

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

MEMORANDUM

To: Chair and Members of Halifax Watershed Advisory Board

From: Mackenzie Stonehocker, Planner

Date: April 7, 2011

Subject:Case 16811: HRM-initiated application to amend the Timberlea / Lakeside / BeechvilleMunicipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law to allow for transit facilities,
specifically a Park and Ride lot at 3284 St. Margarets Bay Road, Timberlea.

Site features

- Existing parcel is approximately 6.7 acres in size; approximately 2.5 acres will be used for transit
- Street access from St. Margarets Bay Road, near Exit 4 on Highway 103
- Site contains several wetlands

Proposal

While transit is supported by the Regional Plan and the TLB Municipal Planning Strategy, this policy support was never directly implemented in the Land Use By-law regulations. This planning application aims to amend the planning documents to allow for Metro Transit facilities as the main use on a parcel of land. The MPS amendment process requires initiation by Regional Council, as well as public consultation.

The specific proposal driving this application is a Park and Ride lot at Exit 4 to allow for expansion of the MetroX rural express bus service. In addition to the existing service to Tantallon, the new Park and Ride will allow the service to expand to Timberlea and Hubley.

The Park and Ride will be located on a new parcel of approximately 2.5 acres, to be subdivided from 3284 St. Margarets Bay Road (PID 41031386) and purchased by HRM from the Canadian National Baptist Convention. The Park and Ride will include approximately 50 parking spaces, accessed from the existing church driveway. Buses will use a new driveway, located opposite Grebe Avenue. The only proposed structure is a glass bus shelter of approximately 6 x 16 feet.

Watershed Advisory Board

Pursuant to the Board's terms of reference, the Board's input with respect to the potential impact of this development on freshwater resources is requested. HWAB's recommendation and specific comments will be included in the staff report to Council.

In matters of interest to HWAB, staff wish to point out the following features of the proposal:

- The wetlands on the property were delineated by Strum Environmental in August 2010, and are represented on the site plan and preliminary stormwater plan.
- The outlet from the western wetland (along the rock wall beside Highway 103) is labeled as a 'stream' on the plans; however, this outlet was inspected by Nova Scotia Environment on April 5, 2011, and
- Nova Scotia Environment does not consider the outlet of this wetland to be a natural watercourse. Therefore, the wetlands are not contiguous with a natural body of water, and the Land Use By-law's 20 metre watercourse buffer does not apply.
- The preliminary stormwater management plan is conceptual, but generally proposes that stormwater from paved surfaces be collected and discharged at one point.

Attachments

- Air Photo
- Site Plan
- Preliminary Stormwater Management Plan





