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## Item No. 2

Halifax Regional Council  
January 8, 2008

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathie O'Toole".

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathie O'Toole, CGA - Director, Infrastructure and Asset Management

**DATE:** December 28, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Petition for New Sidewalks, Bayers Lake Business Park - West Region

### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council meeting of November 20, 2007, Item 10.2 - Petition requesting new sidewalks in the Bayers Lake Business Park.

#### BACKGROUND

At the November 20, 2007, Halifax Regional Council meeting, Councillor Wile served a petition requesting the construction of new sidewalks in the Bayers Lake Business Park.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Bayers Lake Business Park was originally developed in the mid 1980's without the installation of sidewalks, and in some areas without concrete curb and gutter, and piped storm drainage systems. Generally speaking, in areas where no concrete curb and gutter exists, the construction of a new sidewalk would consist of the installation of concrete curb & gutter, concrete sidewalk, possible storm sewer to control drainage, adjustments to driveways and reinstatement of disturbed areas. In areas where concrete curb and gutter exist, the work would consist of the installation of concrete sidewalk, possible adjustments to driveways and reinstatement of disturbed areas. Given the significant amount of roads in Bayers Lake Business Park, new sidewalk installations would be constructed in several phases.

HRM staff assess and evaluate new sidewalk locations utilizing a specific set of criteria. The primary criteria include the proximity to schools and similar institutions, the classification of the street or road, the ability or inability to use the shoulder area for walking purposes, and whether an existing sidewalk is located on one side of the street. Staff will also review the potential for integration with other infrastructure upgrades. Typically, the highest rated locations are given priority for possible inclusion into the capital program. Currently HRM has approximately 225 new sidewalk locations on the capital program list. Based on funding levels, staff advances 8-10 locations as part of the annual capital program. A section of Chain Lake Drive (from the Kent driveway to Susie Lake Crescent) has been identified as a priority, and as such staff included this sidewalk location in the 2008/09 Advanced Funding Capital Budget. The Advanced Funding Capital Budget was approved by Council on November 20, 2007, and it is staffs' intention to complete this project during the 2008 construction season. Other sections of proposed new sidewalks in the Bayers Lake Business Park will be rated over time, and be referred for consideration as part of HRM's normal Capital Budget process.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

It is HRM's approved practice to recover 50% of the costs for local improvement projects (i.e., new sidewalks) from property owners. The local improvement rate is determined once all projects have been tendered and constructed. The cost recovery process may be through frontage charges or from a specific area within the district. Staff will be communicating with Councillor Wile to ascertain the recovery method for the sidewalk project along Chain Lake Drive.

## **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/cagenda.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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JS/pm