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Halifax Regional Council
November 8, 2005

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Labrecque".

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

DATE: October 31, 2005

SUBJECT: **Petition - Request for Wider Sidewalk to Cross Bayers Road - West
Region**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council meeting of September 13, 2005, Item 9.2.2 - Request for Wider Sidewalk to Cross Bayers Road.

BACKGROUND

At the September 13, 2005 Halifax Regional Council meeting, Councillor Murphy served a petition from senior citizens in the Bayers Road area requesting a safer and wider sidewalk to cross Bayers Road to Bayers Road Shopping Center.

DISCUSSION

Bayers Road is an arterial roadway and one of the main corridors into peninsular Halifax. Upon clarification, it was determined that the request refers to the bridge crossing over CN tracks on the outbound lane of Bayers Road. This particular bridge is directly adjacent to the Bayers Road and Pennington Street intersection, and the Petro Canada service station. At issue is the width of the sidewalk on the north side of this bridge. Upon inspection, it was determined that this sidewalk that crosses the bridge is approximately 1.3 m in width.

It is our understanding this bridge is owned by CNR and any work that may be carried out to alter the bridge structure would be under the direction of CNR. The work required to widen the bridge would be cost prohibitive.

During inspection, it was also determined that the sidewalk on the south side of this bridge is approximately 2.7 m wide. It appears the road alignment could be adjusted to provide an equal sidewalk width on both sides of the bridge of 2.0 m. This requires the relocation of curb, sidewalks and travel lanes for a distance of 150-200 m. Therefore an alternative solution would be a road realignment. However staff recommend that this work be considered under the capital program if this road was to be scheduled for major reconstruction.

As this section of Bayers Road appears to be in reasonably good condition, it's unlikely that any major restorative work will be carried out in the near future. In the interim, pedestrians may consider crossing at Romans Avenue or the traffic signals at the Petro Canada station to access the wider sidewalk on the south side.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

If the road alignment is adjusted as part of the capital program, there should be little or no budget implications. However it should be noted that this is based on a preliminary review. Detailed design may reveal unforeseen technical issues that may result in additional costs.

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.

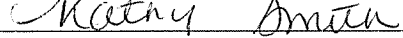
ALTERNATIVES

There are no recommended alternatives.

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

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GR/bhs