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Item No. 5

Halifax Regional Council
February 10, 2009

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Reashor".

Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Traffic Authority

DATE: January 27, 2009

SUBJECT: Island View Apartments - Request for Crosswalk

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Item 10.2.1 raised at the January 20, 2009 meeting of Halifax Regional Council.

BACKGROUND

Councillor Barkhouse submitted a petition, with 31 signatures, on behalf of the residents of the Island View Apartments, 36 Cow Bay Road, Eastern Passage, requesting a crosswalk in front of their building.

DISCUSSION

Because of the numerous requests for the marking of crosswalks, it has been necessary to establish criteria which provide an objective basis for evaluation as to where marked crosswalks are installed on HRM roadways. Given that it is not practical to mark crosswalks at every intersection and bus stop, most jurisdictions use some form of evaluation criteria to determine which crosswalks will be marked and which will not.

The Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) guidelines for marked crosswalk installation have recently been adopted for use in HRM. The TAC guidelines require that the volume of traffic results in fewer than 120 crossing opportunities per hour and there be a minimum of 20 pedestrians per hour crossing.

During a one hour pedestrian count conducted on January 26, 2009 from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., no pedestrians were observed crossing Cow Bay Road in the area of the bus stop. Only one pedestrian was observed crossing from 8-9 a.m. on January 27, 2009. Although the minimum traffic volume warrant on Cow Bay Road is met, the minimum pedestrian crossing criteria is not met and therefore a marked crosswalk would not be approved.

Metro Transit bus load counts from 2008 indicate that only 33 people got on or off at the bus stop opposite civic #36 on a daily basis. There have been no reported pedestrian related collisions at this location over the past five years for which records are available.

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/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.

Report Prepared by: Vaughn Perrin, Traffic Analyst, 490-4822