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Western Regional Community Council  
October 28, 2007

**TO:** Chair and Members of Western Regional Community Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mike Labrecque", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Labrecque, P.Eng., Director, Transportation and Public Works

**DATE:** September 6, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Village Road (Herring Cove) - Speed Limits

### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

Item 12.1 raised at the August 27, 2007 meeting of Western Regional Community Council.

#### BACKGROUND

Community Council passed the following motion requesting a letter be sent to the Provincial Department of Transportation and Public Works to reduce the speed limit along Village Road, Herring Cove to 30 km per hour due to concerns from the community that since the resurfacing (paving) of the roadway there is a potential for it to become a "racetrack".

## DISCUSSION

Village Road is a residential roadway with an irregular alignment. It runs east/west between Ketch Harbour Road and John Brackett Drive. It is located near the boundary of the urban core, however, it remains under the jurisdiction of the local Traffic Authority.

The Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act, provides that the lowest maximum speed limit permitted to be posted on any public highway in the Province is 50 km/h. Community Council may recall that a previous trial of a posted limit lower than 50 km/h, which required special approval from the Provincial Minister of Transportation and Public Works, proved ineffective in an attempt to change driver attitudes and lower vehicle speeds on residential streets in HRM. That trial period of posting speed limits lower than 50 km/h have expired. Therefore, the lowest maximum speed limit permitted to be posted remains as 50 km/h.

Village Road is already posted at maximum 50 km/h. This limit is appropriate and also reminds drivers that they are now in a lesser speed zone upon leaving Ketch Harbour Road which is posted at a higher limit of 70 km/h. The roadway alignment is addressed by the presence of warning "Winding Road, Reduce Speed 40 km/h" signs. A reduced speed of 40 km/h, is advisable, especially so for drivers less familiar with the roadway alignment.

We acknowledge that some of these signs are missing due to the ongoing roadway construction; and that they will be replaced as construction allows. It is not uncommon for roadway improvements such as realignment and new paving to result in somewhat higher speeds. Police have been made aware of concerns raised by residents for the likelihood of higher speeds on Village Road for whatever enforcement action may be appropriate upon completion of the construction.

## BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

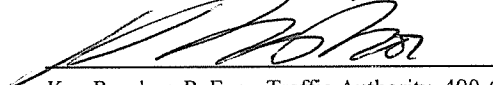
There are no budget implications.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by : Kevin McEachern, Traffic Analyst, 490-6133

Report Approved by:  Ken Reashor, P. Eng., Traffic Authority, 490-6637