

Edmonton's Urban Traffic Noise Policy (K. Leibovici)

Recommendation:

That the January 25, 2011, Transportation Department report 2011TD4231 be received for information.

Report Summary

This report outlines the status of the review of Transportation Department's Urban Traffic Noise Policy (the Policy), as well as the elements that will be included in the review.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the September 15, 2010, City Council meeting, Councillor K. Leibovici made the following inquiry.

The City of Edmonton's Urban Traffic Noise Policy is currently under review by City Administration.

I would appreciate receiving information as to the status of the review, what elements will be included in the review, and when a possible update on the Urban Traffic noise Policy will be provided to Council and return to Transportation and Public Works Committee.

Report

Background

The Policy seeks to ensure that the negative impacts associated with the ongoing exposure to excessive traffic noise is mitigated. Responsibility for mitigation is assigned to the City of Edmonton where major transportation

infrastructure are proposed or upgraded by the City, and to developers of new residential land uses adjacent to major transportation infrastructure.

The City of Edmonton's Policy and Procedures were approved by City Council on June 15, 2004. In 2009, Transportation Department initiated a process to review and update the Policy. Two information sessions were held - one with City staff late in 2009, and one with City Councillors and their staff, early in 2010.

Based on the feedback received at these sessions and discussions within Administration, the focus of the update focused primarily on providing greater clarity within the Policy itself, including how the "discretionary" 60 to 65 decibel range is applied, the relationship between 24-hour (daily) average and peak noise levels, as well as minor revisions to the procedures to ensure that the policy can be effectively applied in both existing and developing areas of the city.

The scope of the Policy Review is based on the items listed in Attachment 1.

Timeline

A report to Transportation and Public Works Committee will be prepared for summer of 2011, outlining recommendations for changes to the Policy and its procedures. Based on the direction received from the Committee, changes will be incorporated into an updated Policy for the approval of Council by the end of 2011.

Policy

Urban Traffic Noise Policy (C506)

Attachments

1. Urban Traffic Noise Policy Review –
Scope of Work