Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – July 7, 2026

REPORTS

Item No. 14 Amendment to the 2026 Strategic Infrastructure Basket Funding Allocation

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and recommended to Council:

1. That the following amendments to the 2026 Capital Budget be approved to reflect the revised Strategic Infrastructure Basket (SIB) funding allocations and the associated project changes, as noted below:

Project (in millions of $)	2026 SIB
City Budget	**$93.900**
Urban Forest Renewal Program	(1.236)
Assiniboine Park Conservancy – Infrastructure and Sustainability (Journey to Churchill Exhibit)	1.236
Revised Total	**$93.900**

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

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 Browaty,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

Councillors Duncan and Lukes asked to be recorded as having voted against the above motion, in accordance with Rule 47(7) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Amendment to the 2026 Strategic Infrastructure Basket Funding Allocation

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
L. Pablo	T. Graham	T. Graham	J. Dunford

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The annual Strategic Infrastructure Basket (SIB) from the Province is $93.9 million.

The Province has directed the City to allocate $1.236 million from the 2026 SIB to the Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC) for the Journey to Churchill Exhibit.

This project is not included in the City's 2026 Capital Budget. Because the overall SIB envelope remains fixed, an offsetting adjustment is required to maintain a balanced capital budget.

The proposed offset is a $1.236 million reduction to 2026 tree planting work within the Urban Forest Renewal Program (UFRP). This will leave the program with a revised 2026 capital budget of $9.825 million.

The Urban Forest Renewal Program remains a significant City priority. Even with this adjustment, the program's revised 2026 capital budget is higher than 2025 and represents the second-highest annual capital investment in the program over the past ten years. In addition, the Urban Forestry operating budget increased by 29.6% in 2026.

The proposed revisions will result in no net change to the City's overall 2026 Capital Budget.

The funding sources and related budget changes are listed below.

in thousands of $	2026 Budget	Adjustment	Revised 2026
Urban Forest Renewal Program:			
Land Operating Reserve	1,000		1,000
Natural Resources Canada	2,603		2,603
Province of Manitoba - Strategic Infrastructure Basket funding	5,475	(1,236)	4,239
External Debt	1,983		1,983
	11,061	**(1,236)**	**9,825**
Assiniboine Park Conservancy - Infrastructure and Sustainability:			
Canada Community Building Fund	2,000		2,000
Province of Manitoba - Strategic Infrastructure Basket funding		1,236	1,236
External Debt	5,900		5,900
	7,900	**1,236**	**9,136**
Total of two projects	**18,961**	**-**	**18,961**

The 2026/27 SIB project allocations are attached as Appendix A including a comparison of the City of Winnipeg and Provincially proposed projects.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the following amendments to the 2026 Capital Budget be approved to reflect the revised Strategic Infrastructure Basket (SIB) funding allocations and the associated project changes, as noted below:

Project (in millions of $)	2026 SIB
City Budget	**$93.900**
Urban Forest Renewal Program	(1.236)
Assiniboine Park Conservancy – Infrastructure and Sustainability (Journey to Churchill Exhibit)	1.236
Revised Total	**$93.900**

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

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Council approval is required to amend the City's Capital Budget and provide additional grant funding.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

A reduction in funding for the Urban Forest Renewal Program will delay the implementation of the Winnipeg Urban Forest Strategy. It should be noted that this capital project aligns with Strategic Priorities Action Plan: Plant new and replacement trees in streets and parks.

Funding for the Assiniboine Park Conservancy – Infrastructure and Sustainability (Journey to Churchill Exhibit) will be provided in the form of a grant and will be exempt from overhead and administrative charges.

The proposed budget adjustments result in no net change to the overall City's capital budget.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The Strategic Infrastructure Basket (SIB) is an annual capital contribution from the Province of Manitoba to the City of Winnipeg that supports investments in projects that are jointly selected by the Province and the City.

The City's 2026 Capital Budget and Five-Year Forecast include annual SIB funding at $93.900 million (refer to page 303 Appendix G of the Supplement to the 2026 Adopted Budget).

Through the annual budget process, the City identifies proposed projects for SIB funding and submits project allocation requests to the Province for approval. The City's 2026 Capital Budget, introduced in November 2025 and adopted in December 2025, included a funding plan (up to 2027) for SIB-supported projects.

Following budget adoption, City and Provincial officials continued discussions regarding Winnipeg's 2026 SIB allocation. The City subsequently submitted its formal 2026 allocation request to the Province on March 2, 2026, which incorporated revisions to the projects identified in the adopted capital budget.

The City is currently awaiting approval from the Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations for the 2026/2027 SIB project allocations (Appendix A).

Under delegated authority, the Chief Financial Officer may adjust funding sources within Council-approved capital projects. Refer to the table below. The proposed $229,000 SIB allocation to the NEWPCC Nutrient Removal Facilities project serves as a placeholder allocation and will temporarily replace debt financing authorized in the 2026 Capital Budget.

Timing variance related to Transit Buses (due to advancement of funds in previous years)	
Transit Buses, SIB funding (as per Appendix G, Supplement to 2026 Adopted Budget)	(33.951)
Submission to the Province on March 2, 2026	33.722
Variance due to advancement of funds	(0.229)
Note: total Provincial contribution to Transit Buses balances to the funding agreement	
North End Sewage Treatment Plant - NEWPCC Nutrient Removal Facilities	0.229
Provincial SIB will replace external debt	
	0.0
Millennium Library Safety Improvements	(2.500)
Assiniboine Park Conservancy - Infrastructure and Sustainability	2.000
Tyndall Park Community Centre - Gymnasium Expansion	0.500
	0.0
Note that these adjustments do not impact each project's total cost.	

The Province has submitted further direction to allocate $1.236 million of 2026 SIB funding to the Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC) – Journey to Churchill Exhibit. As the APC Journey to Churchill Exhibit project is not currently included in the City's 2026 Capital Budget, an offsetting adjustment is required to keep the capital budget balanced and maintain the overall SIB funding envelope.

This amendment is being brought forward in response to a Province-initiated change to the 2026 SIB allocation and does not reflect a City-initiated change to the capital priorities adopted by Council.

The proposed funding source is a $1.236 million reduction to the Urban Forest Renewal Program (UFRP). The UFRP consists of multiple program components, as detailed on pages 110 - 111 of the Supplement to the 2026 Adopted Budget. Tree planting activities in the 2026 UFRP will be reduced by $1.236 million, leaving a revised program budget of $9.825 million. The UFRP supports implementation of the Winnipeg Urban Forest Strategy and aligns with the Strategic Priorities Action Plan: Plant new and replacement trees in streets and parks.

The additional $1.236 million in Provincial SIB funding will be provided to the Assiniboine Park Conservancy as a capital grant and will increase APC Infrastructure and Sustainability project budget from $7.900 million to $9.136 million. APC's plan for the Journey to Churchill Exhibit includes the following (subject to change by APC):

- Sand filter media replacement (pool filtration)
- Replacement of heat-pump condensate pumps
- Crawlspace exhaust and branch controller replacement
- Comprehensive long-term building condition and capital investment review
- Other work including painting

Consistent with the City's grant funding practices, this contribution will be exempt from administrative and overhead charges.

The proposed revisions will result in no net change to the City's overall 2026 Capital Budget.

Next Steps

To help reduce the likelihood of similar mid-year budget amendments in the future, the Public Service will continue working with provincial counterparts to seek timely confirmation regarding SIB-funded projects before the City finalizes and adopts its capital budget. This aligns with Council's Strategic Priorities Action Plan item 2.1: "Create a new operating and capital funding relationship and model between the provincial and civic governments." With the municipal election in October 2026, the 2027 budget is anticipated for approval in March 2027, aligning with the province's approval timelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** June 29, 2026

Project Name: **First Year of Program** **2026**

Amendment to the 2026 Strategic Infrastructure Basket Funding Allocation

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Strategic Infrastructure Basket Funding	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Community Building Fund Reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Other -	-	-	-	-	-
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:

1. Urban Forest Renewal Program (UFRP) will be reduced by $1.236 million in 2026 to offset additional funding to Assiniboine Park Conservancy - Infrastructure and Sustainability for the Journey to Churchill Exhibit. The reduction to UFRP will result in reduced tree plantings. As these are offsetting adjustments, there is nil impact to the City's capital budget.

2. Future funding implications will be discussed in the 2027 budget process.

Elpablo

Liza Pablo, CPA
Senior Manager, Financial Planning and Review
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Public Works (as to funding implications)

OURWINNIPEG 2045 POLICY ALIGNMENT

Goal #1: Leadership and Good Governance:

Objective #1: Establish and implement priority actions through evidence-informed decision-making processes. Evidence-informed actions require transparent and accountable decision-making to determine the long-term public interest and the appropriate trade-offs in levels of service, taxation, and budget priorities.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

Consideration was given as to whether this report connects to the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan (CAP), and it was determined that the CAP is not applicable to this specific report.

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

Goal 1.C. Equity and a Culture of Caring are factored into all service planning and budget decisions, resulting in City-wide system.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Corporate Finance
Division: Financial Planning and Review
Prepared by: Liza Pablo
Date: June 30, 2026

Appendix A: Provincial funding allocation for 2026/2027