Minutes – Council – September 24, 2026

Minute No. 487
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Public Works – September 10, 2026

Item No. 8 Transit Shields

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to repurpose the previously approved 2024 capital funding of up to $2.726 million toward preliminary design, procurement and initial installation activities associated with full operator safety shields/compartment enclosures for Winnipeg Transit buses, rather than partial safety shield extensions.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to prioritize the installation of full operator safety shields/compartment enclosures and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works in 90 days on the implementation plan, including anticipated timelines, procurement requirements, the scope of the initial work to be undertaken using the repurposed funding, and any additional funding required to complete installation across the Winnipeg Transit fleet.

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

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Public Works – September 10, 2026

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Lukes,
That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works be adopted.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 15, 2026, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 10, 2026, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is committed to providing a safe public transit system for passengers and a safe working environment for Winnipeg Transit operators and employees;

AND WHEREAS operator safety is an important component of overall transit safety, and improvements to operator protection can contribute to safer transit operations for both operators and passengers;

AND WHEREAS Council previously approved funding in the 2024 Capital Budget for the Safety Shield Extensions project, with an approved capital budget of $2.726 million, for the installation of extensions to the existing operator safety shields on Winnipeg Transit buses;

AND WHEREAS the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC) Semi-Annual Update – April 2026, considered by the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works on June 10, 2026, provided an update on transit safety initiatives, including the ongoing consideration of enhanced operator protection;

AND WHEREAS subsequent evaluation of safety shield extension options has identified that pursuing extensions to the existing shields would provide limited additional operator protection relative to the work and cost involved, and that full compartment enclosures would provide a more comprehensive approach to operator protection;

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Public Works – September 10, 2026

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

AND WHEREAS the City should prioritize effective and comprehensive investments in transit safety and maximize the benefit of funding already approved by Council for this purpose;

AND WHEREAS the previously approved funding can be repurposed to initiate work toward the installation of full operator safety shields/compartment enclosures, including preliminary design, procurement and initial installation activities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to repurpose the previously approved 2024 capital funding of up to $2.726 million toward preliminary design, procurement and initial installation activities associated with full operator safety shields/compartment enclosures for Winnipeg Transit buses, rather than partial safety shield extensions.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to prioritize the installation of full operator safety shields/compartment enclosures and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works in 90 days on the implementation plan, including anticipated timelines, procurement requirements, the scope of the initial work to be undertaken using the repurposed funding, and any additional funding required to complete installation across the Winnipeg Transit fleet.

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

And submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.