



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005
Thursday, December 8, 2005
Friday, December 9, 2005
Monday, December 12, 2005
Tuesday, December 13, 2005
Wednesday, December 14, 2005
Thursday, December 15, 2005

PRESENT: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh, E. Gibbons, R. Hayter,
K. Krushell, K. Leibovici, J. Melnychuk, M. Nickel, M. Phair*, L. Sloan,
D. Thiele.

*attended by telephone

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

A. B. Maurer, City Manager
S. Thompson, Acting City Clerk
A. Sinclair, Office of the City Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER AND RELATED BUSINESS

A.1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor S. Mandel called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

Transit – Senior Friendly Training

AMENDMENT MOVED L. Sloan – M. Phair:

That the Transportation and Streets Department 2006 Operating Budget – Transit be increased by \$223,000 to fund senior friendly training for Edmonton Transit Service on a one-time basis, with funding from the 2005 surplus.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 49)

Transit - West Edmonton Seniors Activity Centre

AMENDMENT MOVED L. Sloan – D. Thiele:

That the Transportation and Streets Department 2006 Operating Budget – Transit be increased by \$125,000 to fund community consultation and subsequently a community bus route to provide direct service to the West Edmonton Seniors Activity Centre on an ongoing basis, with funding from an increase in the tax levy.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 50)

Bus Trolley System

AMENDMENT MOVED K. Krushell – M. Nickel:

That Project No. XX-66-1411 Bus Trolley System be excluded from the funded capital plan and that the \$837,000 be released back to the general financing budget for 2006.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 90)

Mayor S. Mandel vacated the Chair and Deputy Mayor J. Melnychuk presided.

Purchase of Buses

AMENDMENT MOVED S. Mandel – M. Nickel:

That funding for the purchase of buses in 2006 be funded through a provincial infrastructure program and that the \$15,762,000 in operating funds be released.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 50)

Transit – Tax Levy Subsidy

AMENDMENT MOVED S. Mandel – M. Nickel:

That the tax levy subsidy of Transit be limited to the 2005 subsidy, plus annualization and funds for LRT Expansion (\$120,795,000), and that the remaining funds requested (\$3,738,000) not be covered until Administration brings forward a report, through the Transportation and Public Works Committee, for Council’s review of the business drivers, Council policies, service standards and operating procedures that have a significant impact on the annual operating costs.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 46)

New Transit Garage

AMENDMENT MOVED S. Mandel – J. Batty:

1. That Project No. 05-75-3805 - New Transit Garage be reduced to \$500,000 to allow Administration to explore alternative ways of designing and building the transit garage, including a build-to-suit, lease-back, and P3 alternatives; and
2. That the balance of \$2,044,000 be held in reserve and allocated in the 2007 Capital Budget Process.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 90)

Deputy Mayor J. Melnychuk vacated the Chair and Mayor S. Mandel presided.

A. Sinclair, Office of the City Clerk, answered Council’s questions.

D.1.a. Undertakings - Winter Maintenance Activities Implementation of Option 1 – Information for Discussion ➤

MOVED J. Melnychuk – M. Nickel:

That the November 21, 2005, Transportation and Streets Department report 2005TS8125 be received for information.	Transportation & Streets
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CARRIED

FOR THE MOTION: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh,
E. Gibbons, R. Hayter, K. Krushell, K. Leibovici,
J. Melnychuk, M. Nickel, M. Phair, L. Sloan,
D. Thiele.

D.1.b. Future Trolley Operation in Edmonton >

MOVED J. Melnychuk – M. Nickel:

That the November 24, 2005, Transportation and Streets Department report 2005TS1636, be received for information.	Transportation & Streets
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CARRIED

FOR THE MOTION: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh,
E. Gibbons, R. Hayter, K. Krushell, K. Leibovici,
J. Melnychuk, M. Nickel, M. Phair, L. Sloan,
D. Thiele.

E. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

D. Kloster, General Manager, Community Services Department, answered Council's questions.

MOVED J. Batty – T. Cavanagh:

That any Member of Council who may wish to do so be allowed to speak for an additional five minutes.

CARRIED

FOR THE MOTION: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh,
E. Gibbons, R. Hayter, K. Krushell, K. Leibovici,
J. Melnychuk, M. Nickel, M. Phair, L. Sloan,
D. Thiele.

D. Kloster, General Manager, Community Services Department, answered Council's questions.

Mayor S. Mandel vacated the Chair and Deputy Mayor J. Melnychuk presided.

MOVED S. Mandel – T. Cavanagh:

That Council recess until 3:45 p.m.

CARRIED

L.1.b. Edmonton Police Commission

Implementation of Organizational Review/Meet with City Growth

AMENDMENT MOVED J. Batty – M. Phair:

That the Edmonton Police Commission 2006 Operating Budget be increased by \$1,484,000 to fund the Implementation of Organizational Review/Meet with City Growth on an ongoing basis, with funding from an increase in the tax levy.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 86)

Council adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Council reconvened on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, at 9:34 a.m.

D. TRANSPORTATION AND STREETS DEPARTMENT

Bus Trolley System Northgate Extension

AMENDMENT MOVED D. Thiele – K. Leibovici:

That Project 06-66-1512 – Bus Trolley System Northgate Extension, in the amount of \$2,800,000, be added to the funded capital plan in 2006, with funding from an increase in the tax levy.

A. B. Maurer, City Manager, answered Council's questions.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 97)

M. ASSET MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

E-Waste Processing Facility

AMENDMENT MOVED K. Leibovici – S. Mandel:

That Project 06-33-2003 – E-Waste Processing Facility be excluded from the funded capital fund and that the \$500,000 be released back to the waste management user fees revenues.

POSTPONED
(Dealt with on p. 98)

FOR THE AMENDMENT: B. Anderson, J. Batty, M. Phair, L. Sloan,
D. Thiele.
OPPOSED: S. Mandel; T. Cavanagh, E. Gibbons, R. Hayter,
K. Krushell, K. Leibovici, J. Melnychuk, M. Nickel.

Bus Trolley System

AMENDMENT MOVED K. Krushell – M. Nickel:

That Project No. XX-66-1411 Bus Trolley System be excluded from the funded capital plan and that the \$837,000 be released back to the general financing budget for 2006.

WITHDRAWN

With the unanimous consent of Council, Councillor K. Krushell withdrew the above amendment.

Mayor S. Mandel vacated the Chair and Deputy Mayor J. Melnychuk presided.

New Transit Garage

AMENDMENT MOVED S. Mandel – J. Batty:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Project No. 05-75-3805 - New Transit Garage be reduced to \$500,000 to allow Administration to explore alternative ways of designing and building the transit garage, including a build-to-suit, lease-back, and P3 alternatives; and 2. That the balance of \$2,044,000 be held in reserve and allocated in the 2007 Capital Budget Process. 	<p>Corporate Svcs. Transportation & Streets</p>
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A. B. Maurer, City Manager, answered Council’s questions.

CARRIED

FOR THE AMENDMENT: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh,
E. Gibbons, R. Hayter, K. Krushell, K. Leibovici,
J. Melnychuk, M. Nickel, M. Phair, L. Sloan.
OPPOSED: D. Thiele.

Deputy Mayor J. Melnychuk vacated the Chair and Mayor S. Mandel presided.

E. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Replacement of Drought Damaged Trees

AMENDMENT MOVED L. Sloan – M. Phair:

That Project No. 05-21-5252 Replacement of Drought Damaged Trees be funded in 2006 in the amount of \$1,200,000 from general financing generated from timing difference in the proposed 2006 1% tax supported debt borrowing.

Organic Management System Enhancement

AMENDMENT MOVED S. Mandel – M. Nickel:

That funds allocated for the Organic Management System Enhancement be held in abeyance until Administration has provided a report through the Transportation and Public Works Committee on the feasibility of this project being self-funded without being funded from user fees.	Corporate Svcs. AMPW TPW Committee Due: Feb. 28, 2006
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A. B. Maurer, City Manager, answered Council’s questions.

CARRIED

FOR THE AMENDMENT: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh,
E. Gibbons, R. Hayter, K. Krushell, K. Leibovici,
M. Nickel, M. Phair, L. Sloan, D. Thiele.

ABSENT: J. Melnychuk.

Waste Transfer Station

AMENDMENT MOVED S. Mandel – M. Nickel:

That the planned Request for Proposals (RFP) for Project No. 07-33-1935 - EWMC Transfer Station include provision for submission of various types of partnerships with private sector proponents, including P3 partnerships, and that Administration provide a report to the Transportation and Public Works Committee prior to proceeding with the RFP.	Corporate Svcs. AMPW TPW Committee Due: Feb. 28, 2006
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A. B. Maurer, City Manager, answered Council’s questions.

CARRIED

FOR THE AMENDMENT: S. Mandel; B. Anderson, J. Batty, T. Cavanagh,
E. Gibbons, R. Hayter, K. Krushell, K. Leibovici,
M. Nickel, M. Phair, L. Sloan.

OPPOSED: D. Thiele.

ABSENT: J. Melnychuk.

Acting Mayor E. Gibbons vacated the Chair and Mayor S. Mandel presided.

Bus Trolley System Northgate Extension

AMENDMENT MOVED D. Thiele – K. Leibovici:

That Project 06-66-1512 – Bus Trolley System Northgate Extension, in the amount of \$2,800,000, be added to the funded capital plan in 2006, with funding from an increase in the tax levy.

WITHDRAWN

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Future Trolley Operation in Edmonton

Recommendation:

That the November 24, 2005, Transportation and Streets Department report 2005TS1636, be received for information.

Report Summary

This report is in response to a motion passed, requesting that this item be considered in the 2006 Budget.

Previous Council Action

At the July 27, 2004, City Council meeting the following motion was passed:

1. That Edmonton Transit continue to operate trolleys until 2008.
2. That Administration arrange to have a demonstration of low-floor trolley and hybrid buses to be utilized within the system for information gathering.
3. That expansion of the trolley fleet to Northgate be considered in the 2006 budget.
4. That a report be provided to Council in 2008 regarding continuation of trolleys based on:
 - service levels
 - environmental concerns in light of the demonstration of low-floor trolley and hybrid buses, and other options.

Report

- An extension of trolley overhead and service to Northgate would involve the installation of approximately four kilometres (two-way) of overhead wire on 97 Street, north of 118 Avenue, and associated infrastructure (including poles, feeder cable, hardware and a new substation). Due to lead times required

for engineering and materials acquisition, construction could not be completed until mid-2007. In September 2007, trolley buses would replace diesel buses along the entire length of Route 9 (Northgate to Southgate), as well as operate on Route 134 (Northgate to Downtown). Articulated buses that presently operate on Route 9 would be reallocated to Route 8 (Mill Woods to Abbottsfield).

- Extension Construction

The preliminary capital cost to purchase and install new trolley overhead and associated infrastructure and acquire land for a new substation and feeder cable would be approximately \$5,800,000 (based on estimates from EPCOR).

- Vehicle Overhaul

In order to meet the increased trolley bus bookout and spare requirement, the number of operational trolley bus units would have to increase to 63. Some upgrading of buses presently in storage would be required with start-up costs of approximately \$100,000 per bus. This would be needed for body work, electrical overhaul and initial hiring and training for an increased contingent of Electro-Vehicle Mechanics (approximately \$1,000,000).

- Temporary Storage

The diesel backup fleet would increase by 15 vehicles in order to maintain 100% diesel backup for trolleys (contingency in case of trolley operation shutdown due to construction activity or infrastructure failure). Due to the limited garage space available until a new facility is operational (planned for

2009), temporary storage is required at a cost of approximately \$100,000 in 2007 and 2008.

- Service Costs

Based on a comparison of operating costs related to service hours, vehicle maintenance and fuel/power, an additional \$243,000 would be required annually with the trolley service extension to Northgate.

- Overhead and Infrastructure Maintenance

Further, additional costs would be incurred for trolley infrastructure and overhead maintenance for the section north of 118 Avenue (approximately \$125,000 annually).

If a decision is made to extend trolley operations to Northgate, and in 2008 City Council approves long-term continuation of trolley operations, further additional capital costs related to operation on the Northgate extension would be incurred.

- Modifications Related to SLRT Extension

If expanded trolley bus service on Route 9 is established, modifications to the overhead as 111 Street, south of 57 Avenue and at Southgate Transit Centre would be required in conjunction with South LRT construction. The preliminary cost estimate to move overhead wire with relocated northbound lanes on 111 Street and at Southgate Transit Centre is approximately \$1,500,000. Trolley service disruptions on Route 9 will be experienced during the construction period. Increased operations and maintenance issues could

occur at the 57 Avenue/111 Street crossover of trolley overhead and LRT catenary.

- Future costs, not included in Attachment 1, would include replacement of trolley buses in use on Routes 9 and 134 in 2010. Compared to figures identified by Booz Allen Hamilton, an additional 14 trolleys (including spares) would be required to maintain trolley service on this extension. Booz Allen identified an incremental cost of \$500,000 per bus or approximately \$7,000,000 compared to purchasing a similar number of diesel buses.
- Given that a decision on the long-term use of trolley buses will not be made by City Council until 2008, approval of an extension to Northgate may be premature, given the risks related to investments of \$7.3 million in capital costs (Northgate extension and relocations related to SLRT), and the \$1,000,000 vehicle upgrade costs needed prior to commencing trolley bus operation on this extension. Further, the status and design of Northgate Transit Centre is uncertain at this time, pending further planning of a North Bus Rapid Transit line.

Background Information Attached

1. [Trolley Operations to Northgate – Cost Implications](#)

Others Approving this Report

- W.D. Burn, General Manager, Asset Management and Public Works

Attachment 1

Trolley Operation to Northgate – Cost Implications

	<u>Capital</u>	<u>Operating Budget Adjustments</u>
2006		
Extension Construction (including substation)	\$2,600K	
Vehicle Overhaul (including initial hiring and training of Electro Vehicle Mechanics)	\$500K	
2007		
Extension Construction	\$3,200K	
Vehicle Overhaul	\$500K	
Service Costs		\$79K
Overhead and Infrastructure Maintenance		\$40K
Temporary Storage (removed from budget in 2009)		\$100K
2008		
Modifications Related to SLRT Extension	\$1,500K	
Service Costs		\$164K
Overhead and Infrastructure Maintenance		\$85K