Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – June 8, 2005

REPORTS

Item No. 1 **City Wide Accessibility Program and Accessible Play Area Funding**
File CR-3

ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 17, 2005, the Access Advisory Committee requested the Executive Policy Committee to give favourable consideration to ensuring that funding for the Accessibility program of $500,000.00 be included annually in the 2006 to 2010 Capital Budget based on the increased funding demand for the Accessibility Program and the newly identified need for accessible play area funding.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 17, 2005, the Access Advisory Committee passed the following motion, namely:

WHEREAS the mandate of the Access Advisory Committee is to advise civic government on how to make the City of Winnipeg accessible for persons with disabilities to the benefit of all citizens, supporting the City's Universal Design Policy;

AND WHEREAS on September 25, 2002, Council adopted a City wide Accessibility Program that included a Capital Estimates budget for the Public Works Department of $250,000.00 annually for the years 2003 to 2005 to complete access issues identified in the Centre Plan Accessibility Audit;

AND WHEREAS the Executive Policy Committee on December 8, 2004 referred the recommendations of the Access Advisory Committee pertaining to the continuation of a City wide Accessibility Program to the 2006 Capital Budget deliberations;

AND WHEREAS the demand for this program has increased and requests for Accessibility Program funding in 2005, the final year of the current program, exceeded $1.2 million dollars from an existing fund source of $250,000.00;

AND WHEREAS the Accessibility Program has been distributed equitably throughout departments and wards of the City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the Accessibility Program currently has no existing funding program available for the increased requests for accessibility upgrades to new play areas located on City of Winnipeg properties;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Access Advisory Committee request the Executive Policy Committee to give favourable consideration to ensuring that funding for the Accessibility program of $500,000.00 be included annually in the 2006 to 2010 Capital Budget based on the increased funding demand for the Accessibility Program and the newly identified need for accessible play area funding.