

The Big Move: Investing in Transportation and Our Economy

Roads move Winnipeg's economy. As Mayor, Scott will make major investments to repair more roads, build out more trade routes, add more buses and build more bike lanes and pedestrian safety features. The "Big Move" will be funded responsibly through transparent dedicated taxes, and capital debt that is fully within Winnipeg's means. Infrastructure spending and tendering practices will be improved with the advice of a new Chief Construction Officer, reporting directly to City Council.

"Sometimes, you have to make an investment to get the return on that investment."
Scott Gillingham, September 12

CHALLENGES TO FACE

- We are just catching up to decades of neglect. We're still fixing roads that were neglected when Glen Murray broke his promise to be "the Mayor who will fix the roads" twenty years ago. We need to keep investing in the repair, renewal and resilience of our roads, transit networks and bike lanes.
- Transit and active transportation are important tools to fight climate change and give people transportation choices – and we need to be ready for the shift to electric vehicles. But even if we doubled greener commuting trips, cars and trucks will still be dominant commuting option for most Winnipeggers.
- We need to integrate the new Naawi-Oodena development – with thousands of new homes and jobs, west of Route 90 - into Winnipeg's transportation grid. We also need to connect new CentrePort industrial sites to major trade routes.
- We need to modernize construction practices at City Hall when it comes to tendering roads and other public works projects.
- We need more bike paths – and we need to make sure they happen as planned.
- We need to do more to help Winnipeggers with mobility challenges.

Scott Gillingham's Solutions

MORE ROAD REPAIR

- ✓ City road renewal budgets are already at record levels thanks to Scott's leadership. Scott's Big Move plan will add \$50m (total) in cash to fund additional road repair between now and 2026. We'll patch potholes faster with support from Scott's Neighborhood Action Teams (see below). Scott will directly lobby the province to require utilities to better coordinate road work with City Hall.

PROCEED TO UPGRADE TWO NEW TRADE ROUTES

- ✓ As Mayor, Scott will lead City Hall to proceed with delivery of the Route 90 Kenaston widening (between Ness and Taylor), and the Chief Peguis Trail Extension from Main Street to Route 90. Both projects are critical to goods and freight movement from key Winnipeg industrial parcels, and the Route 90 widening is needed to integrate new developments expected at the old Kapyong Barracks site into the City's road grid.
- ✓ Delivery will proceed in four steps: updating designs and cost estimates, completing a business case study to confirm a return on investment for the City's economy, confirming joint federal and provincial financing, and completing and executing bids for each project. As Mayor, Scott will lead City Council through those steps between 2023-2026 with the goal of having tenders done and shovels in the ground in 2026.

MORE FREQUENT BUSES AND BETTER TRANSIT SERVICE

- ✓ Frequency is the heart of a successful bus system. As Mayor, Scott will restore Transit to 100% of pre-pandemic service levels in 2023 (~50 buses). He will add 11 net new buses annually to our busiest bus routes from 2024-2026 (+33 buses). Added capacity will help Winnipeg Transit accelerate route changes in the Transit Master Plan.
- ✓ Scott will launch new on-demand suburban services in the Transit Master Plan –helping to take pressure off of the Transit Plus system for people with mobility challenges – starting with Castlebury Meadows-Waterford Green routes in late 2023.

MORE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION UPGRADES - GUARANTEED

- ✓ As Mayor, Scott will prioritize elimination of gaps in sidewalk and cycling networks on collector and arterial streets. He will use frontage levy revenues to fund \$13 million more (total) in active transportation projects over existing budgets in 2023-2026. (Existing active transportation budgets include \$11.9 million over that period).
- ✓ Scott will also update the City's roadwork priority formula to consider safety and equity for people of all ages, not just road deterioration, when prioritizing roads for repairs. He'll create a Road Safety and Active Transportation Branch in Public Works (starting at 2 FTEs in 2023- 2024) to add Active Transportation planning and design capacity. And he will ask Council to award co-signing authority over roadwork contracts and cheques to the Road Safety & Active Transportation Branch for any road project with a pedestrian or bike lane feature - so these features get built as planned.

BETTER, SMARTER CONSTRUCTION POLICIES

- ✓ Too often, City Council has been caught by surprise or kept in the dark on construction industry best practices; at least some of the Police HQ scandal can be blamed on City Council not having or seeking advice on construction policy that was independent of the senior public service. Scott will ask Council to hire an expert Chief Construction Officer to advise the Mayor and Council directly and publicly on infrastructure policy and construction sector issues.
- ✓ Scott will work with other governments, agencies, colleges and universities to grow Manitoba's construction labour pool, with tools like early-career job guarantees for students to help recruit more young people and skilled immigrants to the sector.

- ✓ Scott supports the expanded use of recycled materials, in line with industry and environmental practices in other cities, reducing pressure on our supply chain. He will modernize construction bids and contracts to match standards in the rest of Canada and help to lock-in construction labour by pre-tendering road work up to three years in advance. Sector-wide inflation adjustments will be negotiated on advance bids each year to reduce the financial risk of bidding ahead. Finally, he'll convene a "Ten-Day Task Force" to work with industry on strategies to increase road repair speed and productivity.

HELP FOR WINNIPEGGERS WITH PHYSICAL CHALLENGES

- ✓ Transit Plus is a city service that provides door-to-door transportation for people who are unable to regularly use the fixed route transit system because of a physical disability. Scott will activate an online booking system for Transit Plus, ideally through a partnership with an existing vendor of booking software to get online capacity up and running as quickly as possible.
- ✓ To incentivize more access improvements to buildings, Scott will ask Council to waive permit fees for these improvements. Scott will also ask City staff to develop a plan for installation of hearing loops technology in key city buildings to improve access for those with hearing challenges. Neighborhood Action Teams (see below) will also have a mandate to identify mobility issues during their sweeps of our neighbourhoods, and to clear snow from unsafe transit stops and key sidewalks during major storms.

FEDERAL RAIL RELOCATION STUDY FUNDING

- ✓ Federal funding is available to study the possibility of incremental rail relocation improvements from the standpoint of community and rail safety. These incremental relocation studies could lead to larger redevelopment initiatives over time. As Mayor, Scott will support incremental rail relocation opportunities and will seek to access Winnipeg's share of this funding. Priorities for study areas will be set in consultation with Council and the public.