


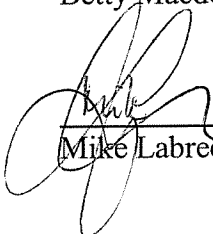
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HALIFAX
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Halifax Regional Council
March 22, 2005

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Betty Macdonald, Director, Governance and Strategic Initiatives


Mike Labrecque, Director, Transportation and Public Works Services

DATE: March 9, 2005

SUBJECT: Funding Award - Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) Pilot Project

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

July 13, 2005 meeting of Halifax Regional Council, item 10.1.11.

BACKGROUND

Halifax Regional Council approved the following motions at its meeting of July 13, 2005:

- (1) Halifax Regional Council authorize staff to submit a funding proposal for an “Automated Vehicle Location System for HRM” under Transport Canada’s Intelligent Transportation Systems Deployment and Integration Plan.
- (2) and that, should federal funding be approved, increase the 2004/05 Capital budget for a new account, “Automated Vehicle Location” in the amount \$500,000 with funding from the Federal Government in the amount \$250,000 and \$250,000 from the Strategic Growth Reserve, Q126, be committed for HRM’s 50% contribution towards the project.

DISCUSSION

On January 12, 2005, Transport Canada announced that the HRM proposal was successful in winning funding under the Intelligent Transportation Systems Plan. The press release making this announcement is attached.

The objective of the AVL Pilot Project is to take the first step towards developing an integrated vehicle location system corporate-wide by scoping technology needs and purchasing communications hardware for a small portion of the fleet. As stated in the proposal to Transport Canada, the pilot installation will be applied to the new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) vehicles expected to be in operation by the end of the year. Once operational, this equipment will provide accurate real-time bus arrival information to users of the BRT system.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with the motion approved at the July 13, 2004 motion, a new Capital Account CTU00745 has been created with \$250,000 from Transport Canada and \$250,000 from the Strategic Growth Reserve, Q126.

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.

ALTERNATIVES

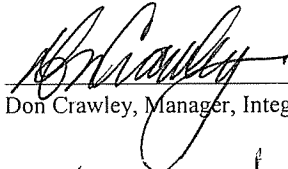
There are no recommended alternatives.

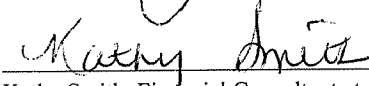
ATTACHMENTS

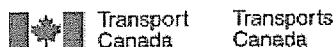
January 12, 2005 Transport Canada News Release.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: David McCusker P.Eng., Manager, Regional Transportation Planning, 490-6696 ^{Dne}
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Report Approved by: 
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Canada

News Release

No H010/05

For publication January 12, 2005

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS PROJECT FUNDED IN NOVA SCOTIA

OTTAWA — The Honourable Geoff Regan, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and Minister Responsible for Nova Scotia, on behalf of Transport Minister Jean-C. Lapierre, today announced funding of \$250,000 for a project aimed at making transportation in Nova Scotia safer, more reliable and more efficient.

The project, a vehicle tracking system for rapid transit, will receive funding under Transport Canada's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Plan.

"Innovation is essential to Canada's growth and competitiveness," said Mr. Regan. "The ITS plan is an investment in Canadians' skills and innovation and challenges them to help make our transportation system safer, more efficient and more sustainable."

A total of \$5 million will be awarded to 25 projects across Canada.

"The funds devoted to this project reaffirm the Government of Canada's commitment to accelerating the development and adoption of technologies designed specifically to enhance the transportation system," said Mr. Lapierre. "These innovations promote safety and security, relieve congestion, improve mobility and minimize the negative environmental impacts related to transportation."

ITS is a new and rapidly developing field, where information processing, communication systems and sensing devices are combined and integrated in creative ways to make the transportation system work more effectively. Centralized traffic management, transit smart cards and electronic tolling are examples of Intelligent Transportation Systems in action.

This initiative supports key departmental objectives designed to promote the adoption of ITS technologies to advance the safety, efficiency and security of our transportation system.

The Government of Canada's \$600 million Strategic Highway Infrastructure Program dedicates \$100 million to funding initiatives that better integrate the transportation system.

Since 1999, Transport Canada has provided more than \$18 million in support of ITS projects and research in Canada. The maximum contribution from Transport Canada for each ITS project is \$250,000.

For more information about Transport Canada's role in Intelligent Transportation Systems, please visit the ITS website at www.its-sti.gc.ca.

A backgrounder outlining the winning project is attached.

- 30 -

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This news release may be made available in alternative formats for persons with visual disabilities.

BACKGROUND

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS PROJECTS

Intelligent Transportation Systems comprise a broad range of diverse technologies applied to transportation to make systems safer, more efficient, more reliable and more environmentally friendly. Transport Canada has been actively promoting them, providing more than \$18 million in support of Intelligent Transportation Systems projects and research in Canada since 1999.

The field of Intelligent Transportation Systems encompasses new products, information and communications technologies for the development, operation and regulation of the transportation system. They include applications such as advanced systems for traffic management, traveller information and vehicle control, commercial vehicle and fleet management, and public transit and rural transportation. They all have in common the application of advanced technologies in such areas as information processing, communications, and sensing and control — technologies that offer the potential to revolutionize the transportation system.

The following project has been selected:

Halifax Regional Municipality

Implement a pilot deployment project for bus rapid transit as an initial step to an integrated corporate vehicle tracking and communication system.

Partners: none

Funding awarded: \$250,000

Total cost of proposal: \$500,000

For further information, please visit the Intelligent Transportation Systems website at www.its-sti.gc.ca.

January 2005

[Return](#)