Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – December 16, 2025

BUDGET REVIEW

Item No. 2 Financial Stabilization Reserve – Efficiency and Contingency Plans

COUNCIL DECISION:

On January 29, 2025, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee, which included the following recommendations:

J. That Public Service, in light of not meeting the minimum threshold of the Financial Stabilization Reserve (FSR) and persistent cost pressures, some of which are noted below and also provided in detail in Attachment 2:

- Structural Deficit: Reliance on the FSR masks deeper structural issues in budgeting, such as recurring over-expenditures in key departments (e.g., Fire Paramedic Service, Public Works, Police Service);

- Revenue Reliability: Delays in implementing new revenue streams (e.g., 911 levy) and lower-than-expected revenues highlight the need for diversified and dependable revenue sources;

- Expenditure Management: Departments like the Fire Paramedic Services, Public Works, Transit and Fleet Management SOA need stronger tools to meet fiscal targets and manage overtime costs effectively;

be directed with the following actions:

iv. Collaborate with the Workers Compensation Board (WCB) of Manitoba to review and identify the City of Winnipeg's WCB claims, specifically for Winnipeg Transit and Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, to determine how claims can be reduced through improving workplace safety or other improvements to ensure healthy employees and control costs;

v. Strengthen budget forecasting and introduce contingency plans to mitigate risks from unexpected expenditures (e.g., extreme weather events);

vi. All of the above be referred to the 2026 Budget Update process.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

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