

Organizing meeting: Make Winnipeg's Multi-Year Budget a Community Plan

Date: November 19th, 2019

Venue: Social Planning Council of Winnipeg, 432 Ellice Ave

Agenda

- Introductions (attendees listed on last page)
- Updates on Budget
- Alternatives
- Strategy

Action/Key Items

Updates on Budget

- Cuts to Transit: service time shortened to 12:15 am which can have an effect on DUI, DART (Dial and ride services), Bus shelter cleaning, Rush hour transit time cut down among others.
- Impact fees info – Snow removal budget
- **Find out if Police pension contribution was included in budget cuts**
- Cuts to Arlington bridge
- Shift to Privatising garbage removal for families living in apartments
- Cuts to organic collection
- **Find out where the budget to fund Rainbow stage is coming from – Re: Ross Eadie??**
- Cuts to Winnipeg Public Library Services

Alternatives

- Increased revenue for city from property tax of homeowners residing outside city limits who commute to Winnipeg 5 days a week. This is a long-term strategy however as it requires permission from the province.
- Re-visit CCPA's 2018 Alternative budget which provided a more realistic hope and includes suggestions like increasing capital budget for community services, reducing police services budget without taking away police pension, increasing property taxes for more revenue, increasing recreational services, etc.
- CCPA has fast fact on their alternative budget and summary of the report for those interested.
- Additional revenue from suburb businesses with parking space

Strategy

- Organize differently this time to avoid falling into the same cycle where community advocacy and push back only leads to a slight decrease in projected cuts to the level that was probably what the city council really wanted all along.
- Focus more on revenue
- Call out Mayor and council on their inability to sufficiently advocate for the needs of the City to the province of Manitoba in order to get more revenue to cover our needs.
- Imitate *Save Our Canopy* campaign by making specific ask ex- take 5% of road budget and add to tree budget
- Reiterate we will also be holding the province responsible for providing the city with more revenue streams to help with budget

- Remind city public spending stimulates growth much more than tax cuts could
- Submit request early if you want to present as a delegation at city hall
- Have a strategy around media so a story on alternative budget for each department gets to the public
- Focus on doing more than just a rally outside city hall; rally up Neighbourhood Associations from the different neighbourhoods, lobby targeted councillors holding the swing vote, create a strong widespread social media campaign that the councillors are sure to take note of.

Reminders:

Upcoming transit meeting – Nov 20th (401-275 Broadway, 6:30 pm)

Nov 28th City Budget Rally at City Hall – 12:15pm

Child Poverty Rally at Manitoba Legislative building – Nov 25 @ noon

State of the Inner city report launch – December

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