Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - November 2, 2004

Item No. 12 Amendment to The Historical Buildings By-law No. 1474/77
File G-3.1

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 17, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendations of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and the Historical Buildings Committee and submits the following to Council:

1. That The Historical Buildings By-law No. 1474/77 be amended by deleting Section 20 and Subsection 21(2).

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:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 17, 2004, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendations of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and the Historical Buildings Committee and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 2, 2004, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the recommendation of the Historical Buildings Committee and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 22, 2004, the Historical Buildings Committee recommended to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development that The Historical Buildings By-law 1474/77 be amended by deleting Section 20 and Subsection 21(2).

Further, the Historical Buildings Committee advised that the Planning, Property and Development Department recommends that the Historic Winnipeg Advisory Committee be disbanded and that review of development in the Exchange District be handled by the proposed new Urban Design Advisory Committee with representation by the Historical Buildings Committee.

October 22, 2004

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE
ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: AMENDMENT TO HISTORICAL BUILDINGS BY-LAW

The Historical Buildings Committee is requesting your favourable consideration in recommending to City Council the following amendment to the Historical Buildings By-law:

That the Historical Buildings By-law 1474/77 be amended by deleting section 20 and subsection 21(2) to reflect the current direction of the Planning, Property and Development Department of simplifying procedures to provide a more efficient process for design review in the downtown. This amendment will remove references to the Historic Winnipeg Advisory Committee (HWAC) and enable the Historical Buildings Committee to undertake review of alterations to all designated buildings in the city and approve changes if they are considered suitable.

The Exchange District is an important heritage asset for Winnipeg. The District's value has long been recognized and protected and is the subject of the November 2000 Exchange District National Historic Site Commemorative Integrity Statement approved by the three levels of government.

The Historic Winnipeg Advisory Committee (HWAC) has reviewed development in the Exchange District since 1978. This HWAC review has ensured that the Exchange is considered as a complete historic site and that all development complements and conserves the historic character of the District. Up to now, the Historical Buildings Committee reviewed all changes to designated buildings in the city outside of the Exchange District and designated interior elements in the area.

The City has formally reviewed all downtown development from an urban design perspective since Downtown Winnipeg Zoning By-law 4800 came into force and effect in 1988. Under By-law 4800, the Downtown Design Board (Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development) approved all major developments and delegated authority for the approval of minor applications to Administration.

The approval of the new Downtown Winnipeg Zoning By-law 100/2004 established the authority to appoint a design review committee and also terminated the existing Historic Winnipeg Advisory Committee

The Planning, Property and Development Department recommends that the HWAC be disbanded and that review of development in the Exchange District be handled by the proposed new Urban Design Advisory Committee (UDAC), with representation by the Historical Buildings

Committee (HBC), in order to focus on both urban design issues and heritage conservation issues. Heritage conservation review for all Exchange District development and listed buildings within Downtown will take place in conjunction with urban design review by UDAC to ensure a simple, clear and timely process.

The Legal Services Department endorses this recommendation.

Councillor J. Gerbasi
Chairperson
Historical Buildings Committee

cc: H. Finnigan