Minutes – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – September 12, 2019

REPORTS

Item No. 26  Traffic Study – Egerton Road and Youville Street – Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route (St. Boniface and St. Vital Wards)

STANDING COMMITTEE DECISION:

The Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and received the report as information.
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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Sharma,
That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in.

Carried

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 8, 2019, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works granted an extension of time to its September 12, 2019 meeting for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the matter.

On April 6, 2018, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in the recommendation of the Riel Community Committee, with the following amendment:

- Delete “90 days” and replace with “180 days”

Councillor Allard, St. Boniface Ward, submitted a communication dated April 6, 2018, in support of the matter.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 5, 2018, the Riel Community Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS residents of the Glenwood and East Norwood neighbourhoods have requested a Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route on Bank Avenue at Egerton Road, to Youville Street at Marion Street, and connecting across Haig Avenue, where motor vehicle traffic is restricted to a distance of not more than one block;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works direct the Winnipeg Public Service to conduct a traffic study from Bank Avenue at Egerton Road, to Youville Street at Marion Street, connecting across Haig Avenue, to determine if the location warrants a Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route designation, and report back to the Standing Policy Committee within 90 days.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A study was conducted on Youville Street and Egerton Road as a continuous Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route from the intersection of Youville Street and Marion Street to the intersection of Egerton Road and Bank Avenue. The identified route meets four of five warrant criteria to establish it as a Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route.

The next step is to conduct a petition of the residents who either front the proposed street closure or who must use the street for access to their street. There must be 70% support for the closure, based on one vote per residence. If the petition is successful, an amendment to By-law 91/2014 must be made to establish the above as a Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On April 6, 2018, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works directed the Winnipeg Public Service to conduct a traffic study from Bank Avenue at Egerton Road to Youville Street at Marion Street, connecting across Haig Avenue, to determine if the location warrants a Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route designation.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no implications as a result of this report.

HISTORY/DISCUSSSION

Background of Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures:
Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures have been a part of the traffic network in Winnipeg since the late 1990s. The purpose of the Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures is to allow cyclists of all ages and abilities access to popular leisure cycling routes with minimum interaction with motor vehicles.
In 2014, By-law 91/2014 was passed; the purpose of this By-law was to establish parameters for Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures. These parameters included:

- dates of operation (a) the Sunday immediately preceding Victoria Day and every Sunday thereafter until Thanksgiving Day; and (b) Victoria Day, Canada Day, Civic Holiday (the first Monday in August), Labour Day and Thanksgiving Day
- time of closure (08:00 – 20:00)
- criteria to minimize motorized vehicle operation and to enforce for vehicles travelling more than one block length on an identified Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route

Currently there are four Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Routes in Winnipeg:

1. St. Cross Street/Scotia Street
2. Lyndale Drive
3. Wellington Crescent
4. Wolseley Avenue

**Evaluation of Youville Street and Egerton Road to Become a Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closure:**
Criteria used to determine a route for Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route implementation are outlined in the City of Winnipeg Technical Guideline, D-4. This guideline sets forth the following considerations for evaluating a possible Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route:

Any changes to existing and/or creation of new Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Routes can only be done through a By-law amendment. Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures may only be considered by the Department on streets for which a significant improvement to the operating environment for cyclists would be afforded by the closure.

Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures are not recommended where a significant level of local traffic would require use of the closure street for property access. In addition, all of the following warrant criteria must be met:

- The street is classified as either a Local Residential or Residential Collector street.
- The street is not a Transit Route and does not have businesses or institutions that require access on Sundays or holidays.
- The intent of the Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closures is to provide an improved operating environment for cyclists; it is necessary for these routes to be of sufficient length. The minimum closure length is 2.5 km.
- The street has a minimum Sunday traffic volume of 1,000 vehicles per day.
- A minimum of 70% of the residents who either front the proposed street closure or who must use the street for access to their street must support the proposal for the Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Street Closure.

Local residents are interested in establishing Youville Street and Egerton Road as a continuous Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route from the intersection of Youville Street and Marion Street to the intersection of Egerton Road and Bank Avenue.
Figure 1: Youville Street/Egerton Road Proposed Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route Closure (Map courtesy of Google Maps)

A traffic study and assessment of the above were conducted, with the following result:

Warrant 1: MET
   – both Youville Street south from Marion Street to Haig Avenue and Egerton Road from Haig Avenue to Bank Avenue are residential streets.

Warrant 2: MET
   – neither Youville Street nor Egerton Road, within the segments being evaluated, are Transit Routes.
Warrant 3: MET
– the evaluated segment, as defined by the above referenced disposition, is 2.7 km.

Warrant 4: MET
– 14 hour counts were conducted (07:00-21:00) on Sunday, July 14, 2019. Counts were conducted on Youville Street at two locations. Both locations had traffic counts of 900+ vehicles. The warrant criteria do not specify whether the 1,000 vehicles must be counted during the 08:00 – 20:00 operating times of the Sunday/Holiday Bicycle Route or over a 24-hour period.

Warrant 5: NOT MET
– There has not been a petition conducted of residents who either front the proposed street closure or who must use the street for access to their street. A survey by residents was not conducted until traffic volumes and other warrant criteria were established.

Next Steps:
1. A petition of the residents who either front the proposed street closure or who must use the street for access to their street must be conducted. There must be 70% support for the closure, based on one vote per residence.
2. If a petition meeting the criteria is submitted, a By-law amendment to 91/2014 would be put forward with an Administrative Report to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. If passed by SPCIRPW, the By-law amendment would move to Executive Policy Committee, and finally to Council.
FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement  Date:  August 12, 2019

Project Name:

Egerton/Youville Sunday Bike Route Street Closure Analysis

COMMENTS:

There is no financial impact associated with the recommendation of this report.

"Original Signed by J. Peters, CPA, CA"
J. Peters,  CPA, CGA
Acting Manager of Finance & Administration

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with: N/A

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01-1 City Building – Connect and Expand our Sustainable Transportation and Infrastructure Networks. Ensuring mobility for people of all ages and abilities with active transportation options.

SUBMITTED BY

Department:  Public Works
Division:  Transportation
Prepared by:  Colleen Flather, P. Eng., M.Sc., Traffic Management Engineer
Date:  August 12, 2019
File No: