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**Item No. 3**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**February 23, 2010**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ken Reashor", written over a horizontal line.

Ken Reashor, P. Eng., Acting Director Transportation and Public Works

**DATE:** February 7, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Overnight Parking Public Consultation

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**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

January 27, 2009 meeting of Halifax Regional Council, item 12.1, Overnight Parking in HRM Owned Parking Lots.

**BACKGROUND**

During discussion around a pilot off-street overnight parking program at Bloomfield Centre, a motion was made by Councillor Uteck requesting staff to commence a public consultation process with residents on the Halifax Peninsula to find a solution for off-street parking.

## **DISCUSSION**

HRM hosted two information meetings on winter safety operations for the 2009/10 season. The first meeting was hosted at the Halifax Forum on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The second meeting was hosted at the Dartmouth Sportsplex on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

The purpose of the information meetings was to inform residents and build awareness of HRM's winter safety operations for the upcoming season. Specifically, HRM shared its plans for snow removal, parking enforcement, parking options, and on-going communications.

Information presented to residents included service standards, the annual budget, understanding the challenges of our unique climate, and working together with residents and business to ensure safety, accessibility, and effective transit. Parking enforcement information was also shared with residents as a necessary tool to deal with snow removal and sidewalk clearing. Parking options focusing on solutions such as Smart Trip, alternative parking, and neighbours working with neighbours was also shared. Finally, residents were provided with information on where they could go to find updates such as the web site and call center. The meetings provided opportunities for residents to interact with staff and ask questions.

In response to concerns regarding the lack of off-street parking availability, some potential solutions were developed and explored.

First, the pilot program to make space available overnight at the Bloomfield Centre was continued this year.

Secondly, the HRM's online ridematching database was modified to accommodate the matching of residents with surplus off-street parking with residents needing a parking space. This new feature was publicized through newspapers and radio.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications associated with this report.

## **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/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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