

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 4
Halifax Regional Council
April 17, 2012

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by Director

SUBMITTED BY:

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

DATE: March 1, 2012

SUBJECT: Petition regarding the Paving of Old Coach Road – Goodwood

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the Halifax Regional Council meeting of January 10, 2012, Councillor Reg Rankin tabled a petition for the paving of Old Coach Road, Goodwood - District 22.

BACKGROUND

The property owners on Old Coach Road submitted a petition to MLA Bill Estabrooks, requesting that Old Coach Road be paved as soon as possible. MLA Bill Estabrooks will be tabling a copy of the petition in the Nova Scotia Legislature during the upcoming Spring session.

DISCUSSION

Old Coach Road is a "J" class gravel road that is approximately 763 meters in length, and is owned and maintained by Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR). As per the requirements under the Aid to Municipality Program, paving of this road would be equally cost shared between NSTIR and HRM, with HRM recovering its share of the costs from the property owners via the Local Improvement Charge (LIC) process. The Aid Program traditionally offers asphalt paving as the only rehabilitation upgrade for gravel roads. Recently, the Province has included the option of chip sealing which has a lower unit cost than asphalt.

Through discussions with the District Councillor, residents on Old Coach Road were surveyed to ascertain if there was interest to chip seal the road. Due to the varied frontage dimensions, the District Councillor was in favour of recovering the LIC via a standard lot charge. Based on an estimated cost of chip seal of \$20 per foot, the lot charge would be \$3,622.49 for each of the 17 properties along Old Coach Road. The survey identified the lot charge recovery method and the estimated amount, and closed on February 29, 2012. The results of the survey supported the option of moving forward with the chip sealing upgrade (i.e., 9 properties in favour, 3 properties against, and 5 properties not returned).

Based on the survey results, the District Councillor recommends that this project be included in the 2012 Aid to Municipality Program. HRM staff has notified NSTIR requesting consideration be given for double chip sealing of Old Coach Road, and that it be included in the 2012 cost sharing program.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications at this time.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The property owners were surveyed for chip sealing at the estimated lot charge of \$3,622.49 for each of the 17 properties abutting Old Coach Road. The survey closed on February 29, 2012. A letter informing the property owners as to the survey result and the status of the project will be distributed (pending confirmation of inclusion to the Aid program from NSTIR).

A1 - Plan - Old Coach Road

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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Original Signed

Report Approved by:

David Hubley, P.Eng., Manager, Design & Construction Services at 490-4845

AR/pm

