Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – May 19, 2026

REPORTS

Item No. 16 Park Renaming – Odeon Park to Kevin Walters Plaza

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That the Welcoming Winnipeg Policy be waived, and the park located at the junction of Smith Street and Notre Dame Avenue, known as ‘Odeon Park’, be officially renamed to ‘Kevin Walters Plaza’.

2. That funding for the signage be approved from the Assiniboia Community Committee Land Dedication Reserve (Charleswood-Tuxedo-Westwood Ward allocation).

3. 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:

Moved by Councillor Lukes,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Duncan,

WHEREAS the park located in front of the Burton Cummings Theatre is currently known as 'Odeon Park';

AND WHEREAS the creation of a plaza and realignment of the median across from the theatre, bordered by Smith Street, Notre Dame Avenue and King Street, has been over five years in the making;

AND WHEREAS for the past 45 years, the adjacent Burton Cummings Theatre has served as a gathering place and iconic landmark for arts, music, and live performance in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS Kevin Walters was a pivotal figure in Winnipeg's music industry, known for his decades-long career as a promoter, manager, and tireless advocate for artists and cultural development in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the new plaza was always meant to reflect the professional and cultural standards that Kevin Walters exemplified;

AND WHEREAS the proposal has garnered widespread support among various stakeholders and communities that Kevin worked with, as noted in Appendix A;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Welcoming Winnipeg Policy be waived, and the park located at the junction of Smith Street and Notre Dame Avenue, known as 'Odeon Park', be officially renamed to 'Kevin Walters Plaza'.

2. That funding for the signage be approved from the Assiniboia Community Committee Land Dedication Reserve (Charleswood-Tuxedo-Westwood Ward allocation).

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.

Carried