Agenda - Council - October 27, 2004

Report - Executive Policy Committee - October 6, 2004

Item No. 1 Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan
File E-7

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 6, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the administrative recommendation and submits the following to Council:

1. That the Civic Environmental Committee's report titled *Sustainable Winnipeg: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy*, attached as Appendix A, be approved in principle.

2. That *Embracing Sustainability: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006,* attached as Appendix B, be adopted. The Plan provides a consolidated overview of Council-directed services, initiatives, and programs that respond to the Civic Environmental Committee's report.

3. The environment portfolio at the City of Winnipeg, with the support of the Civic Environmental Committee, has evolved from a focus on high level policy direction to a focus on implementation, coordination, and the ongoing review of progress and priorities. Given this evolution, it is recommended that the position of Coordinator of Environmental Initiatives and corresponding operating budget be transferred from the EPC Secretariat to the Administration.

4. That the Chief Administrative Officer report back to Executive Policy Committee in the fourth quarter of 2005 on progress made in implementing the initiatives identified in *Embracing Sustainability* and provide recommendations for future environmental priorities.

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

Report - Executive Policy Committee - October 6, 2004

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 6, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to Council.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE:

On September 8, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee laid over consideration of the matter to an October 2004 meeting date.

On July 14, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee laid over consideration of the matter to its first meeting in September 2004.

On June 23, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee laid over consideration of the matter to its meeting scheduled for July 14, 2004.

On February 18, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee received as information the document from the Civic Environmental Committee titled “Sustainable Winnipeg: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy”, and referred the Environmental Strategy to the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a Priority and Implementation Plan, in consultation with the Civic Environmental Committee, and report back to Executive Policy Committee by June 2004.

RE: Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan

FOR SUBMISSION TO: Executive Policy Committee

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: Chief Administrative Officer

REPORT DATE: June 11, 2004

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1) That the Civic Environmental Committee's report entitled ***SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy***, attached as Appendix A, be approved in principle.

2) That ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006***, attached as Appendix B, be adopted. The Plan provides a consolidated overview of Council-directed services, initiatives, and programs that respond to the Civic Environmental Committee's report.

3) The environment portfolio at the City of Winnipeg, with the support of the Civic Environment Committee, has evolved from a focus on high level policy direction to a focus on implementation, coordination, and the ongoing review of progress and priorities. Given this evolution, it is recommended that the position of Coordinator of Environmental Initiatives and corresponding operating budget be transferred from the EPC Secretariat to the administration.

4) That the Chief Administrative Officer report back to Executive Policy Committee in the fourth quarter of 2005 on progress made in implementing the initiatives identified in ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY*** and provide recommendations for future environmental priorities.

Report Summary

Key Issues:

- On February 18, 2004, the Civic Environmental Committee (CEC) presented ***SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy*** (see Appendix A) to Executive Policy Committee (EPC) thereby fulfilling the responsibility assigned to it by City Council. In receiving ***SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG,*** EPC referred the document to the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a "Priority and Implementation Plan".

- ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006*** (see Appendix B) aligns environmental priorities with the policy directives of ***Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision*** while responding to many of the objectives outlined by the CEC. It highlights the key services, initiatives, and programs the City will be undertaking over the next several years.

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General Implications

None

X For the organization overall and/or for other departments

☐ For the community and/or organizations external to the City

☐ Involves a multi-year contract

Comment(s):
The report ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY*** represents a new direction for the civic administration in terms of monitoring and reporting on progress relative to environmental initiatives and recommending priorities.

Policy implications

X No

☐ Yes

Comment(s):
The policy direction implicit in the ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY*** report is consistent with existing Council policy as expressed in ***Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision****.*

Environmental implications

☐ No

X Yes

Comment(s):
EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY represents the City's first comprehensive plan relative to the environment. This plan raises the consciousness of the environment agenda and reinforces Council's commitment to moving forward.

Human Resources implications

☐ No

X Yes

Comment(s):
This report proposes that the Coordinator of Environmental Initiatives position be transferred from the EPC Secretariat to the administration.

Financial Implications

X Within approved current and/or capital budget

Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment:
The initiatives identified in ***Embracing Sustainability*** have already been funded through the current and/or capital budget.

Report

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

On February 18, 2004, Executive Policy Committee received as information a report presented by the Civic Environmental Committee entitled ***SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy***. Executive Policy Committee (EPC) referred the report to the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a "Priority and Implementation Plan" in consultation with the Civic Environmental Committee and report back to Executive Policy Committee by June 2004.

HISTORY:

In December 2001, City Council established the Civic Environmental Committee (CEC), a citizen advisory committee with 3 Council representatives including Councillor Gord Steeves who served as chair. Among other responsibilities, the CEC was charged with the responsibility of developing an environmental strategy for the City of Winnipeg.

On February 18, 2004, following two years of study and public consultation, the CEC submitted the environmental strategy entitled ***SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG: A Comprehensive Environmental Strategy*** to EPC. The strategy is presented in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION:

Upon referral of ***SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG*** in February, an Interdepartmental Working Group (IWG) was created to prepare a priority and implementation plan consistent with the expectations of EPC. The IWG was comprised of representatives from all civic departments with direct involvement in environmental initiatives.

The IWG met throughout the spring of 2004 to develop the City's priority and implementation plan. Simultaneously, a representative of the CEC was consulted with on several occasions regarding the plan. The resulting document, ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY: An Environmental Priority and Implementation Plan for the City of Winnipeg 2004-2006*** is attached as Appendix B. ***EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY*** represents the City's first comprehensive documentation of its environmental initiatives. It identifies projects that are funded and planning to be implemented over the next three years.

In addition, the administration conducted a review of the role of the Coordinator of Environmental Initiatives. The environment portfolio at the City of Winnipeg with the support of the Civic Environment Committee has evolved from a focus on high level policy direction to a focus on implementation, coordination, and the ongoing review of progress and priorities. Given this evolution, it is recommended that the position of Coordinator of Environmental Initiatives be transferred from the EPC Secretariat to the administration. This will ensure that the priority and implementation plan receives ongoing attention and support, with an emphasis on coordinating the efforts of service providers across various civic departments.

Reporting administratively through the CAO, the Coordinator of Environmental Initiatives would be responsible for:

- Providing interdepartmental coordination related to the implementation of environmental initiatives;
- Undertaking environmental policy research and planning and developing draft environmental policy as may be required;
- Providing the single point of contact for community inquiries regarding environmental issues;
- Providing administrative advice to the CEC and acting as liaison between the civic administration and the CEC;
- Monitoring and reporting on progress related to environmental initiatives; and
- Representing the City of Winnipeg, if directed to do so, in collaborative projects with other levels of government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector.

Financial Impact Statement Date:

Project Name: **First Year of Program**

	0	1	2	3	4
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: Embracing Sustainability represents a consolidation of initiatives that Departments have indicated will be funded through existing budgets.

Original signed by Radhika Abeysekera
Manager of Finance & Administration

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS CONSULTATION WITH, AND CONCURRENCE BY:

Community Services (Environmental Health Services)
Public Works (Engineering)
Water and Waste (Engineering, Waste Disposal)
Planning, Property and Development (Planning and Land Use, Civic Accommodations, Transportation Planning)
Transit (Planning and Schedules)
Corporate Finance (Materials Management)

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Department: CAO Secretariat
Division: Strategic Management
Prepared by: Connie Walker
File No.: