

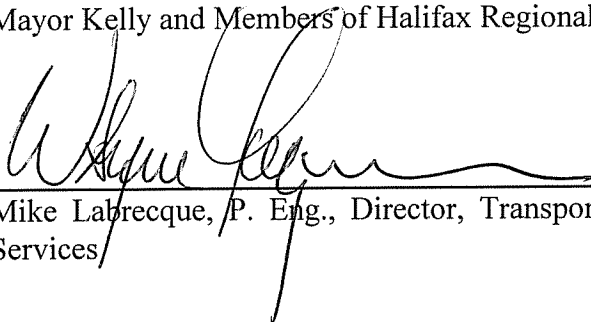


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Halifax Regional Council
April 4, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:


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

DATE: March 24, 2006

SUBJECT: Petition for New Sidewalk, Highway No. 2, Wellington/Fletchers Lake
- Central Region

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council meeting of February 14, 2006, Item 8.2 - Petition requesting sidewalk on Highway No. 2, Wellington/Fletchers Lake.

BACKGROUND

At the Halifax Regional Council meeting, Councillor Snow served a petition from residents requesting the installation of a sidewalk on Highway No. 2, Wellington/Fletchers Lake from the existing sidewalk at Holland Road to Laurie Park Entrance.

DISCUSSION

Highway No. 2 is characterized as an arterial road in the Wellington/Fletchers Lake area. The section of Highway No. 2 in question generally runs north/south and is approximately 6.12 km long. An existing sidewalk, on the east side of Highway No. 2, ends at Holland Road. The petition requests that the sidewalk continue from Holland Road and end at the entrance of Laurie Park. Staff suggest that the proposed sidewalk also continue along the east side.

The work would consist of installing concrete curb and gutter, concrete sidewalk and storm sewer to control drainage. As this is considered an arterial roadway, additional asphalt width should be considered for a bike lane. Severe slopes along this section of the road will also result in extreme driveway adjustments and retaining walls in several locations and these impacts may also require acquisition of property.

The estimated cost for the full length of this project is \$5 million. It should be noted that this cost will increase over time as construction costs rise incrementally each year. The entire budget for new sidewalk construction in HRM for 2005/2006 was \$1.79 million. Considering the high cost of this project and HRM's limited yearly funding for new sidewalks, this project would have to be broken down into several phases and constructed over many years.

This sidewalk will be added to our list of proposed sidewalks for the Halifax Regional Municipality and will be referred for consideration, on a phased approach, as part of HRM's normal Capital Budget process.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The portion of Highway No. 2 from Holland Road to approximately Sunnylea Road is owned and maintained by HRM. The portion of Highway No. 2 beyond Sunnylea Road is owned and maintained by the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works (NSTPW).

Installation of new concrete sidewalk and new concrete curb and gutter along the HRM owned portion of the road will require the recovery of Local Improvement Charges (LIC's). The 2005 rates for new concrete sidewalk and new concrete curb and gutter (one side) has been established at \$22.71 and \$15.12 per lineal foot of frontage respectively. Alternatively, the Local Improvement Charges may be recovered by an area rate over a part or all of the district area. It is noted there is an area around the intersection of Holland Road & Highway No. 2 that is included in the Fall River Sidewalk Area Rate. The properties within this area will not be assessed for any LIC charges associated with this project.

We would note that the residents along this portion of Highway No. 2 have not been petitioned to determine their acceptance of these frontage charges. As well, the Local Improvement Charge rates change yearly and it is likely that the rates will be higher when these projects are approved in the Capital Budget.

**Petition for New Sidewalk
Highway No. 2, Wellington/Fletchers Lake - Central Region
Council Report**

April 4, 2006

Installation of new concrete sidewalk and new concrete curb and gutter along the NSTPW owned portion of the road will require NSTPW approval and funding. The project would be cost shared between HRM and NSTPW, with HRM's share being recovered through LIC's. Based on starting the sidewalk at Holland Road and constructing the project in phases, it is anticipated to take several years before the sidewalk reaches the NSTPW portion of the road. At that time, HRM will request that NSTPW consider the continuation of sidewalk over their portion.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

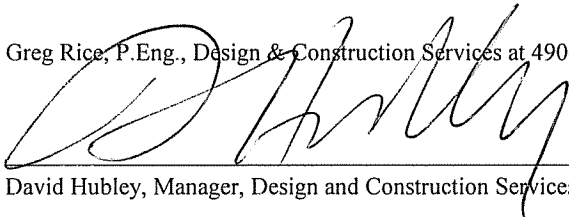
This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

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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GR/cf