Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – January 16, 2024

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Public Works – January 9, 2024

Item No. 5 Review of Image Capturing Enforcement Regulations

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and submitted the following to Council:

1. That in accordance with Section 16(4) of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007, an extension of time of 60 days be granted for the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works to submit a recommendation on the Council Motion of December 14, 2023.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

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

Carried

Moved by Councillor Browaty,
That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 9, 2024, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works recommended to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That in accordance with Section 16(4) of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007, an extension of time of 60 days be granted for the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works to submit a recommendation on the Council Motion of December 14, 2023.

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

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On December 14, 2023, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works:

Moved by Councillor Chambers,
Seconded by Councillor Lukes,

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

WHEREAS the safety and well-being of the residents of Winnipeg are of paramount importance. Traffic safety is a fundamental concern for any community, and Winnipeg is no exception;

AND WHEREAS according to 2022 data, there was a significant increase in road traffic fatalities in Winnipeg, posing a severe threat to public safety and trust on our roadways. The alarming increase in traffic fatalities not only brings immense grief to the affected families but also poses a significant threat to the overall public safety and trust in our transportation system;

AND WHEREAS Image Capturing Enforcement Regulations were implemented in our city in December 2002 as a mechanism to deter and prevent traffic violations and accidents. They act as a force multiplier for law enforcement agencies, effectively monitoring and deterring violations such as speeding, red-light running, and other hazardous driving behaviors;

AND WHEREAS the province of Manitoba has not reviewed Image Capturing Enforcement Regulations since it's inception, in an effort to determine efficacy or to address road safety concerns in areas where density has increased since December 2002. It is crucial to evaluate its efficacy and determine whether the current regulations adequately address the evolving challenges associated with traffic safety;

AND WHEREAS by initiating a thorough review of photo enforcement legislation, it creates an opportunity to enhance road safety, reduce traffic fatalities, and foster a culture of responsible driving within our community. Its firmly acknowledged that such an evaluation will provide valuable insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the current system, allowing for informed decisions and implementation of necessary improvements;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Alberta adopted Image Capturing Enforcement Regulations in 1987 and conducted a comprehensive review of their program in 2019, implementing changes to optimize and improve safety outcomes on roads and highways.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Province of Manitoba be requested to:

    A. Conduct a thorough review of the Image Capturing Enforcement Regulations considering the rising traffic fatalities in the City of Winnipeg. The review should encompass the following key areas:

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

i. Effectiveness: Evaluate the impact of photo enforcement systems on reducing traffic violations and enhancing compliance with traffic laws.

ii. Coverage and Placement: Determine whether the current placement of photo enforcement cameras adequately covers high-risk areas, intersections, school zones, and other designated locations with a history of traffic incidents.

iii. Technology and Infrastructure: Assess the technological capabilities and infrastructure supporting photo enforcement systems, including equipment maintenance, accuracy, and data management.

iv. Transparency and Accountability: Ensure that appropriate guidelines are in place to protect citizens' rights, prevent misuse, and provide transparent reporting on the implementation and outcomes of photo enforcement measures.

v. Public Awareness and Education: Review the existing public outreach programs to raise awareness about photo enforcement systems, their purpose, and the importance of responsible driving.

B. Collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, transportation experts, road safety organizations, and community representatives.

C. Present the findings and recommendations resulting from the review to the legislative body for consideration and action.

D. That upon completion of the review, implement the appropriate legislative amendments, policy enhancements, and targeted initiatives to address the rising traffic fatalities in Winnipeg and promote a safer transportation environment.

E. Actively engage with the City of Winnipeg and other relevant stakeholders to facilitate data sharing and cooperation in addressing the traffic safety challenges.

F. Provide regular progress reports on the review process, including key findings and proposed actions, be provided to the legislative body to ensure transparency and accountability.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

G. Establish public consultation and feedback mechanisms to solicit input from residents and affected communities regarding the photo enforcement legislation.

H. Allocate adequate resources and funding to support the review process, ensuring a comprehensive and robust assessment of the legislation.

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