Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 12, 2024

REPORTS

Item No. 20 UN Safe Cities Funding

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee referred the recommendation of the City Centre Community Committee to the 2024-2027 Multi-Year Budget Review Process, namely:

1. That the City of Winnipeg formalize the UN Safe City initiatives and an operating budget with an additional coordinator within Indigenous Relations Division in the Multi-Year Budget.

2. That the budget working group, without impacting any other grants needed for community safety and recreation, look for an additional operational budget of $50,000 within the Multi-Year Budget for specific projects related to UN Safe Cities within the areas of women's safety, perceived safety such as road safety and lighting, crime and violence, and social, cultural, and economic factors.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the City Centre Community Committee be referred to the 2024-2027 Multi-Year Budget Review Process.

Carried

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 23, 2024, the City Centre Community Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS gender-based and sexualized violence and harassment in public spaces are prevalent in cities across the world and impact people's abilities to navigate their daily lives safely;

AND WHEREAS UN Safe Cities initiative aims to address gender-based and sexualized violence and harassment by focusing on the City's policies, planning, programs and services and how they can be changed and applied to increase safety and build safer public spaces;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg UN Safe Cities committee has worked together with women focusing on women's safety and perceived safety recognizing it is affected by many factors, including crime and violence, but also including social, cultural, economic and familial circumstances;

AND WHEREAS UN Safe Cities states that Indigenous and newcomer women are among the highest groups to experience violence and sexual violence;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg has the fastest growing Indigenous community and we have also been working on being a welcoming city;

AND WHEREAS sex trafficking is one of the fastest growing crimes in Canada and 94% of human trafficking were of women and girls;

AND WHEREAS making cities safer for women make cities safer for all and UN Safe Cities was set to renew their scoping study in 2024;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Centre Community Committee recommends the following to the Executive Policy Committee:

1. That the City of Winnipeg formalize the UN Safe City initiatives and an operating budget with an additional coordinator within Indigenous Relations Division in the Multi-Year Budget.

2. That the budget working group, without impacting any other grants needed for community safety and recreation, look for an additional operational budget of $50,000 within the Multi-Year Budget for specific projects related to UN Safe Cities within the areas of women's safety, perceived safety such as road safety and lighting, crime and violence, and social, cultural, and economic factors.