to vote for this. And the addition of 8 point whatever million dollars for the old ex arena and some projects around the outside, I just want to thank everybody for, really, this is an investment in the North End for young people who are getting involved in sport and athletics. And not only just for the young, but for the older…the old exhibition grounds, Sargent Tommy Prince Place, and so on, this stuff…this is very important. You know, in the context that we've had to give up X acres of land for a police station, I just want to say that I really appreciate the Public Service putting forth what is really needed to improve the experience for North Enders in both my ward and Councillor Santos' ward and even out there. I think it will probably benefit Old Kildonan and Daniel Mc as well. And traditionally, the old exhibition grounds have been used by people in those wards as the boundaries have changed. And…because it's more of a…it's a bigger community. It is not…the old ex grounds is not...it used to be a regional thing back in…when I was a kid growing up in the '60s and '70s. But it's more of a community-based. And anyway, I just want to thank…and I note…and very important, re-establishing the CIGP program. Have a little…the demand for Community Incentive Grant program dollars in my ward, when we had that program in place, it was never enough, Madam Speaker, never enough. There is a lot of community organizations out there that are trying to provide public space for improving the lives and offering better life choices to participate in different activities and so on, Madam Speaker. And so, but I really appreciate that this is a move, $1 million, which will also cover off the cost of administrator on it. So, we will all divide it up evenly. So, but anyway, Madam Speaker, I think that…I really appreciate the Public Service putting forth the requests, I guess. I think people heard we were disappointed that we wouldn't be able to do it. So, now it's there. And I just wanted to appreciate that the Prep Program in Mynarski can definitely utilize that extra $100,000 dollars, so right on. Thanks, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of the report as well. And I think it's…the program with regards to the funding for the Prep, of course, we have the history there. The Prep being funded higher. Hoping that we can get that funding up in future years. As we know, our parks and our playgrounds, the average playground lasts approximately 17 to 20 years. And in a lot of our…many of our wards, with the growth and development we have had, have added to the inventory of the existing parks and playgrounds that we have and that this puts us even further behind the 8 ball when it comes to maintaining not only the growth, but also, the existing inventory of the older neighbourhoods in our wards. I also want to just point out the fact that we are, in this report, increasing funding for a major sewer interceptor. It's to address new sewage flows with regards to under the Red River to get to the south end treatment plant namely from Lindenwoods and Waverly West. And I…my concern, Madam Speaker, is I just want to flag this to say that, historically in the past, we as a city have used interceptor sewers to subsidize the expansion and growth of the suburban areas. If you don't have an interceptor sewer, you don't have a subdivision because you don't have any way of getting your sewage to the sewer treatment plant. And the ratepayers of Winnipeg has been paying for these upgrades to inner…major interceptor sewers by and large. So, when we talk about development paying for development, that is not really true in the city of Winnipeg because of our policy with regards to these sewer upgrades. If we want to see the transformation of existing older neighbourhoods, if we want to see the renewal of our downtown, if we want to see renewal in some of the neighbourhoods like Old St. James I think of, not just the inner-city, but many of them; old Transcona densification, the ability to take existing 50-foot lots and a lot of our subdivisions built in the '60s and '70s, even '80s and go to 25-foot lots on large-scale. To convert our existing developers from being greenfield development to infill developers, wouldn't that be amazing as you see in Europe or other countries? So, you know, Madam Speaker, we could do this, but the…right now, the interceptor program is geared towards extending capacity into areas that does not have housing development: greenfield, farm field, southwest Winnipeg, south of Winnipeg has been targeted. South of the perimeter highway, Qualico

has assembled large amounts of land south of the perimeter highway, south of St. Vital fully expecting for us to pay for their full interceptor upgrades heading south. These subsidies, really, for these large developers need to end. If they wish to build these neighbourhoods, let them pay for the interceptors and the upgrades rather than the ratepayers of Winnipeg. We're already having to subsidize, by the way, Madam Speaker, major upgrades to the North End Treatment Plant, major upgrades to the south end treatment. We have to subsidize these because of the growth happening in the city because of the fact that we have stringent environmental licenses on ourselves with regards to the Province of Manitoba. The license pertaining to the North End treatment and the upgrades required there because of that license. So, we are already subsidizing new development in that sense already and the growth that's taking place in our city. Why we need to subsidize new interceptors? There is a need for a new interceptor in Madam Speaker's ward to the north, north of Jefferson. Total at…it's at total capacity now up there. The last development that went in by Ladco maximized the entire interceptor sewer that's existing there for their development up on McPhillips. And now, if you want…land wants to be serviced to the north, so there is pressure from developers on the City to provide these interceptor upgrades. I just hope we recognize the fact that this is a major cost that we have to bear and that it's often money that borrowed through our utilities, so we often kind of like…it gets kind of hidden there. But nevertheless, those are utility cost charges that are actually…the ratepayers of Winnipeg have to pay every day, every month, every three months through their water and sewer bill. And why should they have to pay for that when it is new developers and development that is clearly benefiting by buying up relatively cheap farmland for development? Relatively cheap…when I say relatively cheap, compared to many places around the world. So, thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Mayes, Councillor Allard and then Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Mayes: Just very briefly, I wasn't going to speak to this, but just to clarify what Councillor Wyatt was saying, there actually isn't an increase of $8 million on the total budget for the southwest interceptor. It's a replacement, it's an offset. It does accelerate the work, potentially, which would be a good thing. There's some…we have seen this text before in the budget. It's not a single point of failure risk at Darcy Lift Station. So, it's not so much that we're putting in $8 million more, we're going to take $8 million of the provincial money and save some of our retained earnings. Well, might you ask, though, doesn't the Darcy Lift Station, which is coming further down the agenda under the Water, Waste Environment, that inter-relates. There's a lift station there that needs some work that we do need $433,000 more there. So, that would be a budget increase, possibly federal, possibly provincial, we'll see what happens there. But just on the $8 million, it is not $8 million more being funneled into Councillor Lukes' ward. She has championed over the past some years this (inaudible) interceptor doing her job. We already committed to the total amount. This actually takes some provincial money and good news, I think, allows us to accelerate the work.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard, followed by Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Allard: Perhaps a question, is it possible to vote clause by clause on this?

Madam Speaker: Yes, we can.

Councillor Allard: Okay. I would like to request that. I'd also like to speak to this item if I can.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Go ahead.

Councillor Allard: Okay, so I think…I mean, overall, I think this is a great report. And as you might expect, based on prior speeches, I do have concerns about Appendix F which is titled, "Trade Route Corridors Planning and Design." Madam Speaker, in my favourite book, which is 'Le Petit Prince', 'The Little Prince' from Saint-Exupéry, 'Le Petit Prince' tells us about how there are different seeds. Some seeds are good, some seeds are bad. Now, I realize this is not a large dollar amount if we look at the overall City budget, but I do think that this is a bad seed. And the metaphor that's used in the 'Little Prince' is that, if we let the wrong seeds grow, it can have detrimental impacts to our…for environment. And so, I…this is not a large dollar amount relative to the overall capital project that will...I don't want to use the word blossom, that will come out of this study. And I think the opportunity costs are so huge, investing in…or spending on a Kenaston Road widening, which I understand from a Freedom of Information Act request, only has 4% truck traffic. Pretty tough to consider it a trade route with that percentage. And I think there are so many other things we could do with the…with the dollars, whether it's building our Transit Master Plan, whether it's building affordable housing, whether it's doing any other thing that isn't a straight expense that comes with expense at the front-end and expense in terms of maintenance of the road network. And for those who follow…for those who follow city building books, who go to school on how to build cities, there is something near a consensus about how if you expand road capacity, you do not fix the problem of traffic circulation. It is called induced demand and it is widely recognized as being a phenomenon that cities have to deal with. And the way to deal with reducing congestion is by exploring and giving Winnipeggers other modes of transport, whether that's active transportation, whether that's transit, whether that's more sidewalks that are cleared sidewalks, all of those other things help reduce traffic congestion. Widening roads, counterintuitively, is not something that will hire…that will help with traffic

congestion. As a matter of fact, it probably will make things worse on every side street. The road widening serving as some type of magnet road generating device where more people will be compelled to drive because the cost of driving is lessened because there is more…there's more infrastructure there in order to drive. So, I don't think this is a good direction. I will support the other reports but the reason that I asked for a clause by clause vote is that I will be opposing Item F. I think it is a bad seed. And if we allow this project to grow, it is going to hurt Winnipeg, it's going to hurt future generations of ratepayers. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. All these speeches are indicative of the realities we have to deal with. Once again, Councillor Wyatt talking about the subsidies for these things. Look, subsidies can be a very important thing to achieve certain goals. The problem sometimes with subsidies, and it can grow really bad, is you are not necessarily dealing with the problem. So, instead of dealing with the problem, dealing with the costs, you're subsidizing to get something done, which in the short-term with specific projects can be a very important thing. But sometimes and over time, it becomes part of the pattern of governments is we subsidize without dealing with the problem because, therefore, you are not dealing with the problem, you're causing the problem, we're causing the problem, because we are abetting it. If there is an inflation rate in something so that the costs are increasing all the time, instead of trying to find out why…why the costs are going up, what is the problem, well, just about…instead of dealing with the problem, we'll just subsidize it so we'll be able to afford it anyway. And guess what happens? When you subsidize it, the costs go up even more. So, in the short-term, you may have accomplished something, but in terms of a long-term pattern, which sooner or later becomes now, you actually have higher costs due to subsidies. Now, subsidies, it doesn't matter, left wing, right wing, it doesn't matter. We use subsidies in different ways to achieve different goals. Whether it be subsidies for the poor or subsidies to abet high construction costs over what is already arguably the most lucrative era in the history of construction, as an example. So, now more than ever, in terms of getting some sorts of construction done, including housing, rather than dealing with the problem and the high costs, we subsidize it, which can be good in the short-term. But in the process, we neither explained why the costs have gone up, we neither explained to people, to the taxpayers, to the voters, to the citizens, their money, what they could do or what they could think of, why they could offer as the facts so that they can tell us what we could do. That is not part of the budget consultation process. I haven't heard that yet. I haven't heard the City of Winnipeg say to people, hey, it's the budget consultation process, your taxes, rates, fines, fees are going up, your services down. The bigger…the main reason, more than any other sector, it's construction. What should we do about it, people of Winnipeg? I haven't heard that yet. Try to tell them that's an illogical question. Try to tell them that's an unfair question for them to act…to discuss. It is a tough one and it can lead to all sorts of sensationalism, but you know, if this isn't going to be a kangaroo court it's because of the leadership of people that are elected, like us. That is our job. Ignoring the issue is not our job. So, subsidies can be a good thing, but over and over and over again when it is used in substitution of trying to deal with the problems, it can actually make them worse. In terms of Councillor Allard's concerns over priorities over where the money should be going, where people's tax money should be going, you know what, he is talking about the corridors; I'm going to tell you something. A generation or two ago we wouldn't have this conversation because, well, the cost-benefit would have been better. Why? Because it wouldn't have cost as much. Same thing. We built this city already. The city's built already. Kenaston has been there for generations. How did we do that? What's…why can't we do that now? Now we are dealing in a form of conversation I haven't seen before. Now we've got to look…because the costs of construction are so high, now we've got a group of people more than ever before and I don't have much consultation with these people directly, but they are saying, what worth is it to widen Kenaston? What worth is it? It costs so much, what do you get out of it? We've never had that conversation before because the cost of construction of building Kenaston and every other highway in the city, it wasn't this cost benefit. The benefit was better for the cost. You got more bang for your buck. And now, we're in a new era and it's going to happen more and more. It is not going away. It's going to get worse and worse where we've got to ask the question, is it really worth all of that money? Now we've got to ask the question, is it really worth widening Kenaston? We haven't had this…I have never heard this in my life. I'm not saying Councillor Allard's wrong because what is the point and the relevance of having something called a cost-benefit analysis if it isn't for exactly answering, debating that exact question we have for generations, a cost benefit analysis. There is a cost, there is a benefit. We try to quantify these down to, you know, a single number, kind of like money ball. But you know what, we just try to figure it out. Is it worth the money? Well, guess what, for trying to do something which we have been doing for hundreds of years, at least generations, building this city, it's never cost so much to make one street. So, now we're having a new conversation, is it worth widening Kenaston? I've got to tell you something, I just feel sorry for the people that have to drive on Kenaston. I do. It's the worst route in the city. By standard perspective, I would say, therefore, widen it. But now, we're getting into an era where people are debating and we have to have this out. We have to hash this out. Where they're given the bizarre cost in relationship to our tax budget, the cost of just widening Kenaston. What is the benefit? Because it's not the same it used to be. You are still getting an extra lane, but what is the cost of it? Guess what? 20 times than it was 30 years ago. That is the fact, Jack. So, now, that means that the cost benefit analysis is not the same as it was 30 years ago, 50 years ago. Is 30 years and 50 years ago an unrealistic way to look at things, like, we're looking through, what, history? No. That's exactly how politics works. How does this…why is this city here? Because we built it 30, 50, 80, 100 years ago. Is that an exaggeration? No, that's exactly what happened. But in our lifetime, merely

our lifetime, our adult lifetime of the people sitting in the circle, the cost has gotten so, I'm going to say, out of hand. You can say that is exaggeration, but to the extent that we've never seen before. To the extent, you know, we're wondering whether there is going to be a real cost benefit analysis on Kenaston, you know, or the route to CentrePort. We have never been in this situation before. Why? Because of the slow and sure and exponential. It's not slow any more. While we are here, we've got to deal because now the relative absolute exponential growth of infrastructure inflation. Put it that way. Undeniable. Let's talk. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am happy to see some of the stuff that is in here. I mean, I am not…not a fan of everything, but I do want to go over a few things that I think, you know, are positive. The Community Incentive Grant Program that I think is really critical to making sure that we are supporting our local communities is here and I think that that's really important, important work that we need to do and important work that the Province should be caring about as well. So, I am really happy to see that work here. I am also…also really happy to see that the Parks and Recreation Enhancement Program is also here on the list. We know that in OurWinnipeg, we are looking at growing our greenspaces and enhancing our parks and funding along this line's critical in order to meet our targets. It also helps us meet our climate change targets. So, this is critical work that we need to do to build a healthy and happy city. You know, part of the features of having more people come to Winnipeg and want to live and stay in Winnipeg is our parks. I have been out enjoying the many parks that we have here in the city of Winnipeg; Assiniboine Park and Kildonan Park and St. Vital Park. And they are just…they are so enjoyable. And I know I got more to get out and see. And we have some hidden gems as well. So, we really need to be able to prioritize those and make sure that we are funding those. And I'm glad to see that that is in there. You know, I agree with Councillor Allard on the capital projects here, the capital funding for our trades route corridor for planning and design. I think we all know where this is going, in terms of the Kenaston project, and I just feel that this time and day, this is not a project that we should be focusing on. We have so many aging bridges that are about to be put out of commission, really. They're at…their end of the lifecycle could be any day now that the Arlington Bridge is closed. It could be any day now that, I think in Councillor Schreyer, in your ward, the main connection into Transcona could be closed. So, we have some concerning infrastructure needs here in Winnipeg. And we also need to make sure that when we're planning, we're planning for the future. And when we know that we've go to plan for the future in terms of putting money into trade routes, we've already really done a lot of that work already with Chief Peguis, now it's time for us to really focus on some other…other things like our Transportation Master Plan in terms of our Transit Master Plan. How do we really focus on moving people? That is going to be through transit as we grow our city. That's really going to be the only option to make it faster and easier, especially if we do want to grow our downtown, like we say…like we say we want to do, we have to make sure that we have a Transit Master Plan that is working for us. So, there is…our money could be better spent in making sure that we're earmarking these projects and really dealing with the climate change issue that we need to focus on, as well as, really, how we do move our people around faster. I'm a firm believer that building the roads will not be moving people around faster. As we build out, the time is going to the same, right, because you're still going to have more people coming in using cars than they are using transit. So, until we get that system done and built like every other major city in the country and throughout the world, which we are far behind, we're not going to be able to move our people around like we need to. So, that's a really great…great funding announcement. The southwest sewer interceptor; I'm glad to hear, I know that there's been a lot of debate. I know that Councillor Lukes has been working on this as well and there's been lots of debate on that. And I think it's time that we help support that. The Assiniboine Park Conservatory, they've done amazing work and we do need to keep that work up. It is…it is a gem in our…in our city and we need to really focus on the work there. So, those are the things that I really feel that will help…help be a productive…productive for the city of Winnipeg as we move forward. But the only question that I have arising out of this is, how many of these things did we already prebudget for? So, now that would maybe free up money in order for us to put that money elsewhere. So, those are things that I would like to know a little bit more about. I am pretty sure that we already did some planning and design work for…for our roads, for the trade routes. So, I'm pretty sure that was already budgeted in. So, what does this mean now for our budget as we move forward? And could this money be spent elsewhere? Which I think we would have to debate around this council. So, I just wanted to put my thoughts on the record. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor to close on the item.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I want to thank my colleagues for their comments today. I want to acknowledge, first of all, that this is made possible because, thankfully, after many, many years, the Provincial Government thawed its funding freeze to the City of Winnipeg and increased the capital basket to the City and that has…that has enabled us to be able to make some decisions and the Public Service put forward some recommendations on what is before us here. There's three of the projects that I do want to highlight; the first one is the public safety communications system. This is good news because the current system that our emergency services have been using has issues. It has issues with coverage. It has issues with some challenges as far as interofferbility limitations and this…the current system needs some enhanced security. And so, by really taking the Province up on their offer to join their public communication system, it's going to resolve a lot of these issues and maximize better coverage, better reliability. And certainly, when

people are calling our emergency services, we need to know that when they're communicating with one another, that their need…that the system needs to be reliable and be able to operate kind of across…across departments. And so, this is…this is good news. This investment will really help us with the internal infrastructure that perhaps we all take for granted, but we never should take for granted. So, this is a welcome investment. I, too, want to echo I think what Councillor Eadie was highlighting, when it comes to the old exhibition arena site redevelopment, the $8.2 million. That brings that project total to a $14 million investment in the North End. And specifically, in the North End that will translate into programming and services for young people in Winnipeg's North End. This will assist Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre, WASAC, as we consistently refer it to it as, to really deliver the programming, hopefully, expand their programming and continue their good work in the North End neighbourhood. And will give a lot of young people the opportunity not only in the, you know, immediate years ahead, but in the long-term, for years and years to come. Give them great opportunity to be involved in sports and other programming, recreation services and other things like that. So, it's a good news story today. It's a $14 million investment in the North End. And also, just, I know some other colleagues have talked about the trade route corridors planning design. The $1.4 million will allow the City to do what we said we were going to do anyways, but now the Province is participating. With these funds, we have the Province participating in the analysis to get the class estimate updates on both the Route 90 projects and the Chief Peguis Trail extension. Get a cost estimate update on both of those projects, both of those trade routes and also do the ROI, the business case, on both of those as well. So, these are good investments today. They're good investments all across Winnipeg. And I hope we get unanimous support on this report today. Thank you, Madam Speaker, I invite you to call the question.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. There was a request to vote clause by clause. I would suggest that we vote for Item 4, was the one of contention. Shall we vote for 1 to 3 and 5 to 9 first of all? All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Item…Clause 4. Could you read it into the record, Madam Clerk, please?

Clerk: Yes. Sorry, just one second. Recommendation 4: That the funding for the Trade Route Corridors – Planning and Design capital project be modified for the removal of $1.4 million in frontage levies and the addition of $1.4 million of 2023 Strategic Infrastructure Basket be authorized.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. There was a call for a recorded vote. All in favour of Clause 4, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Wyatt, and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

Nays

Councillors Allard, Gilroy and Schreyer

Madam Speaker: Thank you.

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 13, Nays 3.

Madam Speaker: Clause 4 passes. Next item, Item 16.

Item 16 – Appointment of City Clerk

Madam Speaker: I'd like to pass this over to you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Item 16 – Appointment of City Clerk. And the Mayor will introduce the item.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Madam…Madam Speaker. I'm in the Chair. Thank you.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. I would like to take the opportunity to, certainly, welcome Mr. Carlos Gameiro as our new City Clerk, if assuming the vote passes today. But appreciate, too, certainly, Carlos' work in years past and look forward to his successful leading of our Clerk's Department. And Carlos is certainly no stranger to all of us and certainly, no stranger to the Clerks and has done just outstanding work over the years. Certainly, I and a few others around this chamber came on board here in 2014 and Carlos has been consistent in his willingness to serve and to help and help us understand and be patient with us to teach us and make sure that we as Council kind of stay on track and kind of work within the framework and the governance rules that the previous councils and our, you know, councils have established. And so, really confident in his leadership and looking forward to voting in support of this…of this report today.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Mayor.

Councillor Sharma: Mr. Deputy Speaker, could you recognize me?

Deputy Speaker: I am going to recognize you. Thank you. You may proceed.

Councillor Sharma: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I think the Mayor has read the room well, but I would like to put some formal comments on the record here today. I was very pleased to serve as chairperson of recruitment committee to seek out our new City Clerk. The City Clerk position is one of four statutory officers for the City of Winnipeg, all of whom are appointed by Council. The City and Council have been well served over years…over the years by recent City Clerks and their staff including Richard Kachur and our current City Clerk, Mr. Marc Lemoine. He will be retiring, as we've heard, from the City tomorrow on July 14th, 2023. To ensure the continuation of the timely service that the Clerk's Department provides, the City undertook a comprehensive search utilizing a number of recruitment mediums with circulation throughout North America. Advertisements appeared on the networks of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators, CAMA, and the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. And also, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, along with the City's internal social media and recruitment websites. I want to thank Councillor Gilroy and Councillor Allard who served on the recruitment panel. A total of 61 applications were received and a short list of candidates were interviewed by the Governance Committee. After deliberation, the Governance Committee was unanimous in selecting our Deputy Clerk, Mr. Carlos Gameiro, to be the next Clerk to serve Council and the citizens of Winnipeg. So, I am very pleased to see this recommendation before us. By way of some history, Mr. Gameiro has been with the City for over 27 years and has a Masters certificate in Municipal Leadership from York University and a degree from the University Winnipeg. He has been our Deputy City Clerk for five years and previously acted in progressively senior roles, which you all know, including the Manager of the Decision Making Process and the Clerk of committees such as Executive Policy Committee, P&D and the Governance Committee. He also brings a unique perspective to the role, having started his career as an executive assistant in the office of former City Councillor Garth Steek. As such, he knows what councillors and the mayor need to be successful. Whether sitting on one or more of the 300 committee and Council meetings a year, or providing direct assistance to the citizens of our great city. Because of his combination of experience, knowledge and education, the Governance Committee feels strongly that Mr. Gameiro is well suited to continue the history of service, the exemplary service that we've received from the City Clerk's Department. Huge shoes to fill. I think we heard this morning about Mr. Lemoine's tenure at the City of Winnipeg spanning 37 years, which has just been outstanding. But he's been a wonderful Deputy City Clerk in training and I know the torch is passed on to the correct individual. So, I look forward to the unanimous vote on this. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: And I invite all of our colleagues at the table, you can break the rules, let's applaud. Ah, well, we're going to vote. You're calling for a recorded vote? Do I have anybody...hold it. Actually, I've got to check the speaker's list. Is there anybody else who'd like to speak to this?

Councillor Sharma: The Mayor gets to close. I think everyone agrees.

Mayor Gilling: Just in my opportunity to close, I do want to thank, deputy…Madam Speaker, I want to thank you and the team that was on the recruitment committee. Excellent words you put forward today. So, thank you and I invite our Deputy Speaker to call the question, please.

Deputy Speaker: Okay. All those in favour? Nobody is opposed? That is unanimous for who is in the room. And now, I invite applause. Carried. All right, I will pass the Chair back to Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Deputy City Clerk. And now, Item 17, also another very important item today.

Item 17 – Appointment of City Auditor

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to introduce the item, followed by other speakers.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And once again here, we have a situation where we get to select and approve a statutory officer. And certainly, the role of City Auditor is one that is critical to the operations of the City of Winnipeg. And an auditor certainly has to be one who is committed to the highest…dedicated to the highest forms and expressions of integrity and commitment to integrity and does their work, though, working for the City really does their work in an independent manner. And so, we know that the City Auditors and their team, that their work is vital to us being able to function in such a way that we can instill confidence in the public that we serve and we can get clear and concise answers. And so, I am really pleased today that we have before us the recommendation of Mr. Jason Egert in stepping into the role. Right now, he's Acting City Auditor, but the recommendation that he would step into the role as Auditor. I also want to thank the members of the team who put forward this recommendation and I thank you for your work, as well,

to all the members who participated in this selection process. So, again, I will be, certainly, supporting without reservation and really pleased to support this recommendation today and would welcome Mr. Jason Egert in the role of City Auditor.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Councillor Gillingham…Councillor Mayes, followed by Councillor Allard.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just a few words in addition to what the Mayor had to say. I chaired the committee for the search for the new Auditor. My thanks to Councillor Santos and Councillor Dobson and excellent staff support on this. For those of us with the first name Brian, unfortunately, this ends the multi-auditor run of auditors named Brian. So, I'll have to work to remember Jason's name instead of just remembering, oh, it's the (inaudible). But the auditor doesn't usually…upon retirement, people don't breakdown in tears too often when the auditors come and go. That's good in a way, you want the auditor to have something of an arms length relationship with those of us around the council table to keep an eye on things. If you…if you go back…I mean, the auditor position, there have been a number of stories over the years of different…different audits pursued by either at our direction or by the direction of the Audit Department. It is an important function. Very pleased that Jason put his name forward from being the Acting Auditor. We do have a good field to choose from, but very pleased that we were able to make the offer and have it accepted by Jason Egert. And look forward to him continuing on from having been Acting Auditor to now being permanent City Auditor. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes. Councillor Allard on the item before us.

Councillor Allard: Yes, Madam Speaker, I will be supporting this report. I would like to have seen this report come as a recommendation from the Governance Committee of Council, something that we're discussing today…sorry, today, where we're discussing as part of our governance review. And I would like to take this opportunity to say that I will be supporting this report and also, the opportunity to ask if the…if the Mayor would, in his closing remarks, let Council know if he would be open to the idea of having the Audit Committee be the Governance Committee of Council, therefore, the type of…therefore, the committee that would be making this recommendation in the future. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Councillor Mayes talked about the era of the Brians is waning. Excuse the pun. If I made money on the…betting everyone that I am the oldest Jason they ever recall meeting, I would make a lot of money. But the era of the Jasons is on the rise. And congratulations to Mr. Egert. Thank you. Check it out. Seriously. Demographic.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to close on this item.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Though not usually, you know, I would respond to a question, I will take up and say, I think, in response to Councillor Allard today, I believe the Governance Committee, as part of the review, is having discussions related to the Audit Committee. I just…again, want to thank Councillor Mayes as chair of the committee that brought forward the recommendation, all the committee members, for their recommendations before us today and I invite you to call the question on this.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, is there any other item under this section? Okay. So, we will move on to…we have an addendum report under this committee, July 13th, 2023. It's regarding the negotiations between the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Police Services Officer's Association. Mr. Mayor, will you move suspension of the rules to consider the item?

Mayor Gillingham: Yes. Yes, Madam…yes, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Okay. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JULY 13, 2023

Item 1 – Negotiations – City of Winnipeg and The Winnipeg Police Senior Officers' Association

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to introduce the item.

Mayor Gillingham: Yeah, thank you. I want to take the opportunity, I'll be supporting this recommendation. I want to take the opportunity to note and thank the work of the City of Winnipeg's Labour Relations team, Mr. Beach and his team, and also to recognize the work of the Winnipeg Police Association and their team as well. I believe it's always or most often, anyways, certainly, more advantageous that we have before us as a Council a recommendation that is a negotiated settlement. And I know we…without much discussion or any discussion, really, we passed Item No. 14 as well, which was the negotiation of Winnipeg…City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Police Association. Now, we have before us a recommendation related to a negotiated settlement between the Winnipeg Police Senior Officers Association as well. So, I just want to thank everyone who is involved in the dialogue and the negotiations. And I will be supporting this report.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker. I really haven't had time to read the report over. I will be supporting what our negotiation teams have…have come to agreement with the…this particular bargaining unit. But Madam Speaker, maybe as the Mayor closes on this report, I believe, usually quite often, the senior management collective agreement sort of follows the Winnipeg…the regular Winnipeg Police Association agreement that we already passed in the previous reports. And I would just like to understand it. It probably does reflect the salary increases or increases, I'd just like some confirmation about that. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to close.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And yes, through you, Madam Speaker; Councillor Eadie is correct that most often the Senior Officers' Association contract very much does usually mirror what we see in the Winnipeg Police Association contract with the regular officers, if I can say it that way. A couple of highlights; the general wage adjustments are parallel in this contract. There's also a change to increase in the Winnipeg Police pension, the members premium contributions that effective February 11th, 2024. It moves from 8% to 8.8%. And then, effective February 9th, 2025, move from 8.8% to 9.6%. So, that…that mirrors what we've voted on previously as well in Item No. 14.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. I'll call the question. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Next is a notice of motion. It's under Executive Policy Committee, moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Duncan. It's…I'll just call out the item first, it's regarding the discontinuation of work from home practice. And this motion came forward from our previous Council meeting. Councillor Allard.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Item 1 - Discontinuation of Work from Home Practice

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Duncan,

WHEREAS during the Pandemic it was necessary to institute a work from home policy to encourage social distancing and to limit the spread of COVID-19;

AND WHEREAS the Pandemic has now been over for some time, yet thousands of City of Winnipeg employees are still working from home;

AND WHEREAS the City owns, leases and operates tens of thousands of office square feet that are presently sitting vacant, costing ratepayers and demonstrating a practice of the inefficient use of tax dollars;

AND WHEREAS much of these empty offices are in Downtown Winnipeg, which contradicts the decision by Council to make Downtown Winnipeg revitalization a priority in the recently passed Strategic Priorities Action Plan;

AND WHEREAS it has been demonstrated in studies conducted that worker productivity falls significantly when employees are not working from traditional office spaces, not to mention the synergy lost for opportunities that exist in common work spaces, such as mentoring, training, and general supervision conducted via employee peers and management;

AND WHEREAS, to date, the Chief Administrative Officer has not issued a 'Back to the Office' directive to all City employees;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council immediately direct the Chief Administrative Officer to end the work from home practice and to issue a directive to all city employees to return to their respective offices.

Councillor Allard: Madam Speaker, I would like to refer the entire matter back to the appropriate standing policy committee and I would like the three minutes in order to make my remarks.

Madam Speaker: Okay, thank you. Mr. Mayor, you have an opportunity to…or pardon me, Councillor Wyatt, you have an intro…opportunity to introduce the item.

Councillor Wyatt: I was actually going to move referral as well. So, I am not too sure what Councillor Allard's remarks are happy, but I'd be happy to support referral.

Madam Speaker: Okay, thank you. With that, I'll call the question. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Okay, move in to by-laws. Oh, we have…we do have some motions first. We have Motion 1: moved by Councillor Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Browaty. It's regarding TIFF for Homes for Heroes Program. It's an automatic referral to the standing committee. We have Motion 6: moved by Councillor Gilroy, seconded by Councillor Santos. Okay. Councillor Gilroy is moving to suspend the rules. It's regarding our landfill sites, to hear the item today. All in favour of suspending the rules, please rise. All in favour of suspension, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Allard, Eadie, Gilroy, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer, and Wyatt

Nays

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Lukes, Mayes, and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 8, Nays 8.

Madam Speaker: The suspension is lost. It will be an automatic referral to the standing committee. Okay, that concludes our motions. Now, we will move in to by-laws under EPC. Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
MOTIONS

Motion No. 1
Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Browaty,

WHEREAS the Homes for Heroes (HFH) Foundation is planning to build 20 affordable rental homes for veterans on a one-acre site in Transcona, to be acquired from The City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS in May, 2022 City Council approved the sale of the subject site to the HFH Foundation for $83,500.00;

AND WHEREAS the HFH Foundation has also secured funding for this project from the Federal Government's Reaching Home Initiative, The Province of Manitoba and private sponsors;

AND WHEREAS the HFH Foundation is interested in obtaining municipal Tax Increment Financing (TIF) support for this project;

AND WHEREAS a requirement of the City's Affordable Housing Now program is that proponents must obtain financial support through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporations' National Housing Strategy, which the HFH Foundation is not pursuing, thereby making this project ineligible for TIF support under the Affordable Housing Now Program By-law No. 14/2022;

AND WHEREAS the Affordable Housing Now program offers municipal TIF support of up to 15 years for affordable housing projects located outside of the downtown;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. *That a Tax Increment Financing Grant be approved to the Homes for Heroes Foundation or its legal designate, equal to 80 percent of the incremental municipal property taxes for 15 years in respect of the affordable housing development on the property as identified on Misc. Plan 14268/19.*

2. *That the annual grant referenced in Recommendation 1 begin the year after an occupancy permit is issued and final assessment is obtained for the entire property.*

3. *That the grant referenced in Recommendation 1 be conditional on the Homes for Heroes Foundation or its legal designate entering into a Tax Increment Financing Grant Agreement with the City in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor/Director of Legal Services.*

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

Motion No. 6
Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Seconded by Councillor Santos,

WHEREAS governments have an obligation to do what they can to protect, solve and bring peace to family, friends and the community;

AND WHEREAS the city and the province are partners in the UN Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Initiative to build safe and inclusive public spaces where women and girls are free from violence and fear of violence;

AND WHEREAS women and girls from Indigenous and BIPOC communities are more likely to experience gender-based violence;

AND WHEREAS there is a long history of murdered and missing Indigenous women across North America;
AND WHEREAS it is believed that there are remains located within the Prairie Green Landfill;

AND WHEREAS searching the Prairie Green Landfill would send a clear message that governments will do what they can to bring justice to these victims and their families;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council formally request the Federal and Provincial governments to fund a search of the Prairie Green Landfill.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS – 1ST READING ONLY

Mayor Gillingham: One second, Madam Speaker. Thank you. I move that By-law No. 60/2023 be read a first time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 60/2023.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Sorry. I move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 61/2023, By-law No. 62/2023, By-law No. 63/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 61/2023, By-law No. 62/2023, and By-law No. 63/2023.

Mayor Gillingham: I move that By-laws No. 61/2023 to 63/2023, both inclusive, be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 61/2023 to 63/2023.

Mayor Gillingham: I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 61/2023 to 63/2023, both inclusive, be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Shall we recess and we'll reconvene at 1:00 o'clock. Does that serve Council well today?

Mayor Gillingham: 1 o'clock? Sure, yes.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. We are adjourned.

Reconvened meeting of
Winnipeg City Council of
July 13, 2023, at 1:11 p.m.

Madam Speaker: Good afternoon. I would like to reconvene our Council meeting of July 13th, 2023. We are at question period for the Executive Policy Committee. Questions for the Mayor? Councillor Allard.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Allard: Thank you Madam Speaker, through you to the Mayor as may be no surprise I'd like to talk about the cost benefit analysis of the Kenaston road widening, thank you to the Mayor for having committed to doing an independent economic analysis. Does the Mayor not recognize that to do a proper economic analysis we should be looking at more than one or two projects? We should be looking at the opportunity cost of not doing other projects because that money is being used on a road extension.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you Councillor for his question. Yes, there is a cost benefit analysis being done on the two projects. I look forward to the results of that and I appreciate the Councillor's question.

Madam Speaker: Second question.

Councillor Allard: Thank you Madam Speaker, does the Mayor not acknowledge that a road widening is an expense whereas if we were to use monies to invest for example in Winnipeg real estate that would increase the value of the lands reducing our tax burden.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd just remind the Councillor that Route 90 is an important trade route, Chief Peguis Trail important, very important trade routes for the growth of our city, the growth of our economy, and that I really believe it's about 70% of the Kenaston projects are projects related to both the bridge, combined sewer overflow mitigation and improving the current infrastructure and certainly to ensure that the very important Nowedai Owdena development is a success.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question.

Councillor Allard: Yes, to Mr. Mayor, how can the Mayor possibly describe Kenaston as a trade corridor if an access to information request has said that only 4% is truck traffic.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It's clear that Kenaston Boulevard is designated a trucking route and a trade route.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, questions by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you Madam Speaker, all of the members of Council and the city are quite familiar with the very difficult situation regarding trying to find family members and missing and murdered women. We have an injunction and I preface my question to the Mayor by making this factual statement that the Indigenous people of Manitoba, Winnipeg and Canada have spent decades and decades fighting against the ruining of our environment which is a question in the injunction and my question Madam Speaker, has anybody, is anybody considering or to…speaking to the protesters trying to work out situations where there wouldn't be any catastrophes for water tables and so on regarding leaching and those kind of issues that are at the table.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: I want to thank that…the Councillor for his question. Certainly the goal of the ongoing…resolving the ongoing matter at Brady Road and the blockade is through dialogue and certainly central to the application for the injunction is the impact on the environment of, potential impact on the environment, our city, our waterways as well if we as a city cannot have access to Brady Road and ensure that our operations, garbage collection, removal of leaching from the site. We need to make sure that those can continue or there could be potential impacts on the environment. That's clearly central to what is the reason for the injunction and that is being communicated to the media through the efforts of on-going dialogue with those that are protesting. I'm certain we'll be making the city's position clear.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question, Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker, to the knowledge of Mayor Gillingham, I'm wondering if he's aware that somebody especially from the City side has approached the protesters in context to what I'm speaking of acknowledging their concerns for the ruining of our environment and if they could give consideration because it's my understanding that the road is open and the protest still remains, we could ensure that the environment is not ruined.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will take it upon myself to communicate that to the CAO so it could be passed along if deemed helpful.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, next is Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you Madam Speaker, through you Madam Speaker to the Mayor, is the Mayor…has the Mayor had any conversations with the Province regarding a motion that him and I put forward to ask the Province to help with dealing with mental health and addictions in places where people are hard to house and where we need more supports since they have gotten out of the housing business of Manitoba Housing and now people are needing to be sheltered in the private market that supports are needed to take care of them. Has the Mayor have these discussions with the Province?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm pleased to report that just late this…earlier this week, pardon me, our CAO did inform me that there is dialogue. Yes, with the Province and that our administration and provincial administration will be meeting in the coming weeks specifically to talk about and to address the issues of support, provincial

support for those who are in housing right now so they don't…so they get the supports they need and don't lose their housing or end up on the streets. So specifically, to the motion that Councillor Gilroy put forward, it was adopted and I was pleased to second that motion. Yes, our city staff and provincial staff have been meeting specifically to try to address some of these issues and ensure that provincial supports are there for people who need them.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Is the Mayor aware that under the funding announcement that has had more funding put into police officers in our downtown that there's underserved areas that really need support within inner city communities and is the Mayor aware that part of the conversations he needs to have with the Province is a lot of unsheltered people can't get housing because they have warrants out for their arrests and in order for them to be cleared, they have to be…in order for them to be housed for that to be cleared, and people are not getting…not able to go and meet their court appearance because they're unhoused, they have mental health and addictions, so policing is…should…is not the solving issue behind this, we need mental health and addictions supports on our streets and police offers doing what we need them to do which is solving crimes, dealing with murdered and missing Indigenous women and working in underserved areas where we need police officers to deal with violent crimes. Is the Mayor aware and can he make sure the Province is aware that this is where that kind of funding needs to go?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Through you Madam Speaker, I want to thank Councillor Gilroy for her question and the answer is yes, I am aware and I certainly appreciate the provincial announcements since last week to add 24 additional officers, the funding for 24 additional officers on foot patrol in the downtown, that will help with the safety issue but Councillor Gilroy rightly points out there's work that only police can do and that's related to mostly crime and safety, but there's a lot of work that needs to be done to ensure individuals struggling in our downtown and not just in our downtown as she points out, but in other areas in other communities perhaps across the city specifically on the edge of downtown. Individuals need assistance with social services, mental health supports, health supports and I reiterate that to the provincial government when I have opportunities, certainly I have communicated that to our Premier, I have communicated that to Minister Squires as well, and will continue to do so and in fact would, you know, appreciate the opportunity to sit with and meet with Councillor Gilroy to get some specifics related to her community and would be glad to bring those forward as well. But back to the announcement that was made by the Province last week, the provincial funding of 24 officers, what I emphasized when I had the opportunity to speak at that event, at that announcement was that there's a partnership that's being formed a greater partnership being formed between the police and downtown community safety partnership and the other agencies, social service agencies, so that the individuals who are struggling on our streets certainly they are not committing a crime that they get the help that they need. Badges and guns are not the answer to everything. We know that. We know that there's a need for social services investment in our community, in our downtown and beyond and so I appreciate Councillor Gilroy's questions today and the line of her questioning. I'd be glad to work with her to be, you know, if we can get some specific, you know, topics and items that I can…would raise with the provincial officials next time I meet with them. I look forward to doing that.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker and yes, I'd be happy to sit down with the Mayor and talk about these issues and I want to thank him for being open to that and will the Mayor also note that I'm going to be meeting with members of my community, members within my business community that are really struggling. They are struggling and most of the calls coming through my office are not…

Madam Speaker: The question, please.

Councillor Gilroy: …are not related to the City jobs, but to the mental health and addictions from the motions that him and I put forward and to what needs to be done through the provincial government. So, will the Mayor commit to making sure he's bringing that forward and the…and also brining forward that there is areas in the community that are under policed as well when we're over policing maybe within our downtown. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you

Mayor Gillingham: Yeah, and again, through you Madam Speaker, I look forward to having the dialogue with my colleague, Councillor Gilroy to identify some of these items and, you know, she talks about areas that may under policed. I mean, you know, one of the things that I've supported all along and I appreciate that we have announcements…well, several months ago to re-establish the arrest warrant unit where we have RCMP and Winnipeg Police Service working in tandem and that unit was stood up again and the focus of that unit is to identify those in the community who are breaching

court orders and who are perhaps dangerous to the community, and let's keep in mind that so often those who are violent offenders and are breaching court orders, it is the vulnerable that are often the victims of their crime and so I was pleased to know through a report that came from the Chief of Police at the Police Board that was at the end of May, 21 arrests of those have been made of those breaching court orders and who are in our community, I saw it just yesterday another arrest was made of someone who was breaching a court order who was arrested on trafficking drugs. We see the drug epidemic in our city. We see what is happening. It's most often the vulnerable who are…who are too often susceptible to and suffering the effects of addiction and you've got someone who's breaching a court order and while they're out, you know, and out in the community, they're engaged in, they're charged with…that they're engaged in trafficking drugs to who? Quite often to those who are vulnerable and struggling on the streets, the very ones we're trying to help so I think it's a balance and I appreciate the questions from the Councillor and I certainly do look forward to working with her on this regard.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My given name is Russell George Wyatt. My spirit name is (inaudible) and I'm standing black bear of courage and of the Buffalo Clan, in the year 2000, my son was adopted by a family in Transcona, Indigenous son and raised by a loving family and now 23 and I met him in 2018 for the first time and now he's now a part of our family. I ask the Mayor in light of what's been happening at the landfill and in light of now the Federal Government indicating that they cannot do the search without Manitoba and the Federal Minister referring actually to our Premier's decision as heartless, has the Mayor had an opportunity to call the Premier and request that she re-visit her decision and to work with Ottawa and conduct a search immediately?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Councillor for his question, I have not spoken to the Premier since speaking to Minister Miller yesterday. I did reiterate just a few moments ago to media that the tragic reality here is that the families of the victims are caught in between two levels of senior levels of government who are not agreeing. My conversation with Minister Miller yesterday was very clear, my ask of him I said this is a very clear ask, Mr. Miller. Premier has spoken, but the families are waiting on Federal Governments decision and I asked the Minister clearly to communicate that the Federal Government's decision to the families as soon as possible in fact I asked him to do that yesterday. The families need answers, the families need a path forward, I think it's incumbent on the two levels of Government, the Federal and Provincial Government's to speak with one another to determine next steps for the families. I think that's important and that's what needs to be done.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question, Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Ottawa on the front page of the Globe and Mail has indicated their response saying that it is logistically impossible for them to commit unless Manitoba is actually assisting with the search and in light of the statements now recently made by the Minister which may be information for the Mayor, would the Mayor be prepared to reach out to the first Minister of Manitoba and to encourage her to work with the Federal Government and colleagues in Ottawa and to re-consider her position that she announced last week so that some of these families that the search can go forward and some of these families could at least hopefully obtain some closure to their loss, would he be prepared to reach out to the First Minister and urge her to re-consider in light of Ottawa's commitment to work with Manitoba if Manitoba is at the table.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: I can commit and I will commit to having that conversation with both the Premier of Manitoba and Minister Miller to work together to find a path forward for the families.

Madam Speaker: Final question.

Councillor Wyatt: It's also been brought to our attention that a secondary access to the landfill is available that gets washed out, however, we are a billion dollar corporation and a road that gets washed out frankly for the only landfill we have in our city is somewhat laughable and that our department, there's no need for an injunction our department can secure secondary access tomorrow if they build that road properly without having a confrontation with a First Nations, is that something that the Mayor would be prepared to look into with regards to our Water and Waste officials?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you Madam Speaker, through you to the Councillor, our staff has made clear that for example last Thursday, Friday when the rain came, the road that is being used currently, the backside access road was not

passable, couldn't handle the heavy trucks and so we need to make sure that the operations at Brady Road continue on. We can't have the potential of negative environmental impact due to a closure of Brady Road and the inability to access Brady Road, we await the outcome of the meeting today, the injunction today, hearing that is going on as we speak and so we'll await to see what happens there, what next steps are, I want to assure you and everyone that I have said consistently and my position consistently has been and remains at every effort needs to be made and is being made through dialogue to reach a conclusion of this matter to get the road opened up again.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, any further questions? Second round starting Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just looking for my notes, so pardon me, I'm reading this so there's October 2019, The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health published a study and it shows that the Housing First program significantly reduces homelessness over the long term, has the Mayor imagined what his September 2022 promise of 1 billion dollars of expense to roads would do if that money would've been invested and geared to income housing in Winnipeg?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I appreciate that Councillor Allard was one of all councillors today and myself who voted in favour of the $192 million application to the Federal governments most recent funding envelope for housing in Winnipeg and we have prioritized housing and we continue to prioritize housing and I'm glad to stand on my record of investing in housing and once again, want to thank the Federal Government for their investment.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, second question.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Surely, Madam Speaker, there has to be a recognition that there is only one taxpayer and there is opportunity cost and that money could go to housing if we wanted to.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: I thank the Councillor for his question. I think he's made his position clear.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question.

Councillor Allard: Would the Mayor commit to doing a cost benefit analysis of investing one billion dollars in…geared to income housing and the property taxes that would yield regarding relative to the expense, it would be to widen Kenaston and lengthen Chief Peguis Trail.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you I'll take the matter under advisement.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Orlikow.

Councillor Orlikow: Yeah, just in response…well, question to Mr. Mayor, the Kenaston project was stated today that it cost one billion dollars. Was it a delusion that….a delusion that one wrote that expansion is…that's all the cost is? Is the Mayor aware that cost includes drainage, it includes intersection upgrades, it includes repairing a bridge that's falling down, that it includes increasing safety? Is the Mayor aware that it's not a one-billion-dollar road expansion project? It's a one billion dollar, we don't even know the price yet. Many of the benefits are, you know, lack of flooding, reconciliation, we definitely need development going and it needs a CSO and many other matters so it's not…are you aware it's not just one route?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank Councillor Orlikow for his question and the clarity, yes. Number one, we don't know the total cost. That's why we were doing a cost estimate update and that's…Secondly, that's why I continue to refer to Route 90 as the Route 90 projects plural. There's several projects involved in this cost estimate and one of them is most certainly environmental to reduce the amount of diluted raw sewage that flows into the rivers by investing in the combines sewer overflow investment that we've been making. I want to thank…take the opportunity once again to thank Councillor Mayes for pushing forward an increase in investment in combined sewer overflow mitigation, so we can separate our sewers to reduce raw diluted sewage from going into our rivers. The St. James bridge as Councillor Orlikow, you know, points out is yet, one of another of the projects in that whole envelope related to Route 90. That's an

old bridge. It is old infrastructure. It's aging. It needs investment so there are many projects involved with this that I again, thank the Councillor for clarifying.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Seeing none, let's go to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services. Councillor Orlikow on the report dated June 29th.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
DATED JUNE 29, 2023

Councillor Orlikow: Sorry, Madam Speaker, I was…need to be farther down the list. I think there's a couple of items.

Madam Speaker: It's1 to 3, yeah.

Councillor Orlikow: I would like to move Items 1, 2 and 3, please.

Madam Speaker: 1 is pulled – Improving Safety at the Millennium Library. Okay, I'll call the question on 2 and 3. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Item 1, Madam Clerk.

Item 1 – Improving Safety at the Millennium Library and Other Winnipeg Public Libraries

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Orlikow to introduce the item.

Councillor Orlikow: Sure, I'm looking forward to hearing what Councillor Gilroy and the other councillors have to comment on this. It was a long process that we went through. The commitment by the City of Winnipeg and the staff, especially, about working in the Millennium Library and in other libraries, this is reflective of some of their needs. The…to feel safe in their working environment, which we all are supportive, of course. And also, the issue of, that you may or may not be aware of, is the RFP for the lobby redesign has gone out. So, we should be getting that information shortly as well. But looking forward to hearing what she has to say.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Madam Speaker, I'm just rising in support of this and really thanking the Chair and the committee for their hard work. I am happy to see that they are going to be engaging fearless R2W hosts that are, you know, people with lived experience that I really think can make…make a really good safe introduction to the library. And I just want to congratulate them on their work on this. I think it was well-done. There's a lot of really good reports that went along with this. So, I just wanted to raise…raise this and be in support of this. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Seeing no further speakers, Councillor Orlikow to close or I can call the question.

Councillor Orlikow: Just to respond, I agree 100%. I am very encouraged and looking forward to seeing how the community hosts the work. I can…we have to change the name a bit because of the transit stuff, but we are figuring that out. But there is also librarian and library tech in there, some other support staff. There's…we had…we had groups that were showing up before talking about increasing staff. I do believe the community host model is very important. It's a de-escalation model. That's where we need…when I talk to librarians, sure, there are…there are some other issues, but this one is, the librarians can't be the de-escalators. They'll be provide…they provide information just about where housing is. That's their job. That's what librarians do. But again, to sit there and deal with the de-escalation or to deal with abuse of customers, I guess we'll call them, in general library, patrons, that is just wearing them down. And this is, again, I saw another article out of Quebec, which is very similar where they're trying to implement something that we're doing. Toronto as well. This is a national issue, but I believe the model that really does need to work and the way that we solve this problem is through people. People with people. It won't be through cages, it won't be through even the metal detectors or staff. Some, not all staff, but some staff were quite clear that they thought that was quite still necessary. So, again, we listened to the staff, we have listened to CUPE, we've listened to the librarians and we've listened to different interest groups. But I agree with you, I believe in a model throughout the whole city, I'm very looking forward to the community host modelling to see if we can use that because we really need to have someone that isn't someone like myself trying to enforce myself upon it. It happens with people who have lived experience who are able to share and connect with those people who need that help. So, I am very excited about that and looking forward to the results. And in that motion, we also are going to track the data because this debate will come up in the budget coming up. So, we want to track the data to see, a) we have less incidents for our libraries, but also, we want to increase the attendance. So, both those two together, we'll be keeping a close eye on that. But I am very excited to see this. So, thank you, Councillor Gilroy.

Madam Speaker: With that, I will call the question on Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We will now deal with the notice of motion; moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Duncan. It's from our last month's Council meeting. It's regarding the Winnipeg Police Service four district stations. Councillor Wyatt to introduce the item.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
NOTICE OF MOTION

Item 1 - Winnipeg Police Service Four District Stations

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Duncan,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is currently suffering from an urban health crisis, including an unacceptable level of crime that is negatively affecting our neighbourhoods;

AND WHEREAS on July 23, 2003, Council adopted the "Four District Model" for restructuring the Winnipeg Police Service, being four geographic districts designated as East, West, North, and Central;

AND WHEREAS the Council motion adopted on July 23, 2003, provided that the restructuring of the Winnipeg Police Service to the Four District Model would result in a number of benefits, including improved public access to the police service, increased police visibility and public interaction, and cooperative partnerships with the community;

AND WHEREAS the North, West, and East District stations are currently "CLOSED", as stated on the City of Winnipeg website, at all hours;

AND WHEREAS public accessibility to front-line Winnipeg Police Service members is critical to building safer communities and an effective model of community policing, in accordance with the original intent of the Four District Model;

AND WHEREAS all City of Winnipeg services should prioritize "customer service" to residents.

AND WHEREAS City Council in the 2023 Operating Budget has asked the Winnipeg Police Service to find approximately $9 million of "efficiencies" and that this represents a significant financial challenge to the Winnipeg Police Service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Winnipeg Police Board to do the following:

1. *That the North District Station at 260 Hartford Avenue, West District Station at 2321 Grant Avenue, and East District Station at 1750 Dugald Road be reopened immediately to the public for 12 hours per day during the day shift, 7 days a week.*

2. *That each of the Four District stations install and maintain visible outdoor signage advertising that the Four District stations are available and accessible to the public within the said operating hours referred to in Recommendation 1 and that all websites and city public information be changed accordingly.*

3. *That clearly marked areas for free Visitor Parking be provided for the newer District Stations.*

4. *That financial resources and security measures be provided to ensure that any operational changes to the Four District stations' hours does not negatively impact front-line members.*

5. *That in the event the said office hours with staffing cannot be accommodated within the existing Winnipeg Police Service budget, that the matter be referred by the Winnipeg Police Service for inclusion in the 2024 – 2027 multiyear operating budget for consideration.*

6. *That the relevant by-laws or policies of the City of Winnipeg and Council be amended accordingly.*

7. *The Proper Officers of the City do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.*

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise…this is a matter that's been before this council before. We also spoke at the Police Board on this matter. The original motion, if Council wishes to recall, was requesting 24/7 staffing presence, full-time presence at the district police stations. Upon discussion with my seconder on the motion, we have

made a revision in light of the challenges the Winnipeg Police Service is facing in terms of funding, in terms of their existing operating budget and the need for them to…been directed by Council to find $9 million of efficiencies in light of the challenges that they have daily in the city. We recognize that, and we recognize that by coming forward with this motion which says that we move to a 12-hour day, seven day a week…seven day a week shift with regards to staffing the district offices. We've also recognized the fact that in the event that the said office hours cannot be accommodated within the existing Winnipeg Police budget, i.e. 2023, that the matter be referred to the Winnipeg Police Service for inclusion in the 2024-27 multi-year budget for consideration. I'm hoping, Madam Speaker, that this motion could be passed in light of Clause 5. I believe it does not tie the hands of the Winnipeg Police Service today. It gives the Winnipeg Police Service flexibility to work with Council going forward. I would like just to say, on behalf of my constituents, and I think constituents in many parts of the suburbs of Winnipeg that they have been very patient on this matter. It was one of the few things in my…during my election campaign that got huge hits in terms of social media. A lot of people are not aware, a lot of people…a lot of people are aware because they have attempted to use the district office. During the whole debate, during the four district model debate back in 2003, it was rightly pointed out by the Winnipeg Police Service that police do not respond from police station like fire departments responds from a firehall. They are in their cars, they're out and about in the community, they're present in the community. However, there were nine public meetings held around the city at that time and it was stressed in those public meetings verbally to the residents of Winnipeg by then Chief of Police, Jack Ewatski, that these offices would be centrally located and accessible to the public to make police…to make reports, to make…to come in and to have access to the police. And that that would be, indeed, the case. And that it would be staffed accordingly. I understand the pandemic had an impact on all municipal services. I think we all understand that. However, the pandemic is now over and I don't think it is much to ask. We as a community know on a weekend, a Friday or a Saturday night, when the calls come in from certain parts of the city; the downtown or district 11, that cars will often fly across our community into those areas as they require the resources. This is understood. However, at the very minimum, I don't think it is much to ask for these offices to be staffed and open, not with a screen for people to talk to somebody in some other office, but to be staffed with the police and police support to allow people to make reports. I'm hoping that this motion can go forward, that we could see a change in the budget to allow for this. I realize Council cannot direct the chief in terms of budget, but I also am not…you know, I didn't fall off the turnip truck yesterday. Also know there is a direct link between our budget and what the police can and cannot do. And we just voted on a police contract that is going to have, I think, the report was over $50 million, $54 million impact on our operating budget just on staffing alone. We know the biggest part of the Winnipeg Police Services budget is the payroll. We are asking for a little bit of that payroll, just a small fraction of that payroll to be in those offices to staff to be there when citizens need them. Ironically, when it comes to reporting crime or reporting incidents to the police, the police have indicated they want to have citizens make police reports. It is crucial for them to building vital statistics to determine where they allocate resources, how they allocate resources, when they allocate resources. A lot of residents are just not making police reports, they're not bothering because they can't. They try to go on the phone line, they can't get through. They try to go online, it's cumbersome and they just simply don't. A lot of people are…want to go down and physically meet to explain to the officer what happened, to get a police report number, to make the report. I plan on doing a newsletter this fall to all my constituents. And I'd hate to have to report to them that Council voted this down. But I will be making sure that's front and centre on the newsletter. I'm hoping that we can actually say, the Council, we are committed to going forward to working with the police to only honorary…honouring a promise and a commitment made by a previous executive officer of the Winnipeg Police Service, the Honourable Jack Ewatski who went to nine meetings across the city. We are reducing the stations, we're closing the one on Provencher, we're closing the station on Pandora, we're closing the station on Pembina and we're going to…and we're closing the station on St. James. I think it is Lyle Street, if I'm not mistaken. I can't remember the name. Anyway, and we're going to centralize them into two separate stations. But we are going to make sure those stations are accessible to the public and open. That was the commitment. I attended all nine of those meetings around the city and I remember it well. And frankly, I understand the chief's challenges and that is why we included in the resolution that it should not affect frontline services, the resources required, and we reflect the fact that Council did require $9 million in efficiency being directed at the Winnipeg Police Service in the 2023 budget. I understand the challenges being affected by…that Chief Smyth has to face in terms of his budgetary requirements directed by this council. And I also understand that we cannot direct them to do anything. However, this motion is geared towards the budget. It's written in that way. And it's also referenced to the 2024-2027 multi budget process, which if the motion passes, it has no impact whatsoever on existing policies with regards to the Winnipeg Police Service or the roles and responsibilities of Council versus the roles and responsibilities of the Winnipeg Police Board as under the legislation. We clearly cite the budget here that this is directing the budget to go forward to consider this as a funding requirement for the Winnipeg Police Service knowing full well the challenges that the executive of the Winnipeg Police Service have. However, I want to stress again that we just voted on a contract that's going to add 10s of millions of dollars to the operating budget of the city and what we are asking here is a fraction of that contract be earmarked, part of it, that we just voted on towards staffing these offices. I don't think it is much to ask. Knowing full well that we have district cars that are not present in our neighbourhoods. On a given Friday or Saturday night when things are getting...when they…tons of calls are coming in in certain other areas that are meeting challenges…and we don't begrudge that, by the way, Madam Speaker. We understand those neighbourhoods need those resources. We understand they need to get there. We support the Winnipeg Police Service. I've been on ride-alongs where they say to me, hold on to your hat, Councillor Wyatt, we are going for a ride and we're heading over the Louise Bridge or we're

heading over the Redwood Bridge or we're now…Harry Lazarenko Bridge. We're probably not going to be back to your district tonight, we are going to be there. And I said, I understand that. They need support when they…when the…and that was the idea of having one city, Unicity, and a consolidated police service working together, all cooperating versus all 13 municipalities having their own different police services. We are asking just for a minimal presence here with the physical district offices which had been reduced. And we're spending 10s of millions now on a new district office, rightfully so, for the North End. Long overdue, long overdue. But I would hope that that is staffed. So, this is what I…we are calling for, we're hoping, we hope this could be supported. This does not, again, break any rules, it does not require…it does not tell the chief what to do. It refers to the clause. Again, I want to cite Clause 5 which catches everything above that in the event, the hours of staffing cannot be accommodated within the existing Winnipeg Police Service budget, that the matter be referred to the Winnipeg…for inclusion in the 2024-2027 budget…multi-year budget discussion. And that, Madam Speaker, I think ensures that we respect the processes of the Winnipeg Police Board, the Chair of the Police Board, processes of the Chief of Police and the challenges that the Chief of Police today is facing in our city. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Duncan.

Councillor Duncan: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And through you, I concur with my colleague's comments on this issue. He does give a very valid summary of the historic nature of this situation and the police district offices. I also want to touch on the relationship that is involved here with the public and our…members of our Winnipeg Police Service. Over the last…you know, dating back to 2019, November, when the police district stations were closed to the public. Winnipeg Police Service members have become crisis responders strictly. There was a time back in Winnipeg when you knew your constables in your area. There was a time when you were able to go to a police station, speak with someone who was a member of your community. Now we have Winnipeg Police Service officers not being able to do that. And that affects moral, that affects, you know, potentially an interest of becoming a Winnipeg Police Service officer, constable in our communities. You can look at the application numbers to potentially reflect that. There are less people today, dramatically less people today, applying to be a part of the Winnipeg Police Service because they have become isolated into being crisis responders. There is an argument there that they are no longer valued members of our community. In this motion, we are asking that we allow those constables to become a part of the community again. To be accountable at the frontline when somebody comes in with an issue, when somebody comes in with a request. There are options out there working with the Winnipeg Police Association to look at those that are on desk duties or alternate duties to have this staffed. I know with the announcement of potentially more funds coming to the downtown area that there may be other resources available there, but I am not looking to take from other areas. I am just looking to give Winnipeg Police Service, their constables, an opportunity to interact with the public on the frontline and to give the public the opportunity to go out to their community, constituency offices and district offices and have a conversation with constables who traditionally have done this and who have traditionally been a part of the community. So, to my colleague Councillor Wyatt's comments, all in line with those, and just adding that relationship piece and that historic piece of these constables used to be a part of our community. Let's get back to that. And I hope we can have some support on that. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker. I certainly most appreciate the purpose of this motion being presented, Madam Speaker. And I am inclined to vote to support the motion that has actually become a little more reasonable. I think the demand was originally first for 24/7. Now it is proposed, I believe, as something reasonable, Madam Speaker. But I thought I would just bring to the attention of my colleagues that I received a e-mail message from a frustrated resident of the Mynarski Ward who actually was able to go down to the district three station on Hartford and Aikens during the day, mind you, and had interaction with a sergeant there in terms of, well, what I think is a relatively important issue, but nevertheless, I had thought that the district three station was closed and nobody would be able to attend that station at any time in order to have a discussion with the officers there. And so, I am confused right now as to whether or not any…if any of our stations are open for the public to come down to, for example, the east district station or the…I think it is the west district station. I don't think we actually ended up building the south district station. So, anyway, I just thought I would put that out there that I think it's open. But I am going to be voting to support this motion because it is really important that the residents in the area, you know, their district offices, it's not like the past, Madam Speaker, where we had…where we did have more stations around the city in different areas. The model is what it is. That was a decision made long ago. Changing it hasn't…that original new policing strategy from 2003 or whatever it was, I think it was, I mean, it hasn't even been fully implemented yet. It's been delayed by quite a bit. But so, I don't…you know, it is still quite a ways to get to a district station now. And so, I will leave it at that. And I am going to support it because there are situations where you do need to have…be able to talk to an officer who is, you know, providing that customer service perspective to try to assist our residents to deal with issues that…of police matters. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Chambers: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Wanted to thank Councillor Wyatt and Councillor Duncan for their motion that speaks to their concerns about having residents access the Winnipeg Police Service district offices for services. I am thankful that the Provincial Government has providing…provided additional resources to allow for an additional 24 foot patrol officers in the downtown area. This is something yet the board has not had the opportunity to discuss with the service in terms of what…how these resources are allocated and if it does free up other resources allowing them to open up district offices for members of the public to attend and to address their concerns on a daily basis. So, again, thankful for the additional dollars that have been provided. But we also have to recognize that on a daily basis, the continuance of calls for service continues to rise on an annual basis. And as our city grows, as the complexity of the calls grows, this is something that, again, will leave the service stretched in terms of resources. So, we have to be mindful of that. But again, with this new announcement that took place just last week, the board will have the opportunity to discuss how these resources are allocated and potentially if district offices at minimum can be re-opened for members of the public. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker? Councillor Wyatt to close.

Councillor Wyatt: Yes, Madam Speaker, I would just like to put the question.

Madam Speaker: Call the question on this motion. All in favour? Contrary? We're having a recorded vote. All in favour, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Santos, Schreyer, Wyatt, and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

Nays

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, and Rollins

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 8, Nays 8.

Madam Speaker: The motion is lost. Okay, next we have a motion from…moved by Councillor Duncan and seconded by Councillor Orlikow. It's regarding a new recreation campus in the Marj Edey Park. It will be an automatic referral to the standing committee. And now, on to question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Orlikow? Any questions for our chair? Seeing none, next is the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works. Councillor Lukes on the report dated June 26th, 2023.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
MOTIONS

Motion No. 2
Moved by Councillor Duncan,
Seconded by Councillor Orlikow,

WHEREAS on May 26, 2022, Council adopted the Winnipeg Recreation Strategy to guide the City of Winnipeg recreation facility investment and service provision decisions;

AND WHEREAS the Winnipeg Recreation Strategy contained guidelines and direction on maintaining and investing in recreation facilities as the City continues to grow;

AND WHEREAS one key purpose of the Winnipeg Recreation Strategy is to transform facilities and services to meet contemporary needs by identifying areas for investment and renewal to create a more adaptable, sustainable, and climate-resilient system that supports holistic health and wellbeing;

AND WHEREAS current recreation facilities in Assiniboine South-West, including the Charleswood Ward are antiquated and may not adequately meet the needs of residents;

AND WHEREAS the 2009 General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres Plan 2025 recommended capital investment to create a district-scale community centre at this location;

AND WHEREAS there may be merit in consolidating community resources to meet the growing need for modern recreation facilities and relevant programming in the area;

AND WHEREAS the existing community organizations, Varsity View Community Centre, Roblin Park Community Centre and Westdale Community Centre have published a letter of intent to the community to amalgamate before December 31, 2023.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council:

1. *Refer $350,000 to the 2024 Budget Process for the purposes of conducting a feasibility study to include the following:*

    A. *Consultation with relevant stakeholders to gather feedback on needed recreation infrastructure in the area.*

    B. *The conceptual designs, drawings, and site plans along with presentation images/renderings for a new recreation campus on City owned land in the Marj Edey Park, including but not limited to indoor aquatics, indoor arena, fieldhouse, gymnasiums, curling sheets, spray pad, and community amenities.*

    C. *The preparation of a Class 5 cost estimate for design and construction of such a facility.*

    D. *A public engagement process to gather input on the recreation interests of area residents and feedback on the concept proposed.*

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

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
DATED JUNE 26, 2023

Councillor Lukes: Sure. I would like to pull Items 1, 4, 5 and 7 and move the remaining ones.

Councillor Mayes: Pull Item 2, please.

Madam Speaker: Okay, I'll call the question on 3 and 6. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 1 – Partial In-House Transit Plus Service

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes on the item.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you very much. This has been a very good, intense and involved analysis by both the Public Service and the Public Works Committee to-date. I just want to recap the long process since 2021 that got us here today. In 2021, the motion to bring a percentage of Transit Plus came forward for a vote. At that time, there was no analysis, no financial report, no review, no Public Service input on the challenges and opportunities that existed to bring the Transit Plus in-house. Just a vote to bring it in-house. On December 15th in 2021, Executive Policy Committee brought forward a motion to secure an analysis of the request to bring it in-house in order to provide all parties involved an informed decision by December 22nd. That timeline couldn't be met as more time was required to connect an analysis, and here we are today. So, I'd like to thank the Public Service for their hundreds of hours of work developing this report. And they have told me it's been hundreds of analysis and review of this motion. We have a very detailed comprehensive review and recommendation from the Public Service in front of us. And I would like to thank Councillor Mayes for his diligent work on scrutinizing the report, working with Finance, the Public Service, myself, members of the Public Works Committee and others to ensure clarity in the process and the manner of reporting and the facts. I know he'll be speaking to this in more detail, so I'll let him highlight his component…components. He worked very hard to find a solution that would especially benefit the users of the service, the conditions for the drivers and for the citizens of Winnipeg. And I want to thank you, Councillor Mayes, for your diligent work. I think I've got your presentation memorized. I would also like to thank Councillor Chambers for his motion and for working with Councillor Mayes to reach this revised solution. And I would like to articulate

a few highlights in the report that are: consolidating the number of contracts for the provision of Transit Plus services being awarded overall. That the drivers for the service providers must be employees of the firms rather than subcontracted drivers. That future award reports along with the bid amounts, scoring and other currently included data; the names of all firms that have been submitted on a bid RFP be presented to committee. And that any index payments made to the contractors due to an increase in average wage index are reflected in the wages received by the employees driving for the contractor. I would like Council to also be aware of many positive changes that have come about following the ombudsman's report which support keeping the current status of Transit Plus in place. Now, I am sure all of you scrutinize the Public Works Committee reports, but on June 8th, 2023, the Public Service received the Annual Report of Transit Plus. I really encourage you to read it. Again, that was June 8th, 2023. It is a really good report and they've also presented the information in a graphic report for the community. I would like to acknowledge that the annual report contains much data, much…specifically at the request of the Independent Living Resource Centre. We've worked very closely with the Independent Living Resource Centre to address concerns. And I would like to thank that team. And I think this is rather interesting in the report to note, that of the 245,682 Transit Plus trips delivered, there was a .6 rate of complaints. This is an incredible improvement and I think all involved should be commended. I will be supporting this revised…this amended motion. I think it's a well worked through solution to the challenges many around Council wanted to see. And again, I want to thank Councillor Mayes, Councillor Chambers, the Public Works Committee for working through this. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will try to match that rather stately address from Councillor Lukes. I'd like to thank her for her work on this. Councillor Chambers for his compromised motion that passed both at Public Works and at EPC. This has been a lot of work over a lot of years. Luc Lewandoski from the Mayor's staff, Catherine Kloepfer, Laurie Fisher who…if anyone's interested in the actual cubic size of the trunks of some of the cars we have, Laurie Fisher is the person you should talk to because yeah, a lot of work went into this trying to configure different things. So, the odyssey actually goes back a little further. One could argue the odyssey goes back as far as 1997 when Council of the day decided to contract out, privatized the remaining 30% of Transit Plus service, Handi Transit as it was then. They decided to go fully contracted out, 1997. The Council at some point decided they would only consider contracts that were more than five years and more than $5 million. So, oddly, we didn't see any of these. Council saw one of these in 2010, one in '11, one in '12, then nothing for 7 years. Should have seen the one in '18 that went to committee. Catherine Kloepfer, to her credit, has said, yeah, that one should have come to Council, not committee. But Councillor Allard and I, I think, talked at some length in 2019 about our frustration with these coming forward and the inability to really do anything because we were being told, well, if you reject it, I guess we just won't have service for members of the disabled committee. So, coming out of that, a motion went forward, went to Innovation Committee saying, hey, could we possibly do 30% which was the level back in '97? Was the level, wasn't just arbitrarily chosen. Innovation took a look at, could we do 30%? Said…to quote a good report, saying, well, possibly you could. That went over to then Councillor Allard's Public Works Committee. A report did come forward in…with a very detailed costing in June, July, 2021. So, there was quite a detailed costing in '21. Committee referred that to budget. Not many months after that, Councillor Nason and I steered through a motion that did not have a separate costing on it, called for 22% to 30% to be brought in-house. That passed. There was some activity in the budget saying, let's get a more detailed costing. So, here we are today. So, personally, I would still like to see some of it brought in-house, but I can read the room, I think, and read the number of votes. And I think the compromise that was reached was a good one and I will be supporting it today. Councillor Lukes has highlighted the five components that Councillor Chambers put forward. They're not so much in the report, but they are in the motion that Councillor Chambers passed and which was adopted at EPC. Five prongs to that. All of these contracts will now come to Council for the next rotation. There are 13 separate service contracts. Remarkable, really. 13 separate service contracts for Transit Plus service. We…we dole it out in 7% to 8% chunks out to the different private operators. Some car, some bus, one van, and we'll come to that in No. 2. And I am against Report No. 2, but I am in favour of the compromise in No. 1. So, all of these will now come to Council, we won't delegate authority. So, over the next five, six, seven years, Council will see a number of these coming forward. I think that is appropriate. You've had miscommunication in the recent past, the one in '18 should have come to Council. The car one that…some of you may remember, the car one that came in July of 2019, somebody screwed up the RFP. It was supposed to be for five years, they put down seven, so it ends up at Council. Lots of confusion out there. So, all of these will now come to Council. That is a good thing. We should be able to consolidate down from 13 to a more reasonable level. What is the appropriate level? That is going to be hard to say off the top of your head. I'll come back to it under No. 2. In 2012, our staff said no, we're not going to give to the lowest bidder because that would give the bidder 28% of the call volume or 29%, that's too much consolidation. Undue risk to the City of Winnipeg. Well, now we've got two different firms AB and Urban Eats with over 30% of the call volume within the past year. So, obviously, our standards, the staff standards have changed. 28% was too much consolidation back there a decade ago, now we've changed away from that. So, we should be able to consolidate this, I would hope, into three or four contracts instead of 13. The key point: everyone should be an employee. Thank you to Councillor Chambers for including that. That is important. So, they will not be employees of the City, they will be employees of the private contractors. They will not be employees of the City, they will be employees of the private contractors. People have faulted me saying, well, your stuff, it's not in the ombudsman's report. On this point, let us point out, the ombudsman's report said

they're all employees of the private contractors. Literally, that's what it says on multiple pages because that's the information they got. Nobody ever corrected it from the City. So, not a big revolution to say, yes, you will come forward, under the current model, some of them are employees, some of them are subcontractors to the contractors. Remember the Tartan Towing case? Remember the subcontractor issues? That was problematic. Now in the courts. So, here's our chance to move away from that model. It would be, I think, wise to have all employees. They would have workers comp at a minimum. They would get Canada pension. They would get minimum wage. All of this comports with our commitments under the Anti-Poverty Strategy and under OurWinnipeg for a more living wage approach for, not just our employees, but people who work for our subcontractors. So, very important move there, I think, by Councillor Chambers and I certainly support that, that they will all be, not our employees, but employees, not some alleged independent or dependent contractor, subcontractors. Everyone will be an employee. Two additional items that Councillor Chambers has put in. We had wrestled with how do you…how do you determine wages? How do you index this? The answer, to Catherine Kloepfer's credit, was there all along, our current RFPs include a provision for indexing. So, you put in your bid, you get a little more money each year, it's an inflationary increase. That seems to make sense for the private operators. Okay, how do we determine that? Some of it's fuel and a big chunk of it is the average industrial wage. We are paying private contractors more money because wages are going up, but we have no means of knowing if they are pocketing that or giving it to the drivers. Councillor Chambers' thing says, if we're giving you more money because average industrial wages are going up, pay it in wages, pay it to the drivers. That seems to make pretty good sense to me. Last provision was, and I've handed out some notes that I had circulated at EPC and at Public Works Committee, we should know who the different bidders that are here. We did have that in 2017, all the companies; winner, losers, their score. We did have that, look at it there on DMIS in 2018. All the companies, all their bids. Weirdly, in 2019, suddenly, that is confidential. No explanation of why. No, that's confidential. Well, I don't buy that, I think we should be able to see all of the companies that bid and what their score was on their bids. Remember that when we come to No. 2. So, I do favour the compromise, I favour that motion. One thing to note, part of the trouble with the in-house model was the cost. Need a brief extension, if I may. So, again, I am in favour of the compromise. I'll be voting yes. There was concern because the cost identified for going to a bus model in-house, $2.1 million per year includes the capital for 22%. So, each one of these 7% chunks of work that go up would go up roughly, it's just a third, roughly $700,000 a year. Remember that number when we come to Item No. 2, okay. I will be coming back to that. So, I never said it would be cheaper to bring it in-house, neither did Nason and I thank him for support on this. So, there are additional costs on that, but that's going to be relevant when we talk about No. 2. So, in short, I do favour the compromise. Thank you to members of the committees for voting for this. Final point is, and I will come back to this under No. 2, we should know or have some idea of what the wages for these people who are working as our drivers. This is the one part of Transit service that our staff said was essential was Transit Plus. So, we should have some better idea of the working conditions for these workers. I think this goes a long way toward that. And as Councillor Lukes said, this will…this will improve conditions for all of the drivers, not just 22% or 30% who were brought in-house. So, in that, there is a certain democracy from Councillor Chambers in moving this forward. It will also, I think, improve service to the public. So, thank you to those who have helped steer this through. I will be supporting this compromise. I will, however, have lengthy comments in opposition to No. 2.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie, followed by Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. First, I would like to start off by, Madam Speaker, thanking the current Public Works Committee and Councillor Mayes for working on an issue that drove me, actually, Madam Speaker, drove me to actually run against one Councillor Mike O'Shaughnessy in 1998 when City Council of the day decided to privatize the rest of the trip service with what was then called Handi Transit. And I appreciate, you know, there was all this stuff about money and then we sold off the equipment so we couldn't take it back, Madam Speaker, because the service, frankly, ended up sucking for a lot of persons with disabilities. Not everyone, but for a lot of people. Over the years, Transit had to put on staff to actually investigate and make sure that the private contractors are delivering the service they are supposed to. And I am not actually…I'm not berating any individual that works within that private sector driving. But Madam Speaker, on the big picture, it was the past. Nobody cared about the drivers who took pride in delivering the Handi Transit service, which was a route-based system mostly, what they utilized. And they were transporting people with higher levels of disability, not just like people who are blind always did if they were not anywhere near one of these routes, they would be an individual person in a taxicab, which the taxi industry, the private sector is really good at. They are very good and efficient at it. But there was a routing system. Now, because I heard the debate. And you know what? I am not feeling sorry for the private contractors who are bidding on this stuff and that because they didn't give a about what happened to the service back in the day. And they didn't give a about the drivers who worked for Transit. Nobody lost their jobs as a result. However, they took pride in providing that service, Madam Speaker. And yes, it did cost more per trip on those routes. Now, move to the future, you are now continuing the idea that we would...like, I don't know if they were going to have bus routes with these new bigger vehicles or whatever, routes that actually made sense taking people to work along a route. You know, and actually, when we're looking in the future, Madam Speaker, your ward, a big part of your ward is going to be very dependent on this new on-demand bus service, a family of services under Transit. Now, Mr. Terry Speaman and Ross Eadie back in 1998 talked about more of a family of service concept of mass transportation to do it properly, pointing out that the cost to actually deliver the demand for persons with disabilities

trips on our public transit system, we could not afford. Just because you brought the trip cost down meant that, oh, we can do more. Well, you still can't meet the demand of the needs of the trips and nor can it today. Yeah, at 200 and something thousand. That is fine. But we're talking about a family of services, and if we are delivering a service with our Public Service drivers through ATU and so on and so forth, they get paid better, they make better money than these private sector workers do. I can tell you that. And they…you know, it's hard to take pride in something if you are not making a living. And you make this point that you compromise and you've got this stuff in there. That doesn't matter. What's really happened is, we've had a stick presented by…properly by mister…Councillor Brian Mayes. That stick is out there in the private sector. So, you say only .6 out of 265,000 trips. Well, that is because there's been a stick out there for three years, Madam Speaker. That stick says we are going to bring in-house 30 and these poor, poor private sector owners of these companies, they will suffer. And we are providing a service. Well, they didn't care back then. I don't care today. What I care about is persons with disabilities getting the service that they expect from a public mass transportation system. And yeah, it might cost a little bit more, but if you are looking at the future, supposedly this family of services, it is only going to work. We've got two in-house services that we are providing. If you want to have that integrated, it won't work having a private sector…sector company who is not actually part of the city. And as a matter of fact, supervision by the City, you know, you have people working for the City, there is less need for scrutiny from a public servant looking into the private sector looking at all these complaint issues. That is cheaper if it's in-house. Nobody's factored that in, Madam Speaker. So, you know…you know, you've got some provisions and I appreciate that, but you know, for the worker, but you know, the reality is here, is that the stick is gone. And yeah, you supposedly got some stick in this contract thing and making the points and Councillor Mayes is going to have very good points about the contract that's up at report No. 2. But it's not meeting those strict things, is it? More than likely not, otherwise, the councillor wouldn't be opposed to it, Madam Speaker. So, I think that, well, a lot of people put in work and there is good intention. I think what the problem here is, is that you made decisions based on, oh, it's going to cost more. Yeah, but the service is better. The only reason we are getting a better service today is there is a stick. Now you took the stick away. We have nothing to compare the private sector service delivery to the public service sector delivery so we could make a decision like we talked about, Madam Speaker, when we were talking about garbage collection contracts. So, I see no reason to vote for this. The compromises mean nothing. They didn't care about us. I don't care about them back in the day, but I did hear from somebody who utilizes Independent Living Resource Centre thing in the media who was quite concerned that we decided not to bring in-house 30% to the service. And I am concerned.

Madam Speaker: Someone's cell phone is on. The birds are calling.

Councillor Eadie: Sorry, I just…anyway, I just want to complete it. I don't…I think this is a failure to persons with disabilities who live in this city, just like the person who commented on CBC radio. Once the stick is gone, we may…we may, I can't say for sure, but we may see the service drop. But ultimately, what we are doing is, I had great hopes for the future that we were going to deliver this service in a better means through this family of services that is supposed to be coming up in 25 to whenever. And so, I don't see us being able to do that with a bunch of private contractors. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer, followed by Councillor Allard.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you to the previous speakers. Thanks to Councillor Mayes for explaining in terms of…talked about Councillor Chambers as well in terms of raising the issue since inflation is going up, wages are going up. If we increase…increase the amount of budget for this service, therefore…he put it something like, therefore, let that same proportion go to the workers. Well, Madam Speaker, bear in mind that when it comes to other public services that are privatized, that in the last 30 years, and you can take any…essentially, any 30-year period in the last decade or more. The pattern doesn't change too much in the last 50 years or so. But in any given period of 30 years, the costs, let's say, for public service of construction has gone up about 18 times in that same 30-year period, the wages of those construction workers in that…in that industry. And some might be saying, how is this related? Well, I'll say it again, this is how I started my speech, we're talking about the wages within context of the budget of public services when they are privatized. So, that is what I am talking about. So, you will notice there are certain parallels all over the place here. There's certain patterns. And one of those patterns is, yet again, it doesn't matter what 30-year period in the last 50-years, the pattern is there. And that is that when you increase the budget for these public services to private contractors, in general, the budget might go up and it has. Go up almost 20 times in a 30-year period, 18 times. But the wages don't go up proportionately. Am I out of whack on this in general? No, in general, it is not even close. So, we see that they can go up, the budget can go up 10 times higher than the workers' wages in question. Well, why do I mention this? Because Councillor Mayes just talked about how Councillor Chambers also talked about if we are increasing the budget in proportion to inflation, let a certain…let that be sort of indicative, expressive of the increase in the workers' wages. Well, we don't see that all the time, in fact, usually not. So, don't be surprised if it doesn't happen here, that's all I'm saying. It doesn't exactly fit the pattern. Now, Councillor Eadie made the point. Across this country, what type of safeguards or what type of sticks, as used the term 'sticks', measures do we have? Rulers do we have to be able to make that comparison so that legislators, political…public representatives such as ourselves who are responsible for voting on budgets, how can we make these comparisons into the future in terms of where our efficiencies are when we increase budgets? What are

we getting for it? Is it in relation to people's wages? If we double the budget of something, is there, you know, over…over a period of number of years, what does it have to do with the wages of the workers who are providing those services? So, Councillor Eadie, and he's not the only one, for years I've been making the same point because this has been a big issue here; he talked about garbage services. We've made the point before. Across this country, Winnipeg is the only major city in the country where we don't have at least one sector of the city where the garbage services are done in-house. Used to be the case. In fact, there are cities where it's…in this country where it's only done in-house. In the Vancouver area, I think Councillor Mayes can talk about...no, in Ottawa, it's a certain sector. Councillor Mayes, it's half and half, is it? Two thumbs up on that one. One thumb up. Oh, there you go, five zones and at least one of them…in many cities, it's half. Half private contractor, half in-house. In Calgary, Mayor Nenshi, I really admire that fellow. No, I really do. He's…I hope his political career is not over. He's really got something to say all the time. And he was able to act on that when he was mayor. And he did something interesting, 100% in-house. 100% in-house is what they had in Calgary. But if it got out of hand, he had…he…they were allowed to privatize immediately. And that's a form of balance, isn't it? That's a form of accountability, isn't it? There is a stake in the ground on that one. So, kind of fair to the taxpayer, to the citizens. And that's what I strive for; balance and accountability. And when you don't have it, can sound great for a few years, it doesn't matter. But what wait a few more years, wait a decade, wait a couple of decades. People have been sitting in this chamber for 20 years. 20 years ain't that long of time when you can see a real difference in budget gaps, price gaps, wage gaps. And that is my fear in this case as well. I truly do appreciate the work done by those involved and the comments made. And when it comes to accountability of budgets, Brian Mayes' days are not over, just wait till September because some good stuff is coming down the track in terms of Councillor Mayes pushing for accountability. When it comes to this issue, however, for a few really salient reasons, I don't know some…I don't know of anyone. I am not sure that there is anyone that I…that I really count on for insight and knowledge on this issue than Ross Eadie. And I will be voting for it with Ross on this one. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to start by commending Councillor Mayes for his work on this file. I will hazard to the territory of breaking the procedure by-law and impugning Councillor Mayes' motive, which I believe to be, to bring Transit Plus, at least in part, in-house. And so, if Councillor Mayes has gone to this compromise to the Executive Policy Committee, I believe, knowing Councillor Mayes, knowing what Councillor Mayes…what I believe Councillor Mayes wants to do, which is, in fact, impugning motive, which may be the first time that I believe or that I'm actually impugning motive in this chamber, Madam Speaker, all that to say, I do believe if Councillor Mayes has reached this agreement with his colleagues at Executive Policy Committee that it may be that window that we need, that little…that little open door that might allow us to just get that foot in there and maybe one day have a larger provision of Transit Plus done in-house. So, I think I got away with it this time, Madam Speaker, impugning someone's motive. This time I think I did it for real.

Madam Speaker: You haven't impugned motive before.

Councillor Allard: Okay.

Madam Speaker: You don't drive (inaudible) things, either.

Councillor Allard: Okay, I won't…I'll let sleeping dogs lie, madam Speaker. I will be supporting this compromise. Thank you, Councillor Mayes, for your efforts.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker? Seeing none, Councillor Lukes to close.

Councillor Lukes: I think this is time to vote.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Call the question on Item 1. Question. All in favour? Thank you. Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, Item 2.

Item 2 – Award of Contract for the Provision of Accessible Transportation Services for Winnipeg Transit Plus – RFP 946-2022

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes to introduce the item.

Councillor Lukes: I'll let my colleagues speak to this one.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Lukes: No. 2.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. Probably.

Councillor Lukes: 10 minutes. 10 minutes.

Madam Speaker: I have an appointment.

Councillor Mayes: If you wonder why we need No. 1, it is because of No. 2 and the way it's come forward. In 2017, the City of Winnipeg went to market for a contract for van services, six vans for Transit Plus services. A five-year contract was awarded, it did not come to Council. Why? Remember what I said before, the five-year ones weren't coming to Council, it was simply done by staff. Five-year contracts worth $2.9 million, or roughly, and I am rounding up, $600,000 a year for van services. That contract was extended at the very first meeting when Councillor Lukes was back as Chair of Public Works last November, two-year extension for (inaudible) care. That contract…so that was…that expires end of 2024. So, what do we have here today? We have a seven-year van contract worth $9.9 million. $1.4 million a year rounding down. Pretty easy math, there's $800,000 a year increase. Remember what I saying under Item 1, $700,000 per year for each of these contracts was a little too expensive to bring in-house. This is more, $800,000 per year to keep delivering van services. I am concerned, we should be able to ask more questions. Part of the difficulty is, here is the summary of the 2017 report in the document you have in front of you. Page 4; a similar report came forward in 2017. That's it. You don't get the report. I asked for the report because it was in-house. $2.9 million versus $9.9 million. How many vans? This time, five, under the old contract, six. Now, the call volume is going up 9%. Yes, we are asking more per year for those vans. 9% increase in call volume. But we're also increasing the amortization period by 40% going from five years to seven. That is of concern, too. This is a big increase in costs. Some might say, why didn't you ask for a study bringing vans in-house? Why? Because in June of 2021, the report from staff to Council said, we are going to move to a system that's only vans and 27-foot buses. Not my words, the staff words. We're going out of the van business in 2021. This changed by November of 2022 when they came before Councillor Lukes seeking an extension. But they say, van contracts will be five years, yet here we are, half a year later with a seven-year van contract. That deserves some questioning, I would say. So, things are moving 133% a year. $800,000 over $600,000 for the annual costs. It's almost as if we should look at bringing it in-house, perhaps, but that battle has come and gone. So, I do think we should ask more questions. I would support if this is referred back to Public Works and if not, I would certainly support defeating this for a few more reasons. When the extension came before Public Works in November, there was a line in that report saying part of the increased costs are wages, increase in wages. I asked, what were the old wages, what are the new wages? I am told in a December e-mail, that is commercially confidential. I pressed. By April, I was told we don't know the wages. No, we don't know the wages. That is what is in front despite what was said in a public report the wages were increasing. Staff admitted we don't be know. Incredibly, at Public Works Committee a few weeks ago, Chambers, to his credit, says, Mayes has concerns with this massive increase in costs. Talk to us about that. And if you go back and look at the video, at the two-hour, 46 minute, 30 second mark, you will see staff saying, well, the fuel is going up and wages, again publicly saying, the wages are going up, even though privately they're saying, we don't know what the wages are. That alone, if you don't listen to anything else I say, that alone should cause you concern over this. How are you saying the wages are going up when you've said privately we don't know what the wages are? Beyond that, if you ask the staff, hey, Exact Care, the former provider, the one who got the extension, all employees, no subcontractors. What about AB? Well, they are going to use a mix of employees and subcontractors at the discretion of the driver. A) I think that is legally questionable, but B) if you are going to have subcontractors, how can you publicly say that part of the increase is due to higher wages? They are not paid wages if they're subcontractors. So, I really have concerns about the public representations being made about the 130…133% a year higher cost to deliver this contract. Also, this document does not say what share of the market AB will have. Other reports, oh, say, the 2012 report, the 2017 report that this is replacing, the 2018 report that went to IRPW, three of the 2019 reports would say, the winning bidder will have 32…28%, 32%, whatever share of the market. Not included here. It states that, well, it's too long a lag time. By my math, this will give AB, who may well be a fine provider, over 39% of the market. 10 years ago, we were concerned if anybody got 29% of the market. That's a valid question. Councillor Chambers tried to ask that, too, at the committee. This also should give us only a few bidders here, give us the names. You gave us the names in 2017 and 2018. Maybe one of them is Exact Care, maybe I'd like to vote for that one because they have employees and not subcontractors, but I don't know because we are not being given it. Again, something that will be solved by the motion that Councillor Chambers put forward. So, I have to say, this…this document is why we need Item No. 1, which we just passed. So, I don't know if we need to refer it back. I'd vote for that. Maybe…I will leave it at that. But if it's not referred back, I will certainly vote no. It's an $800,000 a year increase and that's me rounding favourably to this one. Five years, $2.9 million under the old one. Seven years, $9.9 million under the new one. And if we were concerned…if you voted…if you didn't like the cost increase to bring in-house, then this should really cause you some concern, quite frankly. So, I think for all of those reasons, I mean, it's openness and transparency. Tell the councillors what was done in '17 and make your case. To say, it's similar when it's millions of dollars more, it's 133% more per year, different number of vans, different call volume. These do have two ramps, that's…maybe that's the deciding thing. Maybe these two ramp vans are that much more expensive. Explain that. Put it in the report. You know, the Mayor ran on a platform pledge about

a citizens and councillors information bill of rights…information rights by-law. Bring it on, I say. I will vote for that. I shouldn't have to dig around and find 2017 reports. I'm going to need a brief extension. All right. So, we shouldn't have to call around to find these in-house reports from 2017, some of which I have appended in the package I circulated. This should be provided in what is given to us and then we can make an honest decision. Well, yes, fuel has gone up. Well, yes, it does have two ramps on these vans. Instead we have…we're committed to vans which we weren't going to do in 2021. Publicly, twice we say some of the increase is wages, you can't prove that. People say, well, the minimum wage went up. So, they were making minimum wage before? We don't know. Like, let's get some consistency and information, which we will have in the future due to what we just passed in No. 1. Councillor Lukes is right, the system is getting better. I think some of it might be the stick that has been provided by the actions Council took a few years ago. But I would say a very bad message would be sent if we just simply approve this at an additional $800,000 a year because we should be asking some questions. Maybe vans are the way to go. Maybe the dual ramp thing is worth the cost. I may still vote against because I may still say, no, I'm not going to have subcontractors, I want somebody who's got nothing but employees. I think that's justifiable, then I'm sure they have workers comp among other provisions. So, I think this could be made better and certainly more information could be gleaned if it's referred back. And if not, well, somebody said, are we allowed to tamper with these things? That is why they come to Council for approval, it's not just rubber stamping, we get to vote. So, if it comes to a vote, I will vote no on this one because I think we can do better.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Allard, followed by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I've just got this multi page appendix from Councillor Mayes. And I would like to move referral and I would like three minutes to speak to that. I would like to move…refer to this package and the entire item back to standing policy committee.

Madam Speaker: You can move referral of the item, not the package. I mean, that was not…

Councillor Allard: Okay, I'll find a way to get the package to committee.

Madam Speaker: So, you are moving referral of the item to…back to Public Works. Okay. All in favour? Contrary?

Councillor Allard: Recorded vote.

Madam Speaker: Call for a recorded vote. All in favour of the referral back, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Allard, Dobson, Eadie, Gilroy, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, and Schreyer

Nays

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Duncan, Lukes, Wyatt, and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 9, Nays 7.

Madam Speaker: Okay, the item will be referred to the standing committee. Madam Clerk, next item.

Item 4 – Safe Transportation Training for Vehicle for Hire (VFH) Drivers

Madam Speaker: Councillor Lukes to introduce the item.

Councillor Lukes: Okay. Thank you very much. I want to thank the Public Service and the MMIWG2S+ Implementation Team, the Indigenous governance and territorial organizations, vehicles for hire service providers and the community in working to develop a robust training program. I would especially like to thank the Indigenous Relations Division who worked extensively with community to determine what should be included in the training. I am told the program is the first of its kind as a training program in Canada. And I'm told that other cities are looking at this model. This work took meaningful conversations, it took compassion and understanding. And I would like to thank all who came to speak to the need for this training and all who worked on this initiative. I will be supporting this.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of this and I just want to also thank for the ability for the UN Safe Cities Initiative to also be a part of this…a part of these discussions. It's really critical that we look at our transportation, how we move people around and making sure that we have safety. And when we first brought out the vehicle for hire and the idea of…the idea that the public safety is…there's a need for…to make sure that there is public safety in vehicles for hires, like our taxicabs. We have done a lot of training in terms of our cab…taxicab drivers and we need to make sure that we have the same provisions held for people that are driving for Uber or Lyft or whatever…whatever kind of vehicle for hire that they work for. It's really critical that they understand the issues of safety for women. As we have heard today, there is a debate over searching our landfills for two women. And I think it is really critical that we understand that there is an issue in Winnipeg, Canada, across North America about missing women and girls. And we have to make sure that we're doing what we can within our policies to help protect them and we're doing that with some of this work that's happened here. So, I just want to commend the committee and commend the working groups that have been working hard on this. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins, followed by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The proposed training, I think it's important to note, is in line with the City's commitments to reconciliation and MMIWG2S+ calls for justice, specifically calls 4.1, 8.1, 17.9. Council, you will recall, previously last term, directed the Public Service to consult and engage with MMIWG2S+ Implementation Team and I want to recognize there is a two-day meeting going on right now, a joint meeting with Manitoba. So, this is timely that it appears on this agenda. Indigenous governments, territorial organizations, vehicle for hire service providers and the community, and I want to echo the thanks that the Chair gave, specifically to Indigenous Relations Division and the Vehicle for Hire staff for their work to date on the file. I also want to note for the record the topics of the training will include the history of colonization, colonial impacts of sexual violence on Indigenous women, videos that include lived experience testimonials, roles of drivers, roles of Canadians, resources and more including Madam Speaker, importantly, who to call if people are in distress. So, I would like to see, obviously, unanimous support for this today.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Madam Speaker, I wholeheartedly support this motion, especially, and if the Chairperson closes could just confirm, it's my understanding, Madam Speaker, that we are talking about this kind of training for not only the regular vehicles for hire drivers, but also the personal vehicle for hire. Different industry, but still the same industry. I'm hoping that there is some enlightenment for all drivers of motors vehicles that transport passengers for a fee for service. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Any further speakers? Seeing none, Councillor Lukes to close.

Councillor Lukes: I will close by sharing with Councillor Eadie that yes, all vehicle for hire: Uber, taxi, limos, all of them are subject to this training. And the department also said if anyone wanted to take the training, they're welcoming those inquiries.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. I'll call the question. All in favour Item 4? Contrary? Carried. Item 5, Madam Clerk.

Item 5 – Proposed Funding Strategy for Multimodal Roadway and Bridge Infrastructure Renewal

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes to introduce the item and there is an amending Motion 7; moved by Councillor Eadie and seconded by Councillor Allard.

Councillor Lukes: Sure. So, this report reflects an updated long-term funding strategy for the local and regional street renewal reserves. And it's proposed to meet a recommended level of service for roadway conditions up to and including 2027. As you know, the 2023 adopted capital budget identified an annual increase of .3% and 1.7% for the regional and local street renewal reserves respectively. This report recommended changes bringing…bringing the funding strategy back to 1% for each regional and local. But what you will see that is different in this strategy is additional components will be included. The new model will include funding for Road Safety Improvement Program, the Pedestrian and Cycling Program and enhanced funding for tree replacement and preservation on renewal projects. All of these components are part of road renewal anyways, and to include them in the long-term funding strategy, in my opinion, is a wise move as they are all part of the road and bridge renewals. I will note in the report that in working with the Public Service, the Public Works Committee sets out this 1%, 1% funding model to and including 2027. The Public Works Committee will be having further discussions on the funding strategy past 2027. And we look to make recommendations at the Public Works Committee in fall of 2023, which we need to get on. I will also note the long-term funding strategy and level of service will be reviewed on a four-year cycle starting in 2028 to coincide with each multi-year budget process. I will be supporting this

report and if you support renewal of existing streets, I hope you will, too. I do want to note that there was information in this report, when I first looked at the report I was a little overwhelmed, but they're showing new ways to report status of streets. We will be seeing a lot more of this come forward in the coming months. I see the motion that folks want to lay this over, they want more information. We want to work this into the budget process. So, whenever that, you know, starts, we want to work this into the budget process. I think it is pretty clear in the written report, it's 1%, 1%, includes these three other items. We have had a lot of time, this has been out there. We've had a lot of discussion to move this…to continue and move this forward. So, I mean, I'm talking about this other one, but I won't be supporting it. But I think that if people are really interested, I would gladly have another session like we had at Public Works. You can go to the Public Works tape. We had a great discussion at it. I'd gladly offer to host another session if people want more information on the report, but I don't want to delay it. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie, your opportunity to speak to the motion.

Motion No. 7
Moved by Councillor Eadie,
Seconded by Councillor Allard,

WHEREAS voting on the recommendations contained in Item 5 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works (Proposed Funding Strategy for Multimodal Roadway and Bridge Infrastructure Renewal) at the September meeting of City Council will have no effect on the recommendations in the report;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Item 5 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated June 26, 2023, be referred back to the Standing Committee and that the Chief Administrative Officer conduct a Council Seminar to ensure all members of Council understand the implications of the recommendations.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaking, I'm moving a motion to refer with instructions to have the CAO put on a seminar bringing out the appropriate Public Works people so we can ask questions and have a better understanding of Scenario 3 and all the other improvement changes, Madam Speaker. And I do understand that the Chairperson and the Public Works Committee had plenty of time to consider the report. Although, the public agenda did get reported. And this councillor happens to be quite busy with many fronts. But whether you appreciate that or not, there are some things, Madam Speaker, introduced in the report. I won't…I don't want to speak directly to it other than to say, I need to understand the implication because we are talking about changes to the amount of funding under…under the local road program, as you know, there's many different pockets of money. And we know that when we move to do industrial streets, we took a whole bunch of money out of back lane renewal program pocket of money on the local streets, Madam Speaker, of which…anyways, I won't get into all the detail. But there's a number of things in here that I would like to understand. And ultimately, the whereas on this motion, Madam Speaker, is simply Council voting on this report. I am not saying I'm opposed to this report. It is probably really good. However, I want to understand the implications. And there was an amendment that said it's only going to go to '27…2027 under the four-year budget process. But…and so, like, way…having a seminar before we vote on this in September isn't going to prevent it from getting into our four-year budget cycle. It's on the table. The Public Works is looking at it. I just want to understand it in a much better way before I decide to vote on it because well, for example, the concept of street safety, we are not talking in here. And there was an opportunity to have a road renewal program that actually would see, you know, ensuring good lighting happens like we are going to get downtown in and on some of the streets that, you know, really require that extra level of safety and appreciation for it. So, therefore, I don't see this causing a problem. The referral is simply just so we can have a good understanding. It is a big report. I…you know, this is a huge part of our budget, Madam Speaker, and it continues and has been part of my campaigns since I was first elected in 2010, Madam Speaker. So, I would just like to have a better understanding of what we are proposing to move forward on it.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yes, I rise to support the words of the Chair. And she pointed at me, we've got to get going on this. And I think since birth I have been surrounded by strong, strong women. So, and thank god for that. So, we are going to get going on it, councillor…Madam Chair and we're going to get moving on this stuff in terms of where we are going to go for the future. As somebody who is very involved in working together with members of Council to establish the one and one funding model which is now generating 10s of millions of dollars permanently for us for our regional and local roads, this is something which we were reluctant to move away from in terms of the projected model going forward without knowing exactly the implications to long-term funding. You know, it was pointed out that in 15 years time, something like, I think the number was 15% of our streets are poor condition and 15…based on the formula, in 15 years time, 15% will still be in poor form…conditions. So, you know, how do we get to a position where we can actually say that in 15 years' time, all poor streets and poor and fair streets will be fixed and lanes and sidewalks and active transportation paths? So, we never…we didn't want…it was a concern expressed by also the industry that came forward at the standing committee

that we did not want…they did not want to see us make any rash change or any radical change to the one-on-one at this point in time until we had that strategy. We made a commitment at the standing committee. If you listen to the video that…and the minutes, that we are committing to work together to come forward with the Public Service. The greatest challenge right now happening with the Public Service is what we…Council initiated the Accelerated Roads Program if you recall. And the Accelerated Roads Program, though, is coming to an end now. And the Accelerated Roads Program allowed us to leverage federal money to go into regional streets to ramp-up regional street renewal. And the Public Works Department wishes to keep that work going in terms of its consulting assignments. Consulting assignments have to be done a year or two in advance. They have a hard time projecting that and keeping that going if they do not address that now, which is what's generated the report before us because of the coming end of the Accelerated Roads Program that two councils ago adopted, Which actually I had the honour of seconding with at that time Mayor Brian Bowman who requested me to second the motion. So, we need to address this to keep the program going. Councillor Lukes rightly pointed out there were many issues that have come forward. We have authored in this chamber a motion with regards to safety and through design incorporating features and local road renewal to ensure that speeds can be addressed rather than through enforcement, through design. We have growing issues with regards to trees and landscaping. We also have the issue with regards to the bridges and the need to fund our bridges through the program that we have here. Our bridges are aging, we have to address them. This is something that speaks to our existing infrastructure deficit. Now, there's no doubt in my mind, Madam Speaker, that if we as a city, and I believe our future as a city is positive, is good. I am confident about the future of the city economically going forward. In the centre of the country, clean air, clean water, its political stability; that the city will continue to grow and that our future is positive and therefore, we should not hesitate to consider borrowing, especially since we have a dedicated source of funding to do that now thanks to the one-on-one, well over $150 million a year and growing, that we could finance over up to $2 billion. We would have to revisit our debt strategy, but other cities have revisited their debt strategy where they have higher borrowing limits. And it allows them to address their existing infrastructure that must be addressed. Please keep in mind that a deficit is a deficit even if it is an infrastructure deficit. And nothing rots the confidence and the feeling of a neighbourhood if we as a city are asking folks to look after their properties, but we can't even look after our own, whether it be the sidewalk and the road…lane, in their back lane which is in horrific condition or the…or the road itself in front of their home. And if we can do this by coming up with a sustainable program, financed by a dedicated source which we have identified now with the one-on-one, to go out and we wouldn't be able to do it all at once, but we would have to work probably with the Province. We've identified it in discussions with the Public Works Department to ramp-up other vendors to be able to bid and build that capacity in the industry that's lacking today. We have five…five or six firms tops bidding on contracts. The Province has the same problem, by the way, with all their highways. And they want to ramp that up, whether it be from outside the province or building here. New businesses of entrepreneurs that exist in this city. The capacity…the Province has a venture capital fund. I've chatted with the minister about this and…one of the ministers, and it's something that they are very interested in. And we could see a scenario going forward where we would have funding that we could actually put in place a plan over the next 10 or 15 years to actually eliminate the poor and fair lane, roads and sidewalks in our city. And then, have a sustainable plan to maintain our infrastructure. We are on the cusp of that. We weren't able to do that before. Until we as a Council, and I want to give credit to all my colleagues here on the last number of years who kept the one-on-one going. You could have abandoned it, but you kept it going. And that took discipline because, frankly, it was…we decided it was going to go by budget by budget. But you kept the 1%, 1% going and that has now allowed us to have a fund coming into the city exceeding 100, 150, 160 billion that would allow us to do what we need to do going forward. And yes, it would mean amendments as Councillor Eadie rightfully…others have done with the Strategic Priorities Action Plan, that we should look at our debt strategy in light of that. That this would allow us to do that. And yes…and Calgary, by the way, as pointed out by members of Council, that Calgary's credit rating has not taken a hit because of the increased debt. They have identified the funding. They have identified how to service that debt. And their credit rating is no different than ours, maybe even better. So, we are in a position to do that now going forward. And wouldn't be something to be able to say to the citizens of Winnipeg or people who come and visit, who can't believe the state of our roads and infrastructures, that we are actually in a position now over the next 10 or 15 years to wipe out the existing infrastructure deficit of the poor and fair-rated streets and to have a program in place that is sustainable going forward in terms of the long-term maintenance program of our existing infrastructure. We are adding a lot of inventory, folks, onto our books every year with new roads. If we don't get this under…if we don't get a handle on this, we are going to leave future councils with a massive liability that they may not be able to wrestle with. Let's not lose this opportunity. We really do have a window here in terms of this because of the fact that you had the discipline and I give you the credit for keeping that program going. We have that window now to create something very unique within the Public Works Department. To go forward and to address in a sustainable manner our existing infrastructure. When I arrived here in 2002, what I heard way back when by Jim Thompson, Director of Public Works, I couldn't believe the state. Now, if we address the existing…then we can start talking and looking at new strategic infrastructure. The new infrastructure that we need to build for the trade corridors, which I support the Mayor on. I was on Kenaston the other day trying to get to the zoo with my friends from California. It is a mess. I mean, it has to be addressed. These are crucial trade corridors where trucking industry, where movement of goods and services, not just people. We have to…

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. I don't think so. Well, now he's put his hand up. Councillor Schreyer moves one-minute extension. All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Councillor Wyatt: I support Chief Peguis, support Kenaston. I'm on the page of freeways, actually. And rapid transit expansion. We as a city, we're in a position where we want growth and we want development, we want investment, but we know that any great municipality in the past that has facilitated that going forward in a sustainable way does it on the basis of supporting investments in infrastructure, maintaining our existing, but also, new strategic infrastructure that will facilitate and continue a stable economy that welcomes growth that we…you know, the days of Winnipeg being a, you know, a so-called one-horse town are over. We are now moving into a different phase. A phase where you see cities like Calgary or Edmonton have gone to years ago who are now at that point where they're investing not only in rapid transit, LRT, BRT, they're investing in NAT. They're investing in freeways. They're investing in trade corridors. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Chambers: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will be a little bit briefer. I rise in support of this proposal here today that talks about our multi-modal roadway and bridge infrastructure renewal. Sitting on the Public Works Committee, we've had these discussions and how it relates not only to our ability to plan strategically for our future as far as infrastructure, but also industry's ability to plan for the future and looking at the record investments that we'll be making in terms of road renewal, road repair, bridge infrastructure, AT pathways, snow removal, transit and again, moving goods and services around our city. It is critically important as we are moving towards a million people population, which I think will be accelerated in the next few years with the fact that the Federal Government and the Provincial Government have increased the amount of immigration on…to our country and, accordingly, to the provinces and the cities from an economic standpoint. So, it's critically important for industry to be able to have the staff and human resources in place as we're moving towards, you know, our infrastructural renewal and making sure that there are enough workers to do these jobs to make sure that our city can grow in a responsive way. So, I am very much in support of this. I think the committee, the standing policy committee, has done some great in working, you know, on these budgets to identify what our streets are that are in…in poor condition. You know, I had mentioned briefly to our director, Jim Berezowsky, just, you know, based on my experience of driving by our airport, the road out is under heavy construction right now. And I am hoping that it will be completed in time for all of those visitors that will be coming to our city for the World Police and Fire Games in the next couple of weeks so that they can see as they are leaving the airport that our roads are in good condition. You know, outside of where this new construction is going, there's still a lot of work to do, but initial and first impressions are critically important as these newcomers or...well, not only newcomers, but tourists are coming to our city and seeing exactly what the city of Winnipeg is about. You know, the individual that came up from, I believe it was Omaha, Nebraska, just a couple of weeks ago and painted the story of how fantastic the city of Winnipeg is. And other people came back at that, well, why would you visit Winnipeg? Well, Winnipeg does have a lot to offer and our streets should be in a condition so that as visitors are coming to our city, that is not the thing that they're remembering in terms of potholes and busted sidewalks and curbs and things like that. That, again, through this strategy, we are planting trees, we are beautifying our city, we're making sure that it's safe; these are the things that we want visitors to take away as they're leaving the city of Winnipeg. For the citizens that are here and living, that they're not complaining about the potholes or the busted curbs or sidewalks in terms of infrastructure and that AT renewal is a big part of it as pedestrians and cyclists continue to move around our city as well. So, again, in support of this and I encourage my council colleagues to consider the same. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Chambers. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank Councillor Mayes so much for asking these really important questions, but they are really basic. This is junior high math. That's all he's been asking for. Is that an exaggeration or maybe it's high school math. I'm sorry? Opposed funding strategy for multi-modal roadway and bridge infrastructure renewal.

Madam Speaker: Yeah. Public Works item, yes.

Councillor Schreyer: Councillor Mayes…I'll give context, Councillor Mayes just spoke before I did. Pardon me? I mean, just before all of us. He spoke before I did. Not immediately before, but he just spoke before me on this issue. I hope that is enough context.

Madam Speaker: Yeah, that's fine, let's continue on the item. Thank you.

Councillor Schreyer: Once again, I want to thank Brian Mayes, once again, so much. Oh, I am glad for Councillor Chambers comments and he's all in favour of the plan. I'm just saying…

Madam Speaker: Okay, let's stop interrupting. Councillor Schreyer, you have the floor on the item. Thank you.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I have no problem thanking Brian Mayes, once again. In case there's any confusion here in terms of what or why, but give me a few minutes and I'll explain why. Well, he did a good job explaining himself, because he asked some tough questions. Well, why should they be tough? He asked some questions when he was given information. He was told, well, the reason the budgets are going up, well, gasoline, oil, and wages. So, he goes, well, if those are the…if those are the factors of the…of inflation, what were they? And he just said, well, they can't say. All right, so we are told labour costs are a cost in inflation…in the budget increases, but we don't know to what extent. Well, what we do know in general is that in the last 30 years or so, those wages have almost doubled. But construction…construction costs have gone up 10 times higher than that. So, if there is anything special in the information that Councillor Mayes was given recently to which he had to ask these simple questions, simple math, well, what about those other costs? Those other costs that traditionally go up 10 times…at this time, are going up at 10 times a higher rate? Well, if you can't find out about the labour cost, how are we going to find out about the other stuff that's increasing the taxpayers budget on infrastructure? So, we are aware that Councillor Mayes isn't over with his questioning. I back him 110%, but that's bad junior high math. But I will back him and any councillor, any mayor, any leader who is going to ask these questions in terms of how we afford and sustain our budget today, tomorrow and next decade. And let's face it, when we make these decisions, we're not working on 4 and 5 year plans, because we are adults and we've got the information. We know what happens over a period of 10, 20, 30 years and what the projections are…some sort of projections for the future. And at least at this point, how they're…whether they are sustainable. And if so, how so? Well, look, if labour costs, which is the vast majority of costs of the taxpayers, if working people's costs are going up at the same rate as everything else, well, it doesn't really have the same impact, does it? Now, I remember back in the day, oh boy, 35 years ago, back at St. Boniface College, I remember my economics professor talked about the classical economics…classical economics model. In which…and if in all factors go up at the same rate as inflation, then he would say…

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Schreyer: It doesn't change anything.

Councillor Schreyer: Which is ideal, because it doesn't change anything. If the rates of inflation…if the rates of increases on all factors are the same, well, he says that is ideal because it doesn't change anything. That's what he called the classic economic model. It doesn't really apply, but it's a model for study. And is that the case here? Is it okay that all costs are going up because it doesn't change anything because all costs are going up at the same…at the same point? Our proportion of our share of wealth and income stays about the same. Well, no. That is not what's happening at all, we know that. No one at lunch time said, hey Jason, you were way off when you said the rich are getting rich, the poor are getting poorer and the working class, the middle class is shrinking. No, no, that's really what's going on. And how can we prove that? The City budget, it tells us. It tells that that's what's going on. So, we know the construction budgets are going up almost, to be a little more fair, almost 20 times in the last 30 years. Wages almost doubled. So, they have gone up, I would…construction costs have gone up 10 times, more or less, maybe 8. People can correct me on this stuff. Eight times more than people's wages. So, why are we trying to say when we talk about construction budgets going up, why do we say, well, it's labour costs have gone up? Well, have they gone up at the same rate as the construction budget? That is the question. That's the question to which we need an answer. If we're bothering to say, well, labour costs have gone up, wages have gone up and that is why, they haven't really said to what extent. We all just need to know. Are wages going up at the same rate of increase as the construction budget? Well, come on now, we know they are not. When was the last case…time that was the case? I did ask. Councillor Browaty, when he was the Chair of the Finance Committee before the last election when he stepped in as chair of the Finance Committee, whether he knew…well, in his time at city hall, whether wages went up at a higher rate than construction costs. He wasn't aware at that time. Well, I don't blame him for his answer because neither am I, because it never happened. So, what we are dealing with here, if we're talking about a sustainability of maintaining and expanding the infrastructure of our city. Maintaining is going to be hard enough. Expanding? Well, look, we expanded the city to the point we are here like all other cities around. Did a pretty good job. But we weren't in this state of economics. And we can't pretend we're in a state of economics in which all things are going up at the same rate. We need answers to Councillor Brian Mayes questions. Remember, we are not in the private sector here, this is a public service and we have to account to the taxpayers who pay for all this. That is our job. We have to build roads, that's our job. We have to account to the taxpayer, that is our job. We need to consult with them. They judge us, that's their job. And it's our job to help them. And I don't know how we're going to sustain this without getting answers to Councillor Brian Mayes on his very important and relevant and simple questions. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker. Okay, Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will be supporting Councillor Eadie's motion. I think failing that motion, I will not be supporting the documents. I would…I would like to know if it would be possible to go clause by clause because there are some things that I do like in the report. Would it be okay to go 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Madam Speaker?

Madam Speaker: I'm just pulling it up, I lost it. Mr. Clerk. Yes, I am just pulling it up here again. Yes, that is fine.

Councillor Allard: Okay, so my major issue with this package is I did a text search and I stand to be corrected, but I saw the word 'transit' twice. And I saw it under roads. And so, I think there is opportunity costs to everything that we do and I think there isn't an unlimited supply of money. And what I see here is throwing more money at a very large issue. But I think that we need…we need to be more strategic in what we are doing. I do like the language on active transportation and road safety improvements out of the road renewal reserve. I think that could have been…that's already been done to some extent as long as the scope of the…as long as the project on a renewal, it would be done, but this would allow for more general use of it. So, there are parts of this that I support, but I think it's, once again, putting the...not putting…not putting the priorities where we need to put them in order to be a resilient city. Councillor Wyatt talked about the future about being confident about the future. I worry about putting too much into concrete, especially when it's road widenings and not enough in things that do things like address the traffic flows on Kenaston. And the answer to that is transit, it's not widening roads. So, I'd like to go clause by clause. I will support some but not all of this proposal.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie to close on your motion.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just to close on it, you know, again, it is great that the Chairperson, you know, talks about…well, had extensive discussion and so on and so forth. I am looking in this thing; so, it looks like, Madam Speaker, it talks about an ongoing 3% per year construction inflation basis when we know that there is always anomalies that usually end up causing problems. We don't know what that future is even over the next four-years, Madam Speaker. So, there are…there are things…and here's the other thing, Madam Speaker, so…so, here we are talking about how much we are investing in roads. We haven't yet…we haven't yet…so we've got this going for…we have not yet received the Transportation Master Plan, which is supposed to be coming. And under that, we haven't got the new updated Active Transportation Master Plan, Madam Speaker. And I look at some numbers in there and you know, we are looking at merging. I think that I agree with Councillor Lukes and the committee. I mean, it is the multi-modal perspective, you look at that. But Madam Speaker, I need to ask some questions regarding moving this along through a public…a Public Service seminar. It is not going to slow it down for the next four-year budget because we haven't even got the Transportation Master Plan, which is supposed to contribute to our next four-year plan which we are going to see in the fall, Madam Speaker. So, you know, please, colleagues, it's not going to cause a problem to refer it back and have a seminar so we can have a discussion. Some of us may or may not agree with how much to spend on this or that. But I, personally, and I think we should all understand the implications of things as they move along. And you know, there was the amendment that blocked it off from going with the whole till 2037, whatever it was, Madam Speaker. So, I just…there are things we need to understand in here. Oh, I also noticed there's a shift of dollars in the local road renewal program, I think. I need to understand that a little bit more as it goes forward. So, I just need to have a seminar. And I think we could all benefit from it if we had that. And that is simply all I am asking. I am not saying I'm opposed to this plan. I…you know, it sounds good. I just…really, I'd like to understand it. And so, please, colleagues, consider a vote for just referring this till the September Council meeting so in the meantime, we could have a seminar to talk about this because I want to figure out how this is going to fit in with our Transportation Master Plan, Active Transportation Plan that is being updated and changed, from what I hear, changed quite drastically for my particular ward and for Councillor Santos' ward, actually. So, need to understand what our investments going forward are going to be. It's…again, I don't see the problem. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes to close on the item.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you very much. So, I just want to address a couple of things. First of all, I want to thank Councillor Wyatt in the Public Works Committee. He was one of the originators, I guess the originator of the 1%, 1%. And because of that, we've had a very, very robust conversation on this. This came forward, there's been, I didn't count the days, quite a bit of time from when it came forward to now. If anyone was interested in speaking further on it with the Public Works Department. I know myself or, you know, well, obviously, I didn't receive a lot of information for a long point in time. Trying to change the governance model so we all receive more information. But what I would do is I'd call up the department and I'd speak to them and have them walk me through whatever questions I had. I think we've had a lot of time on this. I want to address Councillor Gilroy's back lane or alleys or even Councillor Mayes concern on back lane or the alleys. We've got 10s of millions and then 20s of millions of dollars for back lanes. So, I should have mentioned that when we had the top three things in here where we've got funding for back lanes, and we never had that before. And I think that is fantastic. So, we have that. And what else did I want to mention? I think that's about it. Just that, you know, if anyone's going to scrutinize this report, it's Councillor Wyatt which we went through much discussion on this report. It is all online. We've had a lot of time. There's a lot of departments…or a lot of time that you can call and reach out and speak to the department. We've got a lot of good things in here in the 1%, 1%. Every four-years this will be reviewed and renewed and looked at.

So, I think that's very positive. That's why we only took it to 2027. There is discussion that maybe we should be doing more, maybe we should be taking out more debt as Councillor Wyatt spoke to. We weren't to get into that at the committee. We decided for the next four years, in consultation with the Public Works Department, that we would talk about that further. And the other thing that the department was really stressing was, they wanted the assurance because we want to get these projects out the door sooner. They wanted the assurance of the plans so that they could get the consultants working on the design of the different road projects. This is all for renewal. I know we don't have the transportation plan yet, we don't have the Active Transportation Plan yet, but this is for road renewal. So, we know we have to renew the roads. Whatever the Transportation Master Plan says, whatever the Active Transportation Plan says, this is providing more funding for that. And I would like to see this move forward because we are going to be so busy in the fall, we are going to be so bogged down with composting, with Transportation Master Plan, Active Transportation Plan, budget, so I would like to...and forestry. I would like to have colleagues vote to support this and move it forward.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. With that, I will call the question on amending Motion 7. All in favour? Contrary? Motion 7 is lost. There is just one amending motion and it was lost. Onto the main item. Do you want a recorded vote? We can do that. Okay. So, all in favour of amending Motion 7, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Allard, Eadie, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins, Santos, and Schreyer

Nays

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Lukes, Orlikow, Wyatt and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 7, Nays 9.

Madam Speaker: Amending Motion 7 is lost. Now, the main item, clause by clause. Clause one. Madam Clerk, if you could read into the record. Is there certain ones we can batch together, Councillor Allard?

Councillor Allard: You know what, I think the only one I want to vote for is No. 2. I don't know if we…

Madam Speaker: Okay, so let's call the question on 1, 3 to 5…or let's do the question on 2, then, first. Madam Clerk read it out, please.

Clerk: Okay. Recommendation No. 2: That the use of local and regional street renewals be expanded to fund the Road Safety Improvement Program, the Pedestrian and Cycling Program, and enhance funding for the tree replacement and preservation on renewal projects.

Madam Speaker: Okay. All in favour of Item 2? Contrary? Carried. Which item? There's just 1 to 5. Okay, so I will call the question on 1 and 2, 4 and 5. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. And Councillor Eadie and Allard were noted in opposition. Thank you. Next, Madam Clerk.

Item 7 – Annual Reporting on the Snow Clearing and Ice Control Policy

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes to introduce the item.

Councillor Lukes: Okay, we've had…we had a riveting Public Works meeting and here we go. So, I cannot believe this report came forward and we had no delegations speaking to this, not one. After all the conversations we had this past winter season going on and on and on about all the great suggestions, I was really hoping to hear comments on the recommendations specifically related to snow and ice removal on the active transportation network, but not one. Maybe we'll hear them today. Granted, the temperature on June 26th was probably 35 degrees, but still, I've waited for a long time for this report. So, this report is…I will just highlight some points in here. There is a recommendation to increase the snow removal budget to $54 million and just over…and to $19 million for spring cleanups to be referred to the budget process. So, I strongly believe we need to increase the budget for snow removal as we virtually ended up drawing on the stabilization fund each year and we all know the current status of the stabilization fund. I expect these requests will be seriously considered in the budget process, but also know there's many competing interests for dollars. So, that was one of the highlights of the report. Now, for improving snow and ice removal on the active transportation network. There is a plethora of improvements recommended. I really want to thank the Public Service for working so hard on all the options. I

know the Public Works Committee, the Chair, and the public were very vocal in demanding improvements this year. And the work of the Public Service to hold a public information session this past February was also very much appreciated. I also want to thank the many downtown BIZ organizations who the Public Works Committee met with on a regular basis with the Public Service to clearly understand challenges and opportunities for improvements in the downtown. There is an incredible snow and ice removal partnership that will be leveraged even further with the BIZs and the Public Service through the recommendations made in this report. I would highlight all the recommendations, but I would be here even longer. So, some of these items came at a cost because we purchased the machinery and there's a few other things, but many are focused on improving internal processes. I want to say that again, they're focused on improving internal processes, which brings a huge value to the citizens of Winnipeg. And through you, Madam Chair, to the CAO; I'd sure like to see a lot more of this approach in all the departments. Really creative thinking. Really thinking out of the box. But back to the improvements for this coming winter: more snow removal machines, more contractor support, more cycles of snow removal on the active transportation network, not just the first plow through, but another round to remove all the balls of snow that fall off when the roads are cleared. The use of technology starting in January: better use of streets during a residential plow, improved education sessions with City staff and contractors and more. And I have said it before and I'll say it again, and I say this with deep gratitude and deep historic knowledge; never in the last 20 years have we had so many on Council be so supportive of making improvements to our summer and winter maintenance and to the infrastructure on the active transportation network. And again, I would like to thank Mr. Cantor and his team for taking the calls, answering the questions, the passionate calls and the passionate questions and being so accommodating in helping come up with these internal processes to improve the snow and ice removal on the active transportation network. I am really pleased with this report and I encourage comments.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Deputy Speaker, could I pass the Chair to you momentarily while I leave the chamber? We are on Item 7. It's the last item under Public Works. Thank you. Councillor Allard has his hand up.

Deputy Speaker: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, Madam Speaker. So, we will proceed. The report's been introduced. Monsieur Allard, your…

Councillor Allard: Yes, thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Through you to the Chair of the committee; I want to thank the Chair of the committee for this report. I think it's an incremental…incrementally going in the right direction. I will be supporting the report. Council may also note that there is another motion coming that is talking about sidewalk snow clearing which would be looking at a higher level of service. But I do…I do like to live by a bird in the hand is better than two in the bush. And so, I will be supporting this report that has a number of improvements. And I think, perhaps, that's why we…we didn't see that many delegations at Public Works because I think this is a good news report. And I think…I think silence is golden. And I think people like to see incremental change. And I will be asking for more through another Council motion. So, thank you to the Chair and to the committee for moving what I believe to be higher levels of service for sidewalks forward. I don't think it is quite enough yet, but I do want to say that it is moving in the right direction. Thanks.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Allard. Do I have anybody else who'd like to speak? Councillor Gilroy.

City Clerk: I see no other speakers, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Clerk Lemoine. Then I am going to call the question on the report. All those in favour?

City Clerk: It would be up to the Chair to close first.

Deputy Speaker: Oh, sorry.

Councillor Lukes: That's okay. I just want to say…I just want to say, you are right, Councillor Allard, it's never enough. It is never enough, but these are huge steps and we just got to keep chiseling at that mountain. 20 years plus, chiseling at that mountain and we're moving it. So, thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Madam Chairperson. And sorry for erroneously calling the question. Silence is golden. All those in favour? Is there anybody opposed? Nobody is opposed? That is carried. I think we have motions for referral.

City Clerk: We do have one motion, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Motion No. 5 regarding snow clearing from Councillors Allard and Gilroy.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
MOTIONS

Motion No. 5
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. *That the following be referred to the 2024-2027 Multi-Year Budget Process:*

    A. *The implementation of Option 1 (Matching snow clearing level of service on all sidewalks and pathways) outlined in the administrative report dated June 2, 2023, attached as Appendix A, phased in over a four-year period as follows:*

        i. *25% of the funding required in 2024*

        ii. *50% of the funding required in 2025*

        iii. *75% of the funding required in 2026*

        iv. *100% of the funding required in 2027*

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

Deputy Speaker: Which is…which is an automatic referral to the Public Works Standing Policy Committee. All right, then we'll move to by-laws, Madam Chairperson. I think you have one by-law.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Lukes: I would to request…I'd like to move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 70/2023, 71/2023, and 72/2023.

Deputy Speaker: All right. All those in favour? Is there anybody opposed? No? That is carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 70/2023, By-law No. 71/2023, and By-law No. 72/2023.

Councillor Lukes: I'd like to move that By-laws No. 70/2023 to 72/2023, both inclusive, be read a second time.

Deputy Speaker: All those in favour? Is there anybody opposed? That is carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 70/2023 to 72/2023.

Councillor Lukes: Okay, I'd like to move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 70/2023 to 72/2023, both inclusive, be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Deputy Speaker: All those in favour? Is there anybody opposed? That is carried. Thank you, Madam Chairperson. Question period for Public Works. Monsieur Allard, please proceed.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Allard: Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker, through you to the chair, I heard about the Transportation Master Plan, heard things like mode shift targets, maybe challenging's is there any news on when we're going to get this Master Plan that is so fundamental to the future of the city?

Deputy Speaker: Madam Chairperson

Councillor Lukes: Thank you Councillor Allard my understanding is that it will be in the fall and like I wanted to do earlier when I thought it was coming out earlier is to have the department host information sessions for Councillors so fall will be very busy, that's my understanding on when it's coming forward. Thank you.

Councillor Allard: Thank you. Follow up question. Mr. Deputy Speaker through you to the chair, does the chairperson recall when Council including the chairperson voted for a direction to Public Service for 50% mode shift by 2030 in line with our Climate Action Plan?

Councillor Lukes: I recall that, yes.

Councillor Allard: And final question, Deputy Speaker Eadie through you to the chairperson, is the chairperson going to do what is in the chairperson's power to achieve that modal shift target that the chairperson has voted on and is the chair aware that we have had the hottest year on record int terms of climate change and 50% of climate change sorry, CO2 is because of private…is because of transportation.

Deputy Speaker: That's two questions.

Councillor Allard: That's too long. I know.

Councillor Lukes: Too long. Okay, so as chair now and as you know Councillor Allard that you were chair at one point, you do work with the departments on these reports. You know, I could say we could wait till the report comes forward but I will be factual probably maybe to my downfall, I'm too factual sometimes, but it will be absolutely impossible to meet that goal without other levels of Governments support unless we shut down half the road system. So, we will never meet that goal, we'll wait till that report comes forward in detail. It will explain it, but unless we have other levels of Government support from my understanding, it will be impossible to meet that goal.

Councillor Allard: I have another question if nobody else has one.

Deputy Speaker: Well, hang on, hang on, hang on. That was your three, four questions.

Councillor Allard: I know.

Deputy Speaker: Is there anyone else who would like to ask the chairperson a question, Public Works?

City Clerk: Councillor Schreyer, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Deputy Speaker: Councillor Schreyer, your turn Monsieur Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Interesting conversation to the important stuff. I did ask Councillor Browaty a year ago this month whether given the topic of conversation at the time whether labour costs during his time as a councillor had ever exceeded the budgets of any contract or construction work. He was not aware of that. Neither am I. In this case, Councillor Mayes talked about when the administration tells us that labour costs have gone up and it's an indication of why budgets may have gone up whether there's any more greater specifics to that he wouldn't give any. I've got to say to Councillor Lukes since she and I were elected in 2014, in this term our budget will have doubled and construction costs…double

Deputy Speaker: So, what's your question?

Councillor Schreyer: So, the question is has the administration offered to Councillor Lukes any information as to whether wages for construction wages, tax payers wages have doubled in that same time?

Deputy Speaker: Madam Chairperson.

Councillor Lukes: Okay, sorry. I hate to ask this, just recap that question? Really quickly.

Councillor Schreyer: Sure, construction costs during this term in our third term, will it double in our third term being elected, Councillor Lukes? I want to know if the administration, since they're giving this information as to why there's

increases in our budgets and contracts, whether they've given any information as to whether wages have doubled, have increased at the same rate.

Deputy Speaker: Do you understand the question, Madam?

Councillor Lukes: I'll take that under consideration and get back to you on that.

Deputy Speaker: Perfect. Any follow up questions?

Councillor Schreyer: No further questions. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: No more questions? So, is there anybody besides the two who have already asked, wanting to ask Mr. Clerk?

City Clerk: I see no other questions Mr. Deputy Speaker, except for Councillor Allard, second round.

Deputy Speaker: Yes, just going to…thank you. Monsieur Allard I do understand, we are on the second round of question so Monsieur Allard. You can do a preamble and then you have two other questions.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'm so eager I did not want to be forgotten. Given that Mayor Gillingham promised September 2022, 1 billion dollars for two roads, does the chairperson for Public Works not acknowledge that there are other solutions such as building the under 1 billion dollars Transit Master Plan or the under 1 billion-dollar Active Transportation Strategies, would that not achieve modal shift more than a road expansion project?

Councillor Lukes: I will take your comments under consideration. Thanks.

Deputy Speaker: Did you have a follow up, Mr. Allard?

Councillor Allard: Yes, Councillor Eadie. I heard from the chairperson sneak peek that apparently the department is saying the only way to reach mode shift 50% by 2030 would be to shut down half the roads. Doing a bit of quick math that means basically I would propose an uncreative way of achieving mode shift since there are other solutions like transit and active transportation. Surely shutting down roads is not…surely shutting down roads is not the only way to achieve modal shift.

Councillor Lukes: What's the question?

Deputy Speaker: Please, don't need…I'm the Deputy Speaker.

Councillor Allard: The question…I've got…

Deputy Speaker: Monsieur Allard, you should have done the preamble before you asked the first question, I said. Now, just put the question, please.

Councillor Allard: Isn't it true there are other ways to achieve modal shift than shutting down roads?

Councillor Lukes: There are many ways to achieve modal shift without shutting down roads, many ways. These are just some options that have been put out there, you know, I am generalizing. I didn't…it's not quoting exactly that we have to shut down half our roads, but it's at a very, very aggressive target that was set for a fact. I don't think anyone around this table realized how aggressive it was. We'll be getting a report on what it would take to do that. One of the options, there's many options. One of the options, would be to shut down roads.

Deputy Speaker: All right. Thank you, Madam Chair. Do you have a final question?

Councillor Allard: Final question. Yes, instead of widening a road for half a billion dollars, shouldn't we invest in modal shift at the same tune with much better results?

Deputy Speaker: Chairperson.

Councillor Lukes: I am supportive of moving goods throughout our city. I'm supportive of supporting reconciliation on the former Kapyong Barracks. I'll speak more at some point to my perspective on Kenaston, not at this time.

Deputy Speaker: All right, so is Speaker Sharma in…

City Clerk: Not returned.

Deputy Speaker: Is Councillor Wyatt in the chamber? Nobody's here. All right, we'll move on to the next…we'll move…I am stuck in the Chair. We will move on. We're going to move…you are lucky you are on EPC, Councillor Orlikow. Okay, we are moving on to the next committee's reports. So, I didn't think I'd be in the Chair that long. Mr. Clerk, what is our…Madam Clerk, what is our next committee?

Clerk: The next report is the Finance Economic Development Standing Policy Committee. There's no reports.

Deputy Speaker: No reports, okay. So, there's no reports. Do we have any motions?

City Clerk: There's not, sir.

Deputy Speaker: No motions. That's right. So, we will open up for question period for the Chair of Finance. No questions? I didn't think so. So, now we'll move on to the next committee and I'm still trying to get down here. Is that…oh, Water and Waste, I believe is the next committee. Is that right? All right. Chairperson Mayes, Monsieur Mayes, your committee.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER, WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT
DATED JJNE 23, 2023

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Eadie, Deputy Speaker.

Councillor Mayes: I will introduce the report and move adoption of consent agenda Items 1 to 10, inclusive.

Deputy Speaker: So, that's 3? Okay. Well, when we vote on…when we vote on that, Councillor Browaty will…you can indicate that you're opposed to it too if it's not stood down. All right, did anybody want to pull any other reports? So, I hear just report No. 3. Okay. Then Councillor Mayes, could you please move the appropriate reports in. That's 1, 2, 4 through 10.

Councillor Mayes: Correct. So moved.

Deputy Speaker: All those in favour? Is there anybody opposed? Would you like to be recorded in opposition? Yes, all right. Thank you. So, those are carried. Now, is…is it still Mr. Clerk or is Madam Clerk going to read the…

Clerk: I'll introduce the item for you.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you.

Item 3 – Winnipeg Climate Action Plan – 2022 Annual Report

Deputy Speaker: Thank you. To introduce, Monsieur Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I will wait to hear what…what my colleagues have to say.

Deputy Speaker: Okay. I believe it was Monsieur Allard who stood it down.

Councillor Allard: Yes. thank you, Mr. Acting…Acting Speaker…Acting Deputy Speaker. Through you to the Chair; thank you for the report. I've poured over it in some detail. I worry about the direction that the City of Winnipeg is going in terms of climate action. I have been made aware of the term 'green washing'. It's the idea that an organization does some things that are green, but that these are nominal and they don't actually in a material way impact how…in a big way, how that organization is doing on climate action. I know from my experience with the advisory committee, the Mayor, on the Climate Action Plan, one of the big takeaways from being on that committee was…well, there were two fundamental ones that I recall. One was then in the Planning Department; the recommendation was to bring the reporting into the CAO's office.

As you will see in the report, it's talking about multi departmental reporting. Yes, the CAO chairs of committee, but I think what is important is to have a formal reporting structure so that the CAO can vet every single report to see what the climate impact is. For example, a road widening, you know, to point one out, for example, relative to what its impact can be on climate…climate action. So, I mean, I think my point can be really understood if you go to the last page of the report, page 24, you see four-years of data, information. Two of those are COVID years. We really have no understanding of, well, we have a limited understanding of whether or not our climate change…our climate change goals are being met, whether or not we are reducing our corporate greenhouse gas emissions. I don't believe I'm in question period. I'm speaking to the report. Yes. So, what I'd like to see in a report like this, and perhaps it's another report, perhaps it's forthcoming. I do see that there is talk about going forward, collecting information in a way that it can be reportable year by year. But this is the same problem that we had the last time we looked at the climate…the climate change reports is that there was change in how reporting was done and, essentially, it was impossible to see what was done in the past relative to the future. So, I worry…my big worry is that we keep increasing the corporate greenhouse gas emissions that we consume in the city of Winnipeg. We talk about the green things that we do that are good, that are positive, but that are general…generally nominal compared to the corporation if you look at it in its…in its entirety. And one of the big ahas from the…and Councillor Gilroy I think will recall, when we were looking at the climate action results for the City of Winnipeg back in the years of the former, former Mayor Sam Katz, Winnipeg's corporate emissions actually decreased in a substantial, breath-taking way where the reason…the reason why we were able to reduce by 30, 40%, our corporate emissions, was that Winnipeg…Winnipeg Hydro was uploaded to the Province of Manitoba. So, lo and behold, we had achieved our corporate…our corporate targets. So, in a…I mean, in a nutshell, I worry that what is actually happening is that we keep year-over-year increasing the amount of CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions that we emit into the atmosphere as we grow as a corporation, as our budgets get bigger and that the changes that we make are not significant enough to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions being consumed by the corporation. And I think this is history repeating itself since I have been around for, I think, a third time where I read the words, "we need to better report and keep track of this so that we can report in the future how close we are to our climate targets in the future." So, I think what is happening is, we say we want climate action, we get some little things done here and there, some things are bigger, but if you look at the overall corporation, the climate…the greenhouse gas emissions are increasing, and because…because of…because government does what government does, we do not achieve the goals and before we get to the point where the goals are achieved or not achieved, the goalposts change once again. And so, I am worried we are not actually reducing the amount of CO2 that we are using as a corporation. I think when we uploaded Winnipeg hydro to Manitoba Hydro, that should have been a clear exclusion in terms of how we're doing on CO2 emissions and climate and greenhouse gas emissions. I worry that we are not doing enough and this report really doesn't tell me very much about where we have been and where we are going and whether or not we are anywhere within the range of achieving the targets that we have set in the past and that I am sure we're going to set in the future. And I hope one day actually achieve and not simply move the data reporting and the goalposts around once again. So, I think I will be supporting this report, but I do think that it requires a lot more information. And I think if we are serious about climate action, we need to be much more serious about the policies of Transit. We need to be more serious on the policies of active transportation, about insulating our buildings. And I mean, to this council's credit, I think some work on organic recycling. Those are the policies. You know, this report is great to look at all of it in one bird's eye view, but I have taken to the habit of working on the policies that I know to be successful themselves and that is active transportation, it's transit, it's clearing sidewalks, it's building zero ready buildings and not…you know, not old building code buildings. So, we have the solutions and I think we are not...I suspect that we are not achieving past goals, that goalposts are moving and that we go closer and closer to the abyss. And in a year where we see the highest reported temperatures ever and nearly universal acknowledgment that these increases in temperature are because of human activities. So, I will support the report. I believe we need to do much more. Not sure we are doing our part as a city to reach those targets. And thank you for your attention.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Monsieur Allard. Is there anybody else who would like to support…speak to Report 3? Councillor Wyatt, yes, please proceed.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: You have 10-minutes.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I, too, would like to rise to express concern about the report. I've had a chance to read it. I guess the most telling graph in the report that I…jumped out at me, it was on page 20. And with the corporate greenhouse gas emissions dropping largely because of the pandemic, I think, and then starting to rise again in 2022 back up to, exceeding the 2020 levels and heading towards the direction that we are at where we were rising previously before. The concern I have is we have a target of net zero of 2050, but we don't really have a breakdown on the specifics of how to achieve that specific target to get to net zero by that point in time and that concerns me greatly. I share the concerns that Councillor Allard is referring to. I think we have tremendous opportunities to, as a city, to move us towards net zero faster than even 20…20…2050, but the issue here is that the urgency of this must be highlighted or the need for greater urgency. The challenge that we are facing, no doubt, is a big one but I believe opportunities do exist. I've

had discussions with the Mayor about it, actually, the Mayor's Office. Looking and talking about ideas of what could move us in that direction. And I want to thank the Mayor's Office for that and his staff. To me, this is something where we have a lot of variables outside of our control. Specifically, the price of fuel, which we know is increasing exponentially. The carbon tax which was introduced by the Federal Government with very little of it coming back on the ground to help municipalities from what I can see in terms of helping us transition to a zero carbon economy. The need to move our entire transit fleet away from diesel. Transit Department has indicated at Standing Policy of Public Works Committee, they are leaning towards hydrogen versus battery. All of these things have to be pursued. If we're pursuing hydrogen and we need to look at developing green hydrogen. The city of Flin Flon has already developed a green hydrogen facility. We need to move the city quicker than we are moving now. Ironically, there are still some in our community who are climate crisis deniers. I had the opportunity to speak to a constituent of mine on Monday who…him and I had a long discussion about this. And there is a belief or pessimism that either it's a conspiracy or that because the Federal Government's been pushing this that there is something untoward. Why are they doing this now? The reality is, Madam Speaker, that the data on climate…the climate crisis started emerging in the 1970s. It's well documented now how big oil ran a counter advertising/strategy to undermine that data to cause confusion at the highest policy levels and to deny that there is a climate crisis. We now know and it's been documented what big oil did to fund that misinformation campaign because they knew the liability potentially for themselves that still exists. And it's…and we lost many years in terms of policy development and moving people forward, governments forward on this matter. I think it is crucial that we work with the Province and the Federal Government. We have to move our existing fleets as quickly as we can to zero emission and as well as the retrofitting of our buildings, as well as exploring alternatives with regards to energy…energy production. It's been noted…it should be noted that Council should be getting…you know, receive credit. I know there was criticism by some during our Strategic Priorities Action Plan that it did not go far enough in this are. But it should be pointed out that Council did identify for there to be a green energy utility to be created in the Strategic Priorities Action Plan that was never there before. And this is something that is very exciting that could lead us to a new method to not only provide energy to the municipality and our existing facilities but also possibly to our citizens in many ways. And as well, potentially, a new revenue source to the City of Winnipeg that doesn't exist today. So, the future is exciting in that regard. What would be nice is, and as pointed out by Councillor Allard, in a future report is more specifics, targets by department showing what we are going to achieve and when. Holding us accountable on those targets that do not exist in this report today. There's a lot of information in this report, but again, not a lot about specifics and when and how and where that we're going to achieve them by. And this concerns me, which is why I'm not going to support the report today coming forward because it's not specific enough. And I am doing that symbolically knowing the report will pass. But I would say that I hope that we can work towards a far more concrete plan to address what I don't call climate change, I call it a climate crisis. If we don't address it, we know the consequences that will be affecting us, tens of thousands of people who are now trying to move from the global south to the global north will shift from tens of thousands to tens of millions in the coming years based on the projections. People not be able to grow food. Massive areas of land that are now arable becoming ungrowable and we have to avoid this. And we know the big concern of moving beyond 1.5 in terms of, you know, there's a lot of debate about that right now. The shift in the global temperatures, (inaudible) going be…1.5 change in Celsius and the impact that this could have on a lot of nations that are oceanic nations. We just have big responsibility here, Madam Speaker. You know, we're all part of one planet and we've treated our airways as a dumping ground since…and we've never done this before. It should be pointed out that since the Industrial Revolution, we've relied on consumption, oil and gas, and the burning of oil, of gas to facilitate a massive rise in the standard of living worldwide in the last 30 years where about 2.5…2.5 billion people have been taken out of poverty. But it's come at a huge price to the environment and we have to shift. There are economies and countries that are moving quickly and fast, so we know it can be done. It's not like it can't be done. And it's just a question of the political will to make it happen. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Deputy Speaker: You're welcome, Councillor Wyatt. Monsieur Clerk, is there anybody else who wants to speak?

City Clerk: Seeing no other speakers, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Deputy Speaker: Monsieur President to close.

Councillor Mayes: What a splendid debate. Marc, you'll miss these moments. It is a good debate. It's a good debate, in a way, for municipal politics at its finest and its worst, I suppose, if we were in a provincial or federal setting. Councillor Allard would be there, get up and defend his governing party or he'd get up and say, nothing's happening and why aren't you doing something? Or Councillor Wyatt would do the same. Or I would defend the government or I would attack the government. For its strengths, for its weaknesses, this chamber has the ability that we don't always all vote together and we don't always see the same things the same way and we can take initiative on certain things. Maybe things…I…certainly, nobody elected me, frankly, to go on a multi-year voyage on the Transit Plus file, but I feel I've just completed that. So, Councillor Allard, I think, is in good faith using this term to raise questions, I think, with concerns about his own family's future. He's been clear about that. Councillor Wyatt's done the same. On the subject of climate change, it's arguably the single biggest issue we face. It is a municipal chamber, on the other hand. We do not have national implications with some of what we do. I won't go through the graph here and the graph there, but I mean, it's a fair question and we are…we are

taking steps. Are they negligible? You could say yes, you could say no. But we are taking some steps. I wish to thank Councillor Schreyer, he's been perhaps overly generous thanking me today, but I want to thank Councillor Schreyer for being in this chamber has, really, I think, drilled home the building heating issue which tends to get forgotten. Somebody said to me, there's this quote from you in Schreyer's election literature and I said, that is an accurate quote. I did say that in 2017 or so. So, that's something we have turned our attention to. We have full-time people now on our staff looking at these sorts of things. We have passed that C report. Councillor Allard and I are in the moment of being infidels in the last term, got through that motion about changing the $8 million in arenas funding. Some of that money, I'm very much hoping and pushing for to go into energy studies on some of the arenas, the City arenas. We could do better on energy use there, be it geothermal, be it something else. So, I think on building heatings we are moving forward. Mayor Gillingham in his platform had a section about retrofits. We've got a report coming from Catherine Kloepfer saying, do nothing, this is what you'll just pay to the Federal Government. Subtext; why not just put some of that into retrofit some buildings then you'll…if you're going to expend it, you might as well do something in an energy efficient way. So, that debate's coming in the fall, I think. Councillor Schreyer's talked about the four big contributors, right, to greenhouse gases: so, building, heating, ag. We don't have a big part in ag, but we do have a Food Council. We had Jeannette Sivilay in there. We're trying…and Councillor Schreyer has been in there with me. Like, we…we're trying to do something on promoting urban ag. That would leave us with transportation. We've got, you know, we've got a billion dollar…arguably a billion-dollar Transit Master Plan. We have a number of challenges. Councillor Allard's certainly been vocal in the last few years to maintain transit at…at not reducing it more than we already were. So, that is an international challenge now, getting people back on transit. The Mayor is certainly, thankfully, doing something on transit security, something I championed more than a decade ago. So, I think we're trying to get both people back on the current bus system and to expand our transit system. Perhaps I would have liked an LRT system, but that's not…that's not what our staff favoured. That's not what the Mayor favoured. It's municipal politics. One moves on, one tries to improve the transit system as one can. So, I think we are conscious on that. And, two things: the debate cometh on organics and on compost, very fair point by Councillor Allard. There's our opportunity to do something. If we were all provincial or federal, perhaps we'd have no role on that. Perhaps a very small role. Only 16 of us around the table here will be able to debate that. And we know we need to do something if we want to get our diversion rate going back up again. You'll see in this report and others, we shot up there. To the credit of those like Councillor Wyatt who was here back in 2011, they passed that plan with the big blue bins and the big gray bins, our diversion shot up from like 18 to 30. Then the plateau, then the slight decrease. So, we will face that debate in the fall and as part of the multi-year budget, doing some sort of compost organics. I have been clear, I'd like to do something. Define something. Well, that'll be up to all of us here. It's the joy of municipal politics trying to haggle out something that would work. So, is it negligible? I don't think it's negligible. Is it as much as some people would want? No, but one chooses one's battles here and one tries to move forward. I have my moments of despair like we probably all do, feeling irrelevant and then some item appeals to you and you move forward on it. So, I thank Councillor Allard for his comments and Councillor Wyatt for their comments. Final point, yes, Councillor Allard's right on the…chicanery is a strong word. On the illusory nature of the savings, the reduction by simply moving…moving the Winnipeg hydro offsite. I think…I think after eight or nine years, you and I and others know councillor, now Mayor Gillingham, well enough to know that that's not his style. Whatever one could say about Scott Gillingham, it's going to be straightforward. It's going to come at you. It's going to be honest. So, whatever we do, it's going to be honest and we're going to come forward with something. Yeah, there's no great pride in claiming a reduction that isn't really a reduction. It's just on your books. So, I would take no great pride in that. So, let's have a debate about things like compost in the fall and hopefully we can take some real steps forward. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Monsieur President. I will now call the question on report…Item No. 3 on climate change. All those in favour? Is there…oh, I…is there anybody opposed? Would you like to be recorded in opposition? Oui. All right, I believe the Clerks have that. So, the report is carried. Thank you very much. So, we'll move...are there any motions?

Councillor Sharma: Deputy Speaker, I'll take the Chair back, if I may?

Councillor Eadie: Can't I finish this? I'm just kidding. Thank you, Madam…thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: We have a gathering this evening. Okay. Thank you. Question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Mayes? Oh, one motion? Okay. Yes, Councillor Schreyer moved it and seconded by Councillor Mayes. The topic is, Mr. Clerk? Plant-based treating. It will be an automatic referral. Okay. Question period under this committee. Any questions? Councillor Chambers.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER, WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT
MOTIONS

Motion No. 3
Moved by Councillor Schreyer,
Seconded by Councillor Mayes,

WHEREAS the Plant Based Treaty is a companion to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement;

AND WHEREAS the Plant Based Treaty is designed to put food systems at the forefront of combating the climate crisis and aims to halt the widespread degradation of critical ecosystems caused by animal farming and promote a shift towards healthier, sustainable plant-based diets;

AND WHEREAS a coalition of groups, including Toronto 350.org, Reimagine Agriculture and Plant Based Data, is urging town and City Councillors across the country to support sustainable diets by signing the Plant Based Treaty initiative;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Water, Waste and Environment on the City of Winnipeg officially endorsing the Plant Based Treaty.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER, WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Chambers: Thank you, Madam Chair and through you to the chair of Water and Waste, I do apologize for not providing you with advance notice of this question, Mr. Chair. Yesterday, I held a meeting with several developers that have property in my ward that had been previously approved for new development in the ward of St. Norbert, but have since been told that no construction can commence because of sewer constraint capacity…sewer capacity constraints. I've…we've asked for several pieces of data that supports water and waste's conclusion that there is no sewer capacity in the area and that a new pipe is needed. I've been after this information for almost last two and a half years. I'm asking through you, Madam Speaker to the chair, if he can support me in getting this data information so that the developers can go back to their engineers to determine exactly what size of pipe and what length of pipe would be needed so that their developments can go forward.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Yes. Councillor Chambers has certainly done his job going to bat for these folks who have…who have…who would like to develop in the ward. I don't begrudge that. Certainly, had followed up with him. We've had these discussions before, not unique to that neighbourhood, lots of limits, the three limits out there (inaudible) right. There's the biosolids in it which is at the end of the pipe at the facility, but we're going there, we're trying to get that done by 2030/2032 at the risk of running out of room everywhere if we don't do it. CSO limits there St. Norbert rather obviously not on the CSO system, River Park South not on the CSO system but there are limits there. There are limits in a number of places in the city just with room in the pipes. So fair question. Councillor Rollins has reminded me we have an RFP out, we're trying to do the much-needed infrastructure study to answer this question. It's expensive and it's time consuming that will get down to that granular level of, you know, does the east side of St. Anne's have room with the left, the west side doesn't or vice versa. So, it…nobody talked about this ten or twelve years ago around here and now everybody talks about it. The developers all talk about it. They're concerned so the study hopefully will get done and on the St. Norbert issue, yes, let's sit down and see if we can't sort that out. Happy to do so with Councillor Chambers.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question.

Councillor Chambers: Thank you for that response. Second question. There is development that was done and I'm estimating anywhere from 300 to 400 doors. New development at the corner of Pembina Highway and Beardmore. Two large developments that are going up on the West side of Pembina Highway. Again, through you to the chair, whether or not these developments had an impact on the sewer constraint issues that are currently plaguing St. Norbert in the sense that they took over the allotment of (inaudible).

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Hard to know that. I mean we can certainly ask...it's a first come first served though. That's how the system works. So, you…it didn't really matter for decades. Now it's starting to matter. So, it's possible that they got in and got the last available space, and I can certainly ask I'm not even certain the staff could answer that, but I can certainly follow up on that.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Seeing none, next is the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
DATED JUNE 27, 2023

Councillor Rollins: I'd like to move on the best agenda 1 through 15. 14 is an item we need to pull because it comes without recommendation, Madam Speaker. So, 1 through 15.

Madam Speaker: Okay. We're going to pull 15 as well. There's a conflict. What was the other one you wanted pulled?

Councillor Rollins: 14, Madam Speaker. 329 McIvor Avenue.

Madam Speaker Okay. Item 3. Okay. I'll call the question on 1, 2, 4, 5 through 7, 8 through 12, 13. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We can deal with Item 15. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Rollins: He pulled Item 3.

Madam Speaker: Declaring a conflict.

Councillor Wyatt: I declare a conflict. Are you dealing with that item now?

Madam Speaker: Yes, I'd like to deal with that. Thank you. Madam Clerk, Item 15.

Item 15 – Approval of the Proposed Subdivision and Servicing Agreement for Land Located at 375, 383 and 391 Oakdale Drive – DASSF 522/2023

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins.

Councillor Rollins: So moved, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Any further speakers? Close? No? The question. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councillor Schreyer…Wyatt can come back. Deal with Item 3, Madam Clerk.

Item 3 – Supportive Housing Initiatives

Madam Speaker: Okay. Councillor Rollins to introduce the item.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I'm inclined to move onto Item 14 because the person that pulled is not here. I'll move Item 3.

Madam Speaker: Just one moment here. We're just going to give them an opportunity to come back into the chamber. So, we're going to speak on...we're going to speak on 3 and the other ones that were pulled are 14. Yeah. So just those two. There is an opportunity for the assembly here to wait for the individual. Councillor Rollins, Item 3.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I await to hear what my colleague is interested in terms of Item 3.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt, Item 3 – Supportive Housing Initiatives.

Councillor Wyatt: No, I'd just like to rise to support this. I know this is something that the Mayor had committed to making as an election of promise in terms of the 300 modular units on a City-owned land. I just want to recognize that, thank the Mayor's Office for pursuing this. I think crucial to that in terms of providing supportive housing to those who are experiencing homelessness, that is…

Madam Speaker: Marc.

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah? Carry on? Okay. Is Item D, collaborate with the Province of Manitoba in provision of wrap-around support services for supportive housing. I think it's absolutely crucial that whatever supports that are provided here that it's not just a question of the housing but that there be in place with this supportive services to assist those who are wishing to stabilize their life, help them whether it be recovery, finding work, employment, counseling, treatment, healing; that those services are part of that, is absolutely crucial. The model used, for example, by the project that's going to be taking place in my ward that we referred originally a motion on. I want to thank Councillor Browaty for seconding on the Homes for Heroes for TIF finding working with Matt Dryburgh on that, is that they have one supportive full-time staff person per ten units. So, they're building 20 units, they have two full-time support staff persons working with veterans who are…who've experienced PTSD. A lot of the folks who are within…who are experiencing homelessness have, in some cases, severe PTSD a lot of it related to childhood trauma. It's crucial that this be combined with the Province of Manitoba if this is going to be a success and going to work in terms of assisting individuals who wish to secure a place to live and end their homelessness condition. So, I want to just thank the Mayor for bringing this forward and making this possible and that's why I stood it down. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: No other speakers? Okay. I'll call to question on Item 3. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. And Councillor Eadie and the Mayor absent. Councillor Rollins. Or Madam Clerk.

Item 14 – Subdivision – 329 McIvor Avenue – DAS 9/2023

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I'd like to introduce the item. The Urban Planning Division recommended approval of this subdivision and rezoning at McIvor here. These are single-family lots and dwellings. On June 20th, the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee didn't concur in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service. The community committee rejected it considering broad matters that North Kildonan, and I'm quoting here, "Has developed in a very peaceful way." I'm quoting, "Wanting to see more orderly development given what the area councillor considered as a lot." And again, I'm quoting, "A fractured development with fractured ownership of properties over the years." It's at Council today, Madam Speaker, because in a unanimous vote, the Property and Development Committee considered this subdivision and rezoning agreeing with the Public Service. The application will result in an establishment of additional single-family lots, single-family dwellings that is consistent with policies OurWinnipeg, Complete Communities, et cetera, et cetera. Then it went to Executive Policy Committee and there was a tie vote for and against. Speaking fast, I can slow down if anyone doesn't appreciate this quick summary. The proposed development will increase residential density in River East neighbourhood, thereby increasing housing options for the area, that's why I voted for it, Madam Speaker. It…the proposed development enables residential single-family-large lots to be created with the purpose of constructing single-family dwellings. Expanding housing options for residents in a manner that's complimentary to existing developments in the area. There is more that is found in the administrative report, but I want to respond to specific concerns I've heard that substantively, I think, in my opinion, Madam Speaker, doesn't engage the application per se, but more general concerns with respect to adjacent land. It's been suggested that the application doesn't…does not landlock the adjacent developments, something I want to say on the record, and the property has frontage on McIvor. And I'll note, I don't see good reason to deny the application here. Moreover, I'd also note, given our summer prorogue, Madam Speaker, voting against the Public Service recommendation, the Property and Development recommendation would most certainly mean an application would exceed a 150-day timeline. I'm concerned about that, why, Madam Speaker? Because of well documented criticisms I have about the Municipal Board. Bill 37 deadline for a 150-day approval is July 27th, Madam Speaker. So, time is of the essence. And like I said, I'm critical of the Municipal Board. I've called it anti-democratic and the legislation it skates in on that sees unelected provincial board overturn City Council land use solutions, I don't like, Madam Speaker. So, if this application is denied today, the timeline for the application would be exceeded. And so, another concern of mine in addition to my full agreement and the committee's full agreement that it was in context with the neighbourhood and in line with plans. And their approval, time is of the essence today. I don't want to create scenarios where development timelines are the reason for us to go to the Municipal Board, Madam Speaker. So moved. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers on this item? Councillor Rollins to close, if you wish. Call the question on Item 14. All in favour? Contrary? Okay. Okay. There's a few. Okay. There's more in opposition. So, there were…how many were the hands? We saw some hands. Yeah. Okay. Yeah so, I'll…we'll do a recorded vote. All in favour, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Orlikow, Rollins, and Santos

Nays

Councillors Browaty, Lukes, Mayes, Schreyer, Wyatt, and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 10, Nays 6.

Madam Speaker: Item 14 passes. Okay. Next is by…by-laws, yes.

Councillor Rollins: I'd like…

Madam Speaker: Oh, we have a motion here. Yes, Motion 4: moved by Councillor Schreyer, seconded by Councillor Eadie. It is regarding Scouts Canada. And it will be an automatic referral. By-laws, Councillor Rollins.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
MOTIONS

Motion No. 4
Moved by Councillor Schreyer,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

WHEREAS the 1st John de Graff group (Scouts Canada) group based in NE Winnipeg has stored its gear in a portion of the Valley Gardens Community Centre (as their Sponsor) exterior building called the Clubhouse or Lodge at 218 Antrim Rd for approximately 20 years at no cost to this volunteer based non-profit group so the limited funds they collect can be put back into their youth programming;

AND WHEREAS this gear is to facilitate their co-ed youth based programs for their Beaver Colony (ages 6-8), Cub Pack (ages 8-10) Scouts Troop (ages 11-14) and Venturer Scouts (ages 15-17) sections for their weekly meetings and activity's over the winter months and outdoor camping in the spring, summer and fall seasons;

AND WHEREAS on February 3rd,2023 the Group Commissioner of the 1st John de Graff Scout group received an urgent email from the new manager of the VGCC telling them all their gear had to be moved out of the storage area before March 1, 2023 as the building was to be boarded up on this date;

AND WHEREAS the group requests the ability to use space at either of the properties located at 640 or 954 Kimberley Avenue to meet the requirements needed store their gear with a non-monetary lease agreement, similar to what other non-profit groups have with the City of Winnipeg, so the limited funds for this organization can stay focused on their youth programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Public Service report back within 30 days on the options to lease space at either of the properties located at 640 or 954 Kimberley Avenue to the 1st John de Graff group (Scouts Canada) for the purpose of a storage facility.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS – 1ST READING ONLY

Councillor Rollins: I move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 64/2023, By-law No. 65/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 64/2023, By-law No. 65/2023.

**STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS –2ND AND 3RD READINGS**

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-law No. 50/2023 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law 50/2023.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-law No. 50/2023 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

**STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS**

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I move that the…sorry.

Madam Speaker: No, go ahead.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 66/2023, By-law No. 67/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 66/2023 and By-law No. 67/2023.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I move that By-laws No. 66/2023 and 67/2023 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 66/2023 and 67/2023.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 66/2023 and 67/2023 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Any questions for our chair, Councillor Rollins? Seeing none.

Councillor Rollins: I move adjournment.

Madam Speaker: Yes. Mr. Clerk, shall we adjourn with your permission? And, before we do that, we bid you a fond farewell, once again, and happy to celebrate with you this evening, your long service for the City of Winnipeg. Congratulations once again. Mr. Mayor moves adjournment and please remain in your seat for roll call. Thank you. Yes, today's an honour to do that.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer and Wyatt.

Council adjourned at 4:28 p.m.