

2021 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

January 4, 2021 City Council Meeting

(181) REGULATIONS FOR AIRBNBS IN THE CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor Desjarlais referred to the growing number of Airbnbs in the City of Brandon and enquired as to the regulations with respect to same.

Councillor Desjarlais further enquired as to the possibility for the collection of accommodation tax from Airbnb owners.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that, under the Building Code, if the entire house was rented and not owner-occupied, it fell under the same regulations as a hostel or hotel. Mr. Hammond noted that there were no specific zoning regulations or special licenses required for Airbnbs and Manitoba Health only became involved when there was a public health issue such as bed bugs or no running water.

With respect to the collection of accommodation tax, the Acting City Manager advised that the collection of accommodation taxes under the current City of Brandon By-law applied to hotels/motels lodging four or more people; however, same could be reviewed and updated at any time.

Councillor Desjarlais requested that a review of the By-law, inclusive of adding Airbnbs to the list of properties subject to collection of accommodation tax, be undertaken in the near future.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(182) TRAFFIC ISSUES AROUND MARYLAND PARK SCHOOL

Councillor Cameron advised that he had received a complaint from an area resident with respect to traffic congestion on and along Maryland Avenue due to the opening of the new Maryland Park School today. He enquired if this area could be reviewed by the Brandon Police Service and the Traffic and Transportation Planner for suggested improvements to traffic flow and safety.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

January 21st, 2021

TO: Mayor Rick Chrest and
Members of City Council

FROM: Samuel van Huizen
Traffic & Transportation Planner – Engineering Department

SUBJECT: Enquiry No. 182 – Traffic Issues Around Maryland Park
School

This memo is provided in response to Councilor Cameron's enquiry of concerns surrounding the safety of pedestrians, primarily school-aged, moving in and around the newly opened Maryland Park School. His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement, with administration providing an update at a later date.

The City of Brandon Engineering department has been working with the Brandon School Division and the Brandon Police Service in being as proactive as possible to identify and mitigate possible safety risks that the new Maryland Park School will have on existing traffic patterns along the corridor. Meetings were had in the development stage of the school to identify bus loading and parental loading areas. Discussions continued when the catchment area for student attendance was established and a meeting was held in December 2002 to discuss how to safely bring students to and from the school. From these interactions, the Engineering department, School Division, and Police Service have derived the following list of action items:

New Established Crosswalks on Maryland Avenue at Cornell Bay and McLeod Drive

Much of the student population would be originating northwest of the school location on Cornell Bay and Cornwallis Crescent. It was deemed necessary to establish a crosswalk here to formalize a location for safe crossing. A Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) and sidewalk approaches are being planned for the 2021 budget year to ensure that there is adequate crossing facilities through an adjacent ditch on the south side of Maryland Avenue.

On-Site Parental Drop-off Zone

Through the planning phase of this project, the Engineering department required the school be developed to include an on-site parent drop-off zone. This was required due to Maryland Avenue not being able to accommodate standing or parking zones. Parents will be directed by the school of where to access a safe drop-off point for their children. It was observed during the first week of the school's opening that parents were choosing to drop-off on McLeod Drive instead of pulling into the school property. The principal has sent letters to the parents indicating the safe location for drop-off on the school property. Police have been on-site encouraging parents to use the drop-off location on the school property. If this traffic pattern continue, the City will work with residents on McLeod Drive to establish no-parking and no-standing zones on McLeod Drive to further discourage this practice.

Student Patrols at Crosswalks

The Brandon Police Service is developing training for older students attending the school to become safety patrols. This training will aid students and other pedestrians with safer usage of the crosswalks adjacent to the school.

Extended Established School Zone

The current reduced speed zone on Maryland Avenue that is adjacent to Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School was extended to include all of Maryland Avenue between 1st Street and 9th Street. A posted speed limit of 30km/hr is now in effect between 8:00 and 17:00 hours on Monday to Friday from September to June. Police have been enforcing this speed zone since December 2020 when the zone was established. Traffic patterns have altered and the Engineering department will continue to monitor the area to determine if additional traffic control signage will be required to improve safety.

No-Standing/Stopping Zones

No-Standing/Stopping zones have been established on the north and south side of Maryland Avenue to prohibit vehicles using Maryland Avenue to pick-up and drop-off students as it poses a risk to all road users including pedestrians and motorists. Police have been enforcing this to dissuade all non-compliance.

As always, the Engineering department will continue to monitor this changing area and count upon the witness and experience of residents, teachers and motorists who are concerned about safety in the area. Please direct all communication to engineering@brandon.ca to ensure we can have a detailed report of how the area is evolving to this new traffic pattern.

I trust this satisfies your enquiry. If you have any clarifying questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully Submitted,

“Original Signed By”

Samuel van Huizen, C.E.T.
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION PLANNER

January 18, 2021 City Council Meeting

(183) WATER PRESSURE IN RIVERVIEW WARD

Councillor Parker advised that poor water pressure was an ongoing problem in the Riverview Ward and enquired as to potential short and long-term solutions to this problem.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the water distribution system was continuously monitored at the Water Treatment Facility and Booster Stations; however, it was sometimes difficult to diagnose pressure concerns in an entire ward. He advised that temporary pressure gauges would be installed on hydrants in the Riverview Ward to determine areas of low pressure and the potential cause of same. The Acting City Manager encouraged residents with specific concerns to report same to the General Enquiry Line at (204) 729-2186 or the Water Treatment Facility.

(184) SANDING OF WALKING PATHS AND SIDEWALKS

Councillor Berry noted that many walking paths and sidewalks in the City of Brandon were extremely icy and made it nearly impossible for residents to get out for a nice leisurely walk. He enquired if an update on planned sanding efforts for same, inclusive of timelines for different areas of the City, could be provided.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that sanding efforts had started on the P1A Routes with all routes expected to be completed by the end of the week. He invited residents to check the snow clearing map on the website for updated information on the areas in progress and completed.

(185) RECREATION PROGRAMMING IN 2021

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the planned recreation programming for 2021 under the newly created Recreation Hubs. She stated that, while the current Pandemic situation played a major role in planned activities, it would be useful for everyone to have an update on planned activities. Councillor Chaboyer further stated that community centres were eager to be involved in recreation programming throughout the City of Brandon and an update on all potential plans would be appreciated.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that due to COVID-19 all recreation programming had essentially halted and staff had been redeployed to other areas. Mr. Hammond advised that the strategic directions and priorities based on the Recreation and Community Facilities Master Plan had not changed. He acknowledged that 2020 had not been an ideal year to begin implementing changes; however, a full report on what had been accomplished in 2020 and what was planned for 2021 would be provided to City Council in the Spring.

(186)

UPDATE ON INTERSECTION OF MCDIARMID DRIVE AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Cameron noted that, following an enquiry with respect to the installation of a pedestrian corridor at the intersection of McDiarmid Drive and Victoria Avenue, funds for same had been allocated in the 2020 City of Brandon Budget. Councillor Cameron noted that the work had not been completed as planned in 2020 and requested an update on the status of same, inclusive of whether or not more funds were needed for the project.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the Engineering Department was working with Manitoba Infrastructure for the installation of a Pedestrian Corridor at this intersection; however, the project had been delayed due to the Pandemic. Mr. Hammond confirmed that the project was to move forward in 2021 and the Engineering Department had requested the funds for same be included in their 2021 Budget Submission to City Council. He noted that sidewalk approach improvements for pedestrians and assistive mobility devices were also planned and budgeted for in 2021.

February 1, 2021 City Council Meeting

(187) TRAFFIC ISSUES AROUND MARYLAND PARK SCHOOL

Councillor Brown advised that traffic flow continued to be a problem in the vicinity of Maryland Park School. He noted that the issues arose during the pick-up and drop-off times with traffic backed up along Maryland Avenue. He noted that the issue had been addressed in a previous enquiry however, he requested same to be investigated further and a follow-up report provided.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

February 16, 2021 City Council Meeting

(188) PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR DIKING AROUND PROPOSED OUTDOOR SPORTS COMPLEX

Councillor Chaboyer stated that it had been quite some time since City Council had viewed the plans for the proposed Outdoor Sports Complex, inclusive of the surrounding diking. She noted that debenture funding was now being sought for the project and enquired if a meeting with Administration could be arranged to review the plans and discuss the overall project prior to any decisions being made.

His Worship the Mayor agreed with Councillor Chaboyer and confirmed that a meeting would be held to discuss this issue and review the updated plans prior to any final decisions being made.

March 1, 2021 City Council Meeting

(189) SUMP PUMP/BACKWATER VALVE PROGRAM

Councillor Berry referred to the Sump Pump/Backwater Valve Program approved by City Council at the 2021 City of Brandon Budget Deliberations and enquired when applications for same were expected to be available online.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor the Acting City Manager responded that details of the program were still being worked on with a full report on same to be provided at the March 15, 2021 City Council meeting.

(190) CLEARING OF SNOW FROM SIDEWALKS AND WALKING PATHS

Councillor Luebke enquired why crews had not been dispatched to clear the sidewalks and walking paths over the weekend following the Friday night and Saturday morning snowfall. He noted that, with limited recreation activities available during the Pandemic, it was important to keep these walkways cleared for residents and the snow clearing policy could be overridden.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting General Manager of Operations responded that, with the policy being to dispatch crews immediately following a snowfall of 5 inches or greater, the crews had not been dispatched until Monday morning as Friday night's snowfall was approximately 3.4 inches. He agreed, given the current Pandemic situation, the policy could be amended to ensure crews were dispatched in a timelier manner. The Acting City Manager agreed to follow up further with City Council on this issue in the near future.

(191) STROBING AND OUTTED STREET LIGHTS

Councillor Desjarlais advised that strobing and outted street lights were an ongoing issue in all areas of the City of Brandon and enquired if a meeting could be arranged with Manitoba Hydro to discuss this ongoing concern.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

March 15, 2021 City Council Meeting

(192) **PREDICTED SPRING AND SUMMER WEATHER CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON WATER LEVELS**

Councillor Chaboyer enquired if a report could be provided with respect to the predicted Spring and Summer weather conditions and the potential impact of same on water levels. She requested that information on flood mitigation and plans for water retention in the event of a summer drought be included in the report.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

Further to this issue Councillor Cullen reported that the Assiniboine Hills Conservation/Assiniboine River Basin Group had met recently where the topic of river levels had been discussed. Councillor Cullen confirmed that water levels had not been this low since 1952, hence, flooding was not a concern at this time; however, a potential for summer droughts existed.

April 28, 2021

TO: Mayor Rick Chrest and
Members of City Council

FROM: Alexia Stangherlin – Director of Utilities
Tobin Praznik – Emergency Manager

SUBJECT: Enquiry No. 192 – Predicted Spring and Summer Weather
Conditions and Impact on Water Levels

This report is provided in response to Councillor Chaboyer's enquiry with respect to predicted spring and summer weather conditions and the potential impact on water levels, as well as information on flood mitigation and plans for water retention in the event of a summer drought. On the same subject, Councillor Cullen reported from the Assiniboine Hills Conservation/Assiniboine River Basin Group that flooding was not a concern at this time and a potential for summer droughts exist.

City Administration is in contact with several Provincial Branches and regularly attends Shellmouth Dam Liaison Committee meetings to stay informed and to provide local input on water management within the Assiniboine River basin. These communications are critical to both flood and drought forecasts, ultimately aiding the City of Brandon's preparedness and mitigation strategies.

Flood

The information City Administration is receiving from the Province echoes the information that Councillor Cullen provided. The 'February High Water Outlook' provided by the Hydrologic Forecast Center within the Province states:

"...the risk of major spring flooding in most Manitoba basins is low. Due to below normal soil moisture at freeze-up in southern and central Manitoba basins and below normal to well below normal winter precipitation until mid-February in these basins, the risk of major spring flooding is low for all southern and central Manitoba basins."

This outlook includes the Assiniboine River basin and the Brandon area. From all accounts since the report was made, the outlook was correct. The Assiniboine River peaked in Brandon on April 3rd, 2021 based on Provincial data. A level measurement was not taken by the City on this day; however, the peak can be estimated at an elevation of 1163.85 ft as measured at 1st Street, which is within the banks of the river. Mitigating flood waters was not a concern and staff were able to simply monitor the situation.

With the spring flood threat passed, the potential for a heavy rain event that causes high water is top of mind. Having experienced heavy rain events in 2014 as well as 2020, City Administration will continue to monitor weather forecasts and provide as much notice as possible if there is a potential impact on Brandon.

Drought

As defined by the Province, southern Manitoba including Brandon, is currently in drought conditions. Soil moisture content is low and the precipitation forecast is also low. The Shellmouth Reservoir (Lake of the Prairies) has reached the minimum summer target level, with current operation intended to accumulate stored water while maintaining flows downstream for current use. This method of operation fits within the Shellmouth Reservoir Operating Guidelines and allows for water release down the Assiniboine River later in the summer for all users if dry weather persists as predicted.

The City of Brandon currently does not have the ability to store river water prior to treatment. As part of the Water Treatment Facility Upgrade, Administration is currently working with the Consulting Engineer to design a new Intake and Reservoir system for the City to have some storage available in the future.

Existing infrastructure in place was designed to maintain water levels at the current river Intake and to feed the Water Treatment Facility over a range of changing river conditions. These include: the Third Street Dam, the rock wing dam across the river from the Intake, under water piles adjacent to the Intake, and low screens at the bottom of the Intake. These pieces of infrastructure are monitored regularly to ensure proper operation and water levels that will meet the City's water demand.

The risk of drought on Brandon's water supply is present this year. Reviewing Emergency Plans is underway and communicating water conservation practices will be assessed shortly. As always, the Utilities Department and Emergency Management Section will continue to monitor the changing Assiniboine River conditions and can provide further information to Council at any time.

We trust this satisfies your enquiry. If you have any clarifying questions, please feel free to contact either of us directly.

Respectfully Submitted,

“Original Signed By”

Alexia Stangherlin, P.Eng.

Director of Utilities

Tobin Praznik

Emergency Manager

April 6, 2021 City Council Meeting

(193) **BACKLANE REPAIR/MAINTENANCE PROGRAM UPDATE**

Councillor Cameron requested an update on the 2021 Backlane Repair/Maintenance Program and enquired if a gravel application could be considered on the east-west backlane from Brandon University to Sykes Boulevard between Rosser and Princess Avenues.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that a soft launch of the Program had begun with same to be in full swing once the weather warmed up. He confirmed that the above noted lane was part of the work plan for 2021; however, backlanes that were part of this year's dust control program were to be graded first followed by gravel and asphalt lanes. Mr. Hammond advised that the backlane maintenance map which allowed residents to see work completed this season was expected to be launched in early May.

(194) **CLEAN-UP EFFORTS OF DRAINAGE CORRIDOR ALONG PACIFIC AVENUE BETWEEN 26TH AND 34TH STREETS - REMOVAL OF DEBRIS**

Councillor Cameron thanked City of Brandon staff for the considerable work undertaken to clean up the drainage corridor along Pacific Avenue between 26th and 34th Streets. He noted that much of the debris that had been cleared out was left around and on the walking path and enquired when same was expected to be removed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the area along the Pacific Avenue drainage ditch had been cleared in early March and would be monitored and cleared as necessary in the future. Mr. Hammond confirmed that the debris was to be cleared away as part of the Parks Department Spring Clean-up expected to begin April 8, 2021.

(195) **DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO UNDERGROUND INFRASTRUCTURE ON CHERRY CRESCENT**

Councillor Cameron advised that flooding during storms continued to be a problem for residents on Cherry Crescent and enquired if improvements to underground infrastructure as well as crowning of the road at the corner could be considered to assist with these drainage issues.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager confirmed that this matter had been referred to the Public Works Department with a response to same to be provided in the near future.

(196) REQUEST FOR GARBAGE CONTAINERS ALONG 9TH STREET AND PATRICIA AVENUE TO 1ST STREET AND DOWN 1ST STREET TO MARYLAND AVENUE

Councillor Brown noted that dog waste bags were being dropped beside the walking path along 9th Street and Patricia Avenue to 1st Street and down 1st Street to Maryland Avenue and enquired if garbage containers could be placed along same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that new bins were to be added along the walkway as soon as the required permits were received from the utility companies. Mr. Hammond advised that while the Sanitation Department focused on placing bins along the walkways only, additional bins were to be placed at some stops along this corridor by Brandon Transit in the near future.

(197) SAFE SIDEWALKS IN 1500 AND 1600 BLOCKS ON 9TH STRTEET

Councillor Brown advised that, due to the absence of safe sidewalks in the 1500 and 1600 Blocks of 9th Street, pedestrians were required to walk too close to traffic and this, combined with insufficient lighting in the area, posed serious safety concerns. He enquired if this issue could be addressed as soon as possible.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(198) IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS ON THE WALKING PATH NORTH OF ROSSER AVENUE EAST

Councillor Parker advised that dog waste was becoming a problem on the walking path north of Rosser Avenue East from 1st Street to 10th Street East and enquired if this area could be monitored and the issue addressed as soon as possible.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

April 28, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Mark Allard, Director of Engineering Services, Development Services

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 197 - Safe Sidewalks in 1500 & 1600 Blocks on 9th Street
- April 6, 2021 City Council Meeting

Councillor Brown advised that, due to the absence of safe sidewalks in the 1500 and 1600 Blocks of 9th Street, pedestrians were required to walk too close to traffic and this, combined with insufficient lighting in the area, posed serious safety concerns. He enquired if this issue could be addressed as soon as possible.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

Engineering Services recognizes the concerns for pedestrian safety at these locations. Improvements, similar to adjacent sections of 9th Street will be given consideration during the next budget cycle (2022). Improvements would include a multi-use path way separated from the road surface by curb. Drainage will be a constraint that needs to be addressed in the overall design.

Regards,

Mark Allard

Director of Engineering Services



Scott Haddow
Manager of Solid Waste
City of Brandon
Ph. 204-717-8310
s.haddow@brandon.ca

April 19, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Scott Haddow, Manager of Solid Waste

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 198 – Irresponsible Dog Owners on the Walking Path
North of Rosser Avenue East – April 6, 2021 City Council Meeting

Councillor Parker advised that dog waste was becoming a problem on the walking path north of Rosser Avenue East from 1st Street to 10th Street East and enquired if this area could be monitored and the issue addressed as soon as possible.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

The Sanitation Section empties the walkway bins along this and other walkways on a weekly basis. Staff will be made aware of this location becoming an ongoing problem and will be asked to clean up any pet or other waste they find that is not located in the waste receptacles along the walking path. We will also conduct regular monitoring of this location throughout the week to determine if this stretch of bins requires more frequent dumping. We would ask that any resident finding pet waste along this stretch or any other walkways to notify the Sanitation Section directly by calling 204-729-2281 or by emailing sanitation@brandon.ca.

Regards,

Scott Haddow

Scott Haddow
Manager of Solid Waste

April 19, 2021 City Council Meeting

(199) SAFETY OF CROSSWALK AT E. FOTHERINGHAM DRIVE AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Cullen advised that, given the location at the edge of the City of Brandon and the speed of traffic entering or leaving the City, the crosswalk at the Intersection of E. Fotheringham Drive and Victoria Avenue had become unsafe. He enquired if the City of Brandon speed limit of 50 km could be extended to begin at Governor's Road when entering the City of Brandon and end after the crosswalk at Governor's Road when leaving. Councillor Cullen further enquired if the solar traffic speed device recently installed at 38th Street could be relocated to the crosswalk at E. Fotheringham Drive to further protect pedestrians at this location.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

May 19, 2021

TO: Mayor Rick Chrest and
Members of City Council

FROM: Samuel van Huizen
Traffic & Transportation Planner – Engineering Department

SUBJECT: Enquiry No. 199 – Safety of Crosswalk at E. Fotheringham Dr. & Victoria Ave

This memo is provided in response to Councilor Cullen's enquiry of safety concerns at the crosswalk on Victoria Avenue at E. Fotheringham Drive. His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

The City of Brandon Engineering Department took the time to count vehicle and pedestrian traffic volumes at this intersection to better gauge the concern of safety. The resulting data shows there is an Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) of 7100 motor vehicle turning movements and registered 74 crossings over Victoria Avenue and 105 crossings on the multi-use trail on the north side of Victoria Avenue. The City of Brandon uses the Decision Support Tool in the Transportation Association of Canada's Pedestrian Crossing Control Guide to determine if there is warranted for increased pedestrian control. Based on the AADT of 7100 and the average posted speed limit of 70 km/h (60 approaching and 80 departing the City), a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) would be appropriate for this location. The City will also be moving the crosswalk to the east side of the intersection to align with the sidewalk on the east side of 42nd Street. The City has been approved a budget for installing RRFBs at various qualifying locations in the City for the 2021 budget year, however, it is unknown at this time whether this intersection will qualify against those already in the queue. Should there not be enough funds to locate an RRFB at this location in the 2021 budget year, considerations will be made for the 2022 budget year.

The City of Brandon is the traffic authority on this stretch of Victoria Avenue and has the ability to evaluate and set speed limits. An application to alter the speed limits on this stretch of Victoria Avenue to the Highway Traffic Board with the Province of Manitoba took place in 2015. The result of that evaluation decided that the speed limit would remain due to the design of the roadway and the average speed at which traffic was flowing. The conflict of the crosswalk does impose concern for reducing speed, however, with traffic control devices being recommended and no collision history, especially involving pedestrians, the Engineering department will keep the speed limit the same and look to install pedestrian crossing control to improve the protection for pedestrians at this intersection.

As always, the Engineering department will continue to monitor this changing area and count upon the witness and experience of residents and motorists who are concerned about safety in the area. Please direct all communication to engineering@brandon.ca to ensure we can have a detailed report of how the area is evolving to this new traffic pattern.

I trust this satisfies your enquiry. If you have any clarifying questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully Submitted,

“Original Signed By”

Samuel van Huizen, C.E.T.
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION PLANNER

May 3, 2021 City Council Meeting

(200) PUBLIC ACCESS TO KEYSTONE CENTRE URBAN FOREST

Councillor Chaboyer noted that many residents enjoyed accessing the urban forest on the Keystone Centre grounds for walks or picnics and enquired if same was still accessible providing COVID protocols were being followed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Keystone Centre grounds were open for public use as per usual with the Provincial Public Health Restrictions for outdoor public space gatherings being followed. He reminded those using the grounds to they picked up their garbage and cleaned up after their pets.

(201) POTENTIAL FOR HIGH GROUND WATER IN GREEN ACRES WARD

Councillor Chaboyer noted that the Green Acres Ward was subject to high ground water very quickly during a significant rain event and enquired if extra pumps and operators were ready to go should such an event happen.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that all city-owned pumps had been inspected and were ready for deployment and more could be brought in from external sources should they be needed. He confirmed that seasonal staff solely designated to work through drainage maintenance and improvement tasks were also in place.

May 17, 2021 City Council Meeting

(200) MITIGATION OF SPEED ALONG 22ND STREET

Councillor Cameron raised concerns with respect to the speed of vehicles along 22nd Street between Lorne and Victoria Avenues. He enquired if a four-way stop sign could be considered for the intersection of Lorne Avenue and 22nd Street as a mitigation of speed along 22nd Street.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a traffic study, inclusive of vehicle turning and pedestrian crossing wait times would be conducted in this area with consideration given to the installation of a four-way stop sign if necessary. He advised that the data collected would be shared with the Brandon Police Service for enforcement of the speed limits.

(201) DUST CONTROL FROM CONSTRUCTION AT 34TH STREET AND MCDONALD AVENUE

Councillor Cameron advised that dust from the construction site at 34th Street and McDonald Avenue was causing problems for area residents. He enquired if watering efforts in this area could be considered.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, given the hot, dry conditions, watering the site was only a temporary solution. He agreed that this situation would be monitored and the Engineering Department would work with the contractors on a more permanent solution to the dust issues.

(202) WATER RETENTION DURING DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Councillor Chaboyer referred to the current drought conditions in the City of Brandon and enquired as to what programs or information was available to citizens to assist them with water retention on their property.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a messaging campaign was planned in the near future to advise residents on surface water drainage and water conservation measures that could be undertaken. He noted that rain barrels were one of the best ways to conserve water for later use and encouraged residents to purchase same from local retailers, or learn how to build their own by visiting the website at www.brandonenvironment.ca. The City Manager advised that the City of Brandon, in partnership with the Central Assiniboine Watershed District, was set to launch a Residential Rain Garden Pilot Program with details on same to be provided at a City Council meeting in the very near future.

(203)

BURNING POLICY/RESTRICTIONS IN DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Councillor Luebke noted that with the current dry conditions across the Province of Manitoba, many municipalities had implemented burning restrictions. He enquired as to the current City of Brandon policies with respect to burning, whether or not a burning ban had been considered for the city and who could be contacted should residents have concerns.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, pursuant to the City of Brandon Fire Prevention By-law No. 7200, open air fires were prohibited without a permit, and further, that environmental conditions and proposed safety plans being taken into consideration prior to the issuance same. He advised that permits are also required for outdoor burning appliances with same to be inspected and approved by Brandon Fire and Emergency Services prior to usage. The City Manager advised that complaints or concerns with respect to burning within city limits should be directed to (204) 729-2400.

(204)

UPDATE ON CHANGES TO PROPERTY TAX BILLS WITH RESPECT TO THE PROVINCIAL EDUCATION TAX LEVY

Councillor Berry noted that many residents were confused when they received their property tax bills and enquired if an update could be provided on how the changes to the Provincial Education Levy affected local property owners.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Treasurer, Mr. Dean Hammond, provided an overall review of the property taxes inclusive of the changes to the Provincial Education Tax Levy. Mr. Hammond confirmed that, with the exception of those on the monthly tax installment payment plan, taxes were due by 5:00 p.m. June 30, 2021 to avoid penalty. He noted that all tax bills had been mailed and encouraged property owners who had not received their bill by June 1, 2021 to contact the Property Tax Department at (204) 729-2228 or email taxes@brandon.ca. The City Treasurer advised that pertinent information, including the various payment options for property taxes, could be found on a pamphlet that was included with the property tax bills or on the City website.

With respect to the Provincial Education Tax Levy, the City Treasurer explained that the education property taxes were being phased out by the Province of Manitoba. For 2021, residential and farm property owners would see a net reduction of 25% in school taxes and other property types would see a net reduction of 10% in school taxes. The overall reduction would be administered through a combination of the Education Property Tax Credit Advance listed on the property tax bill and through Province of Manitoba Rebate Cheques, which were expected to arrive before taxes were due at the end of June. Mr. Hammond noted that while the property tax amount appeared to have increased from last year, the receipt of the rebate cheque would offset the increase to achieve the overall net reduction. The City Treasurer further explained that for those residents paying monthly via the tax installment payment plan, the monthly amount would increase; however, the one-time rebate cheque would offset the increase. He also noted that information from the Province of Manitoba on this issue was provided with the property tax bills; however, should further clarification be required residents could contact the Tax Department at 204 729-2228.

June 7, 2021 City Council Meeting

(207) DISPOSITION OF CITY PROPERTY BETWEEN 37 AND 39 QUEENS CRESCENT

Councillor Frangi advised that during his election campaign a resident had enquired about the city-owned property between 37 and 39 Queens Crescent. He noted that the property had been left vacant and blocked off to vehicle traffic for quite some time and enquired as to the planned usage for same and whether or not it may be available for sale.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor the City Manager responded that this property was a lane right-of-way used as an informal pedestrian connection as well as accessed by Manitoba Hydro for overhead electrical work. He advised that there were no planned changes to the use of same and agreed to send out crews for grass cutting and maintenance if necessary. He invited anyone interested in purchasing the property to contact Angie Robertson, City of Brandon Property Coordinator at 204-729-2163 or via email at a.robertson@brandon.ca.

(208) CRIME AND SAFETY IN MEADOWS AREA

Councillor Frangi expressed concern regarding the amount of criminal activity in the Meadows Ward, inclusive of in the vicinity of Meadows School. He enquired if an update could be provided on how these issues could be addressed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that Brandon Police Service data showed that the level of criminal activity in the Meadows Ward was low compared to the rest of the City of Brandon; however, there had been a slight increase in activity at a specific address close to Meadows School. He confirmed that extra patrols would be conducted in the areas of concern as time allowed.

(209) UPDATE ON SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the status of the sidewalk replacement program, inclusive of a list of current and future projects.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the 2021 annual budget for sidewalk improvements/replacements was \$375,000. He confirmed that the 2021 budget included accessible sidewalk ramps at 30 locations, sidewalk replacement in the 2000 and 2200 Blocks of College Avenue, Crosswalk improvements on McDiarmid Drive, as well as sidewalk replacements in the 100 Block of Willier Drive and the 400 Block of 4th Street. Mr. Bowles explained that the replacement projects were chosen based on a condition assessment of the city sidewalk network. He advised that, due to the recent completion of the condition assessment, projected replacement plans for the future were unavailable at this time.

(210) EVALUATION USED FOR SIDEWALK ASSESSMENT

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the evaluation used for sidewalk assessments, inclusive of the matrix used in determining which sidewalks were to be repaired or replaced and the timelines for same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Development Services responded that a full report on this issue as well as the overall asset management program would be provided to City Council at an Informal Session to be held in the near future.

June 21, 2021 City Council Meeting

(211) UPDATE ON DOWNTOWN TASK FORCE

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the implementation of the Downtown Task Force, inclusive of an expected start date for same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that work had begun to create a framework and mandate for a Downtown Task Force with same to be shared with City Council in the near future and the community shortly thereafter. He confirmed that more immediate safety concerns had been somewhat alleviated by the implementation of the Brandon Police Service's Downtown Strategy which included increased patrols over the summer months in addition to the contracted security patrols on a daily basis. He stated that more details on Downtown initiatives were expected in the coming weeks.

(212) REPAIR WORK ON BROOKWOOD DRIVE

Councillor Berry advised that the condition of Brookwood Drive continued to be a concern for residents and, given that this was the third summer in a row this issue had been raised, he requested a firm commitment for the repairs to be completed as soon as possible.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a meeting was planned this week to discuss the schedule and approach for resurfacing this section of the roadway, inclusive of the milling and amount of asphalt required for same.

Councillor Berry reiterated his request for a firm commitment and timeline for completion of these repairs.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

July 20, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Mark Allard, Director of Engineering Services, Development Services

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 212 – Repair on Brookwood Drive – June 21, 2021 City Council Meeting

Councillor Berry advised that the condition of Brookwood Drive continued to be a concern for residents and, given that this was the third summer in a row this issue had been raised, he requested a firm commitment for the repairs to be completed as soon as possible.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a meeting was planned this week to discuss the schedule and approach for resurfacing this section of the roadway, inclusive of the milling and amount of asphalt required for same.

Councillor Berry reiterated his request for a firm commitment and timeline for completion of these repairs.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

Engineering Services has been in discussion with Waverly Developments and Tri-Wave Construction. Resurfacing of Brookwood Drive and adjacent streets will be undertaken by Zenith Paving, while milling of the existing asphalt surface will be completed by Borland Construction Ltd of Winnipeg. Milling is to commence on July 26, 2021. Work is planned to be completed within a week's time.

Regards,

Mark Allard

Director of Engineering Services

July 12, 2021 City Council Meeting

(213) BUSINESS GROWTH IN THE CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor Frangi noted that as the population of the City of Brandon continued to grow so did the need for major businesses such as Costco. He enquired what had been and was being done to encourage large retailers such as Costco to come to Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Economic Development Office along with several local commercial property owners/developers had reached out numerous times to Costco and invited them to consider the City of Brandon in their expansion plans. He confirmed that Costco was very familiar with the Brandon market place and continued to monitor same for consideration as a new location when investment decisions were made.

(214) BLIND CORNER IN BACK LANE ON EAST SIDE OF MCDIARMID DRIVE ALLIANCE CHURCH

Councillor Cameron advised that a blind corner in the back lane on the east side of McDiarmid Drive Alliance Church was dangerous for cyclists entering the lane from the bike path. He enquired if warning signage or staggered fencing to slow bikes down as they entered the lane could be considered for this location.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that this area would be reviewed by the Engineering Department with a response to be provided as soon as possible.

(215) GOPHER CONTROL IN CITY PARKS

Councillor Luebke referred to the increased number of gophers in public greenspaces and on residents' properties this summer and enquired if any pest control measures were planned for same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the rodent control at a few sports facilities and buildings was contracted out by the Parks Department; however, a local pest control service had provided service at city greenspaces during huge infestations in the past. It was noted that the gopher population thrived on the dry conditions and at least a 20% increase in same was expected this summer. The City Manager advised that the Brandon Police Service had received numerous calls recently with respect to this issue and Animal Control Officers concentrated on eradication in certain areas when it was safe to do so. Mr. Bowles encouraged residents to work with local pest control providers for eradication of rodents on private property.

Further to this issue, Councillor Desjarlais advised that these rodents were most likely Richardson Ground Squirrels rather than gophers. Councillor Fawcett advised that there was a large infestation of rodents in the area of Hanbury Hill and reminded residents not to leave food out for the wildlife in the area as these squirrels or gophers also fed off that same food. Councillor Chaboyer cautioned that the poison used to eradicate rodents was toxic to small pets and encouraged everyone to keep that in mind when such products were used in public greenspaces and parks.

August 16, 2021

TO: Mayor Rick Chrest and
Members of City Council

FROM: Samuel van Huizen
Traffic & Transportation Planner – Engineering Department

SUBJECT: Enquiry No. 214 – Blind Corner in the Back Lane on East Side of McDiarmid
Drive Alliance Church

This memo is provided in response to Councilor Cameron's enquiry of safety concerns of the blind corner in the back lane where a bicycle path intersects near McDiarmid Alliance Church. He enquired if warning signage or staggered fencing to slow down cycling traffic as they enter the lane could be considered at this location. His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

The Engineering department has conducted some research into this corner. While there is no indication that there is excessive cycling or vehicle traffic, there is a physical obstruction preventing either road user from having good sightlines to remain visible to each other.

There is currently signage indicating the vehicle traffic in the lane of a crosswalk. There is not currently any signage on the multi-use path indicating cycling traffic to stop and dismount. While this would satisfy any legal requirements, the reality is that a physical barrier would do better to prevent non-compliance and increase the safety for all road users.

It is the recommendation of the Engineering department to install weave barriers to slow down cycling traffic at this intersection. Engineering is currently looking at funding options and hopes to install this budget year, however, should adequate funds not be available, this project will defer to 2022.

I trust this satisfies your enquiry. If you have any clarifying questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully Submitted,

“Original Signed By”

Samuel van Huizen, C.E.T.
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION PLANNER

(216) TRAFFIC IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS - REQUEST TO EXAMINE "VISION ZERO" GUIDELINES

Councillor Berry stated that the growth of the City of Brandon had caused increased traffic in residential areas, particularly in new developments. He advised that many cities who experienced this same type of growth had adopted the "Vision Zero" guidelines to address these issues. Councillor Berry enquired if these guidelines could be examined and considered for the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the "Vision Zero" Guidelines originated in Sweden in 1997 as a means to combat road related fatalities. Mr. Bowles advised that, given the success in Sweden, other countries, including Canada, had implemented some aspects of same into their own policies and guidelines.

The City Manager confirmed that the City of Brandon currently had already taken action such as crosswalk enhancements, maintaining clear site lines, and installing appropriate signage to combat road related fatalities. He agreed that "Vision Zero" Guidelines would be studied further and a full report on this issue provided by the end of October 2021.

(217) INCREASED TRAFFIC ON DURUM DRIVE - REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC COUNT

Councillor Berry advised that increased traffic on Durum Drive off of Aberdeen Avenue had become a concern for area residents. He enquired if traffic counts on Aberdeen Avenue off of 34th Street as well as the south section of Durum Drive off Aberdeen Avenue could be conducted with the results of same and potential solutions provided as soon as possible.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that higher traffic volumes existed on Durum Drive connecting Aberdeen Avenue and 26th Street than other local streets in the neighbourhood due to its design and connection points. He noted that this may be due to the recent reconstruction of this street with wider vehicle lanes and a smooth surface. It was agreed that traffic study would be conducted as requested with the results of same to be presented to City Council by the end of October 2021.

(218) REQUEST FOR "NO PARKING" SIGNS ON NORTH SIDE OF SYCAMORE DRIVE

Councillor Berry advised that he had received numerous complaints from area residents with respect to the parking and traffic situation along Sycamore Drive. He noted that

new housing construction in the area had caused increased volumes of both traffic and on-street parking and enquired if the installation of No Parking Signs along the north side of Sycamore Drive could be considered.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that speed and movement of traffic on Sycamore Drive between Magnolia and Lyndale Drives had been an ongoing concern prior to any new development established in the area. It was noted that the easiest natural traffic calming that could be employed was on-street parking, however, this issue would be investigated further with a full report on same to be provided at the September 20, 2021 City Council meeting.

(219) UPDATE ON POOL RE-OPENING AT BRANDON COMMUNITY SPORTSPLEX

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on the status of the re-opening of the pool at the Brandon Community Sportsplex.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Brandon Community Sportsplex pool construction was expected to be completed mid-September. He advised that programming schedules and registration information was to be released in early September with re-opening for all programs scheduled for September 27, 2021.

(220) UPDATE ON DRAINAGE ISSUES IN SOUTH END EAST OF 18TH STREET SOUTH

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on the planned improvements to drainage east of 18th Street South.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Engineering Department was working on a variety of potential solutions to this problem inclusive of changing the direction of the water flow and increasing the capacity of the size of the drainage pipe north of Lyndale Boulevard. It was agreed that all options would be reviewed with a full report on same, inclusive of recommendations and estimated costs, provided to City Council by the end of October 2021.

(221) DRAINAGE DITCH ALONG CP RAIL TRACKS EAST AND WEST OF 26TH STREET AND PRIVATE DRIVEWAY ACCESSED AS A TURN-AROUND SPOT ON 26TH STREET

Councillor Cameron advised that he had received a complaint from an area resident with respect to recent flooding on his property. Councillor Cameron explained that the issue appeared to be a poorly maintained drainage ditch along the CP Railway tracks east and west of 26th Street. He enquired if this issue could be discussed with the Railway and potential solutions sought.

Councillor Cameron also advised that a resident in this area had reported that vehicles were accessing his driveway as a turn-around spot to avoid waiting for trains on the CP tracks at 26th Street and enquired as to potential solutions to this problem.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take both these matters under advisement with a report on same to be provided at the September 20, 2021 City Council meeting.

(222) REQUEST FOR "NO PARKING" SIGNS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MARYLAND AVENUE ACROSS FROM HUMMINGBIRD GARDENS

Councillor Chaboyer raised concerns regarding vehicles parking in the ditch on the North side of Maryland Avenue across from Hummingbird Gardens. She noted that this was a narrow street and it was unsafe for passengers to be entering and exiting vehicles along the side of this busy roadway. She enquired if "No Parking" Signs could be considered for this stretch of Maryland Avenue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that on-street parking was not permitted on Maryland Avenue between Derlago Drive and 18th Street and parking was prohibited on any public reserve or grass boulevard, hence signage would be installed as soon as possible. Mr. Bowles reminded residents that parking was prohibited on this roadway and access to Hummingbird Community Gardens was via 26th Street.

(223) REVIEW OF PARKING SPOT REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Councillor Chaboyer noted that there appeared to be a shortage of parking spots in many of the new developments in the City of Brandon. She enquired if the number of assigned and visitor spots required for residential developments could be reviewed and potentially increased if necessary.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

September 14, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Mark Allard, Director of Engineering Services, Development Services

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 221 - Drainage Ditch Along CP Rail Tracks East and West of 26th Street & Private Driveway Accessed as a Turn-Around Spot on 26th Street August 16, 2021 City Council Meeting

Councillor Cameron advised that he had received a complaint from an area resident with respect to recent flooding on his property. Councillor Cameron explained that the issue appeared to be a poorly maintained drainage ditch along the CP Railway tracks east and west of 26th Street. He enquired if this issue could be discussed with the Railway and potential solutions sought.

Councillor Cameron also advised that a resident in this area had reported that vehicles were accessing his driveway as a turn-around spot to avoid waiting for trains on the CP tracks at 26th Street and enquired as to potential solutions to this problem.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take both these matters under advisement with a report on same to be provided by the September 20, 2021 City Council meeting.

Drainage along the CP Railway falls under the jurisdiction of CP Rail. Engineering Services contacted the rail company in early September to learn they would be undertaking a ditch clean out on both sides of the rail between 26th and 18th Street. Work was ongoing as of Monday September 13, 2021.

While it may be unfortunate vehicles are using a driveway as a turn-around spot to avoid waiting for trains, there is not by-law or regulation that prohibits this behaviour. Although the driveway is intended for personal use, it is reminded that the portion of driveway within the boulevard is on public property.

Regards,

Mark Allard

Director of Engineering Services

September 10, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Ryan Nickel, Director of Planning & Buildings

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 223 – Review of parking spot requirements for new developments – August 16th, 2021 City Council Meeting

Enquiry

Councillor Chaboyer noted that there appeared to be a shortage of parking spots in many of the new developments in the City of Brandon. She enquired if the number of assigned and visitor spots required for residential developments could be reviewed and potentially increased if necessary.

Response

- Parking requirements, like all land use related regulations/standards should be a result of the communities vision/priorities as outlined in the City Plan
- Staff will be engaging the community in the creation of City Plan in 2022 to determine a vision and priorities for how the community will grow and change for the next 30 years
- City staff will be reviewing Zoning Standards (including parking) as a tool to implement the City Plan in 2023 to reflect the community we want to become
- Some cities require more on-site parking while others are reducing, and in some cases eliminating parking requirements. Each approach results in implications on the type, amount, tenure, and form of development in a community. The current City of Brandon requirement for multi-unit residential is 1.5 spaces per unit, and the number of spaces required does not change based on the availability of street parking.
- As part of the zoning review, staff will evaluate the parking demand for different uses in different contexts throughout the City, including utilization of both on-site and off-site (i.e. street parking)
- The supply of street parking is a typical concern of some residents, often based on the expectation that street parking should be readily available directly adjacent to their residence, where street parking is part of our cities road infrastructure and is available for use by all residents in the City.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Ryan Nickel, RPP
Director, Planning & Buildings Department



Mark G. Allard, P. Eng.
Director of Engineering Services
City of Brandon
Ph. 204-729-2213
m.allard@brandon.ca

October 18, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Mark Allard, Director of Engineering Services, Development Services

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 220 – Update on Drainage Issues in South End East of 18th Street South - August 16, 2021 City Council Meeting

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on the planned improvements to drainage east of 18th Street South.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Engineering Department was working on a variety of potential solutions to this problem inclusive of changing the direction of the water flow and increasing the capacity of the size of the drainage pipe north of Lyndale Boulevard. It was agreed that all options would be reviewed with a full report on same, inclusive of recommendations and estimated costs, provided to City Council by the end of October 2021.

Engineering Services recognizes concerns relating to issues with drainage in Southeast Brandon, specifically those along 18th Street South. In order to address the issue, Engineering has developed and analysed multiple solutions. Of those solutions, two are believed most feasible: 1) Convey drainage south to the annexed lands and 2) Convey drainage east into the proposed cemetery pond. These long-term solutions, along with solutions for drainage issues within Southeast Brandon were presented to members of council at an informal session of council on September 27, 2021.

The proposed solutions require further detailed analysis to allow for the completion of engineering design, which is proposed to be completed in the new year. Construction of a long-term solution would follow suit as funding allows. In the interim, Engineering is committed to working with the Operations Division to ensure proactive measures are employed to mitigate the drainage issues along the east side of 18th Street South.

Regards,

Mark Allard

Director of Engineering Services

September 7, 2021 City Council Meeting

(224) SIDEWALK ALONG VAN HORNE AVENUE AND SPEED CONCERNS IN AREA BETWEEN 21ST AND 26TH STREETS

Councillor Frangi enquired when the installation of a sidewalk was planned for along Van Horne Avenue between 21st and 26th Streets. He noted that the speed of traffic in this area was also a concern and requested an update be provided on both these issues.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement with a full report on same to be provided in the near future.

(225) REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF STREET NAMING POLICY

Councillor Chaboyer referred to previous discussions with respect to the naming of streets in the City of Brandon to ensure equality and inclusivity in the naming process. She requested that an informal meeting of City Council be arranged for a review of the Street Naming Policy.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

September 22, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Mark Allard, Director of Engineering Services, Development Services

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 224 - Sidewalk Along Van Horne Avenue and Speed
Concerns in Area Between 21st & 26th Streets
September 7, 2021 City Council

Councillor Frangi enquired when the installation of a sidewalk was planned for along Van Horne Avenue between 21st and 26th Streets. He noted that the speed of traffic in this area was also a concern and requested an update be provided on both these issues.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement with a full report on same to be provided in the near future.

Engineering Services recognizes the issue and has this project identified for consideration in future capital programs. As the current street exists as a rural cross-section, (gravel shoulders and drainage swales) with poor pavement condition, reconstruction of the entire street to an urban cross section is proposed. The new street will be constructed with curb and gutter, boulevard and sidewalk.

Priority of this project will be assessed amongst other infrastructure demands within the City.

Regards,

Mark Allard

Director of Engineering Services

September 20, 2021 City Council Meeting

(226) **STATUS OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the status of the Request for Proposals (RFP) to either repair or replace Park Community Centre.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the RFP was expected to be released this fall with City Council being apprised of same prior to its release.

(227) **DUST ISSUES IN BACK LANE OF MCDONALD AVENUE NEAR THE GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION**

Councillor Cameron advised that, with the McDonald Avenue entrance to the Wheat City Golf Course closed due to construction, all traffic was being rerouted down the back lane which had caused a serious dust problem. He enquired if some measure of dust control could be considered for this lane as soon as possible.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that calcium applications were scheduled to commence this week with this laneway being high up on the list for same.

(228) **VACCINATION MANDATE OR TESTING REQUIREMENT FOR CITY STAFF WORKING WITH THE PUBLIC AND THE VULNERABLE POPULATION**

Councillor Cameron referred to recent vaccination/testing mandates implemented by the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba and private businesses with respect to mandated vaccination or regimented testing of front-line staff and those working with the vulnerable population. He enquired if the City of Brandon planned to follow suit with similar policies.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the City of Brandon continued to monitor the development of policies and procedures for mandated vaccinations and testing and strongly encouraged all employees and members of the public to get fully vaccinated as soon as they were able to. Mr. Bowles confirmed that Brandon Fire and Emergency Services Paramedics fell under the direction of Shared Health Manitoba and as such, were required to be fully vaccinated or undergo regular testing for COVID-19 by October 31, 2021. He also confirmed that the City of Brandon continued to follow the current Public Health Orders and adhered to a high level of COVID-19 prevention protocols, inclusive of the required proof of vaccination for those accessing the Brandon Community Sportsplex.

(229)

VEHICLE SPEED ALONG MCDIARMID DRIVE NEAR 34TH STREET

Councillor Cameron advised that concerns had been expressed with the speed of traffic on McDiarmid Drive particularly in the vicinity of 34th Street and the intersection of the bike path at that location. He enquired if this area could be monitored and potential resolutions to this problem provided as soon as possible.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that this area would be monitored by the Engineering Services Department and the Brandon Police Service to ensure posted speed limits were being adhered to and corrective action taken if necessary.

(230)

CITY BY-LAWS TO RESOLVE PROPERTY AND NUISANCE ISSUES

Councillor Cameron advised that he had received numerous complaints from area residents with respect to unsanitary and unsafe conditions of several properties in the University Ward. He enquired as to potential solutions to these problems for residents, inclusive of enforcement of current City of Brandon by-laws or the creation of additional by-laws if necessary.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that Building Safety and Property Standards By-law No. 6060 established the standards of building safety, maintenance and occupancy of dwellings as well as other structures or property within the City of Brandon and was enforced by the Senior Building Inspector and the Brandon Police Service By-law Enforcement Officers. He advised that the Nuisance By-law No. 5806 regulated general nuisances such as noise along with the general maintenance of yards to ensure same were kept clear of rubbish, garbage and other debris as well as maintained and neatly groomed. Mr. Bowles noted that the Brandon Police Service By-law Enforcement Officers were also responsible for the enforcement of this by-law with offenders being subject to penalties as outlined in the Compliance By-law. The City Manager explained that the above by-laws were largely complaint driven with same to be reported to the Brandon Police Service for enforcement. Mr. Bowles advised that a Community Standards By-law which was expected to clarify standards, simplify understanding and increase enforcement efforts was expected to be presented for City Council's consideration in October 2021.

October 4, 2021 City Council Meeting

(231) UPDATE ON THE BRANDON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Councillor Luebke requested an update on the Brandon Downtown Development Corporation, inclusive of what was accomplished in 2021 and planned for 2022.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a formal presentation to City Council, inclusive of 2021 accomplishments and 2022 proposed plans, was to be provided by year-end.

(232) TRAFFIC CONCERNS - INTERSECTION OF FREDERICK STREET AND COLLEGE AVENUE EAST

Councillor Parker advised that concerns had been raised with respect to speed of traffic and visibility issues at the intersection of Frederick Street and College Avenue. He enquired if this issue could be investigated and potential solutions sought.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, upon inspection of the area, it was determined that a yield sign was needed at this intersection and same was to be installed by the end of the week.

(233) CONSTRUCTION BARRICADES AT 25TH STREET AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Cameron noted that, while the work appeared to be completed, the barricades remained in place at the intersection of 25th Street and Victoria Avenue. He enquired when the barricades were expected to be removed and the asphalt completed at that intersection.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the watermain work had not been completed due to a shortage of materials. Mr. Bowles advised that the materials were expected to arrive within the week with the barricades to be removed and the repairs completed as soon as possible upon receipt of same. He confirmed that local businesses and residents were to be kept updated on the scheduled repairs.

(234) CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - 26TH STREET AND WILLOWDALE CRESCENT/BRANDON AVENUE

Councillor Berry enquired as to the expected timeline for completion of the construction at 26th Street and Willowdale Crescent/Brandon Avenue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the northbound lanes of 26th Street were re-opened to traffic; however, work continued in the southbound lanes. He noted that intermittent, short-term closures to finish the watermain and concrete work were expected for the next few weeks. He confirmed that the work on 26th Street and the intersection itself were expected to be completed this year with the work on Willowdale Crescent planned for Spring 2022.

(235) CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - 26TH STREET AND MARYLAND AVENUE

Councillor Berry requested an update on the construction underway at 26th Street and Maryland Avenue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the watermain and sewer installation at 26th Street and Maryland Avenue was to be completed this week with the road repairs scheduled for completion next week.

(236) ROAD REPAIRS TO MARQUIS DRIVE

Councillor Berry noted that Marquis Drive had suffered significant damage from all the heavy trucks and equipment accessing the developments in the area. He enquired if permanent repairs, inclusive of milling and paving, were planned for the near future.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that significant repairs were planned for Marquis Drive in 2022. He confirmed that a detailed cost estimate for repairs to both Marquis Drive and Marquis Crescent was to be submitted to City Council as part of the 2022 Budget discussions.

(237) PRE-BUDGET PRESENTATION FROM FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Councillor Berry enquired if a pre-budget presentation from the Fire & Emergency Services Department outlining operations, challenges and potential challenges could be provided to City Council ahead of the 2022 City of Brandon Budget Deliberations.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager confirmed that a presentation regarding operations and challenges of service delivery for Brandon Fire & Emergency Services would be scheduled prior to the 2022 City of Brandon Budget Deliberations. Councillor Berry requested that an Informal Session with the Fire & Emergency Services Department be scheduled mid-November.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take Councillor Berry's request under advisement.

(238)

EXPANSION FOR SHARPS DISPOSAL CONTAINERS

Councillor Berry enquired if the locations of sharps disposal containers could be expanded to include spots along certain walking paths in the Linden Lanes Ward.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the City of Brandon Safety & Health Department was coordinating a meeting with Public Health's Harm Reduction team for further insight into this issue, following which the information garnered would be shared with City Council. Mr. Bowles advised that, in the interim, some containers were available and agreed to follow-up with Councillor Berry on the proposed locations for same.

(239)

UPDATE ON 8TH STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE FUNDING APPLICATION

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the status of the funding applications for the installation of a pedestrian bridge on 8th Street.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Engineering Department continued to search for applicable funding grants for the installation of the 8th Street Pedestrian Bridge and agreed to keep City Council updated on this issue as new information became available.

(240)

SPEED OF TRAINS ENTERING AND EXITING CITY LIMITS

Councillor Desjarlais advised that he had received a concern from a resident with respect to the speed of trains entering and exiting city limits. He enquired as to the speed limits for trains within the City of Brandon, and further, whose responsibility it was for monitoring same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the speed limits on rail corridors were set by the railway as per Transport Canada Rail Safety Regulations with the current maximum speed being 90 km/h within city limits. Mr. Bowles confirmed that train speed limits were monitored by the CP Police and encouraged any residents with concerns to contact CP Rail directly.

October 18, 2021 City Council Meeting

(241) **COST OF SNOW CLEARING - BRANDON POLICE SERVICE PARKING LOT**

Councillor Berry noted that the cost for snow removal was currently included in the Brandon Police Service budget and contracted out. He enquired if this service could be provided by the City of Brandon Public Works Department to save costs on an already tight budget.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, given that the Brandon Police Service lot needed to be cleared of snow in a timely manner, it had been determined that contracting out this service was the best option. Mr. Bowles explained that snow clearing costs needed to be recorded as a means of accurately accounting for the costs of having a police service within the City of Brandon whether same were charged to the Brandon Police Service budget or the overall budget for the City of Brandon.

(242) **TRAFFIC SPEED AND VOLUME ON DURUM DRIVE**

Councillor Berry advised that residents at his recent ward meeting had expressed concerns with the speed and volume of traffic on Durum Drive, noting that this street had become more of an arterial street than a collector street. He enquired if a reduction of the speed limit to 40 km/h on Durum Drive or making the stretch of Aberdeen Avenue between Durum Drive and 34th Street a one-way street could be considered.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a full report on this issue was to be provided to City Council by the end of October. He confirmed that, in the interim, speed radar boards were to be installed along Durum Drive in the very near future.

(243) **POSSIBLE ELIMINATION OF YEARLY INSPECTION OF NON-EMERGENCY HYDRANTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTIES**

Councillor Berry requested an update on the potential policy changes to allow for the possible elimination of yearly inspections of non-emergency hydrants on private properties.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement and confirmed that this issue was to be considered further at an upcoming meeting.

(244)

INSTALLATION OF RAPID FLASHING BEACON IN 1000-1200 BLOCKS OF 6TH STREET

Councillor Luebke referred to the delay in the installation of Rapid Flashing Beacons in the 1000 to 1200 Blocks of 6th Street and enquired when this work was expected to be completed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the beacons had been received, however, there was a delay in the shipping of the proper mounting components. He confirmed that the posts had been installed, the mounting components were expected within the month with the beacons up and running immediately thereafter.

(245)

GROUP GATHERINGS IN THE BRANDON CEMETERY

Councillor Luebke advised that he had received complaints with respect to group gatherings being held in the Brandon Cemetery. He noted that the complaints included vehicles blocking the pathways as well as refuse, inclusive of drug paraphernalia, being left behind. He enquired if this issue could be investigated.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.



Perry Roque
Director of Parks & Recreation Services
638 Princess Avenue Brandon, MB R7A 0P3
P: 204.729.2170
E: p.roque@brandon.ca

October 29, 2021

To: Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

From: Perry Roque, Director of Parks and Recreation Services

Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 245 – Group Gatherings in the Brandon Cemetery
October 18, 2021 City Council Meeting

Councillor Luebke advised that he had received complaints with respect to group gatherings being held in the Brandon Cemetery. He noted that the complaints included vehicles blocking the pathways as well as refuse, inclusive of drug paraphernalia, being left behind. He enquired if this issue could be investigated.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement

The cemetery is an active community space, many members of the public walk in the Brandon Cemetery. During COVID-19 there have been small groups using the cemetery as a gathering place and they are respectful.

Staff have checked, and the groups are not blocking any roadways or pathways. If staff see any groups blocking the roadway, the Leadhand on duty is responsible to speak to the group, to correct the problem. The cemetery staff are responsible to pick up the garbage and address any safety concerns regarding drug paraphernalia daily.

Regards,

Perry Roque

Director of Parks and Recreation Services

November 1, 2021 City Council Meeting

(246) **CONDITIONAL ASSESSMENT OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES**

Councillor Cullen enquired as to when the inspection is to be complete and when will Operations be able to share the results with Council and the public.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager replied that engineering services has contracted out for the cleaning and condition assessment of the waste water and drainage pipe. This year's inspection will capture an additional 10 percent of the City's full network. The process entails a hydro jet clean out, video imagery of the internal pipe wall, and detailed analysis and condition assessment. The field work should be complete in November, with the analysis and assessment report projected to be completed in spring 2022. Engineering can present a general overview report next summer.

(247) **CLEAN-UP OF DEAD TREES NEAR 1ST AND 18TH STREETS**

Councillor Parker advised that he had received complaints with respect to the unsightly dead trees due to flooding along the river near both 1st Street and 18th Street.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager replied that the locations mentioned in the enquiry are not all on City property. The dead and decaying trees may be seem unsightly, but provide several significant ecological benefits such as root stability, decrease rate of erosion, habitat for different wildlife species, and provide nutrients to the soil and wildlife. Removal would create an imbalance in the ecosystem. The City, in partnership with other organizations, could plant trees to expedite new growth.

(248) **UPDATE ON INTERSECTION OF #110 EASTERN ACCESS HIGHWAY AND RICHMOND AVENUE EAST**

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the safety recommendations and actions for the intersection at 110 Eastern Access Highway and Richmond Avenue East, near the Maple Leaf Plant.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that both roadways are under Provincial jurisdiction. The City continues to work closely with Manitoba Infrastructure for a timely resolution, with recommended actions of the safety audit be undertaken immediately. Funding be identified in the 2022/2023 Capital Infrastructure Program for safety improvements at this intersection. The City of Brandon recommended actions such as improved or enhanced rubble strips along highway 110, improved effectiveness for advance warning of the stop conditions on highway 110, and posted speed reductions prior to both intersections.

(249) UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION OF INTERSECTION AT 9TH STREET AND RICHMOND AVENUE

Councillor Chaboyer asked to receive an update on the closure of 9th Street and Richmond Avenue intersection.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(250) UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION GOING ON AT 26TH STREET AND WILLOWDALE AVENUE AND 26TH STREET AND PARK AVENUE

Councillor Berry requested an update on the construction taking place at 26th Street and Willowdale Avenue and Brandon Avenue. He enquired into when the paving would be completed, and the intersection be open for traffic in all directions.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that paving is beginning today, November 1, 2021 and are looking to be completed tomorrow, which will allow the intersection to fully reopen. There will be some partial closures coming to complete concrete work planned for this year and traffic signals are scheduled for installation prior to seasonal shut down.

Further to this issue Councillor Frangi requested an update as to when the barricades at 26th Street and Park Avenue would be removed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Development Services, responded that the barricades at 26th Street and Park Avenue were connected to the construction project on 26th Street and Willowdale Avenue. As indicated, paving is to be completed by November 2, 2021 and all barricades at these intersections would be removed to allow for traffic.

November 15, 2021 City Council Meeting

(251) UPDATE ON PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK AT MCDIARMID DRIVE AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Cameron requested an update on the installation of the pedestrian crosswalk at the McDiarmid Drive and Victoria Avenue intersection.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the pedestrian signals were currently being installed at this location and, weather permitting, activation of same was planned for early December.

(252) SIDEWALK REPAIRS FOR CLARK DRIVE

Councillor Cameron noted that the sidewalk along Clark Drive was deteriorating quickly and enquired if repairs to same could be included in the City of Brandon's 2022 improvements plan.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager confirmed that the Clark Drive sidewalk was included on the list of proposed projects to be discussed at the 2022 City of Brandon Budget Deliberations.

(253) SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH CORONATION PARK

Councillor Cameron enquired if funds for sidewalk improvements through Coronation Park had been included in the 2022 Capital Plan.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the sidewalks through Coronation Park were included on the list of projects under consideration for the 2022 construction season.

(254) UPDATE ON THE COMPLETION OF THE 34TH STREET EXPANSION

Councillor Cameron requested an update on the planned completion timeline for the 34th Street expansion.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the 34th Street extension and the CP Crossing was available as a secondary emergency access only and a lift of asphalt pavement on McDonald Avenue provided access to the golf course and local residences. He advised that the final base work, curbing, paving and landscaping to connect 34th Street through to McDonald Avenue would be completed in early summer 2022. The City Manager noted that the completion of this work had been delayed due to issues with the supply of materials for the retaining wall.

(255) UPDATE ON SNOW CLEARING ACTIVITIES AFTER THE RECENT SNOW FALL

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager provided an update on the snow clearing activities after the recent snowfall. Mr. Bowles advised that, all arterial and collector street intersections and walking paths had been cleared, with clearing of sidewalks and trouble spots to be conducted this week. The City Manager advised that an update on the snow clearing policy would be provided to City Council in the near future.

(256) RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS ENQUIRY ON SPEED LIMITS ON DURUM DRIVE

Councillor Berry referred to a previous enquiry whereby he had raised concerns with respect to the speed of traffic on Durum Drive. He noted that, although a response had been expected by the end of October, this issue remained outstanding. He requested that a response be provided as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the week.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager agreed to have a response provided as soon as possible.

(257) REVIEW OF BROWNFIELD POLICIES AND ABANDONED GAS STATIONS

Councillor Chaboyer noted that there were a number of abandoned gas stations throughout the City of Brandon continued to be an eyesore. She enquired if an informal meeting with Administration could be arranged in the near future to review the Brownfield policies and discuss potential solutions to this ongoing problem.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.