Agenda - Executive Policy Committee - October 20, 2004

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services - October 14, 2004

Item No. 4 Strategy on Mosquito Control - Use of Malathion
File PA

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 14, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services recommended the following to Council:

1. That the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services be granted an extension of time of one hundred and twenty (120) days in order for the Administration to report back on the matter.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 14, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services recommended that Council grant an extension of time of one hundred and twenty (120) days in order for the Administration to report back on the matter.

On September 13, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services referred the following to the Administration, namely:

1. That the Insect Control Services prepare a cost-benefit analysis of the use of malathion:

    A. To control nuisance mosquitoes;
    B. To control mosquitoes which may bear West Nile Virus or other diseases.

2. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the analysis must include responses on the following issues:

    A. What research, if any, has been conducted on the efficiency and safety of malathion?
    B. What conclusions, if any, have been reached through such research?
    C. What has been the experience of other Canadian cities with the use of malathion?
    D. What are the effects of the current mosquito control program, both larviciding and adulticiding, on other insects?
    E. How could the City promote an increase in dragonflies and other natural predators of the mosquito?
    F. What other measures could the City take to reduce mosquitoes?
    G. Are mosquitoes developing a resistance to larviciding and adulticiding?

Further, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services established an Ad Hoc Committee on Mosquito Control, comprised of Councillor Smith as Chairperson, Councillor Benham and other members of Council to be determined at a later date.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL:

On July 21, 2004, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services:

Moved by Councillor Benham,
Seconded by Councillor Gerbasi,

WHEREAS some scientists and residents have questioned both the efficiency and safety of malathion; and

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has a responsibility to protect the health of its citizens from both chemical toxins and mosquito-borne diseases; and

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has committed to participating in research on alternative measures as part of its Blueprint Strategy on Mosquito Control; and

WHEREAS City Councillors and the public must have the best available research data in order to make an informed decision about the use of malathion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. Insect Control Services prepare a cost-benefit analysis of the use of malathion
   A. To control nuisance mosquitoes;
   B. To control mosquitoes which may bear West Nile Virus or other diseases.

2. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the analysis must include responses on the following issues:
   A. What research, if any, has been conducted on the efficiency and safety of malathion?
   B. What conclusions, if any, have been reached through such research?
   C. What has been the experience of other Canadian cities with the use of malathion?
   D. What are the effects of the current mosquito control program, both larviciding and adulticiding, on other insects?
   E. How could the City promote an increase in dragonflies and other natural predators of the mosquito?
   F. What other measures could the City take to reduce mosquitoes?

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

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