

PO Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

> Halifax Regional Council August 1, 2006

TO:

Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** 

Carol Macomber, Acting Director

Community, Culture & Economic Development

DATE:

July 19, 2006

**SUBJECT:** 

**UPDATE: Regional Centre Urban Design Plan** 

# INFORMATION REPORT

## **ORIGIN**

- On November 8, 2005, Regional Council approved cost sharing for the Regional Centre Urban Design Study between HRM, the Province of Nova Scotia, and ACOA.
- On March 7, 2006, Regional Council awarded RFP # 05-05-073 (Regional Centre Urban Design Study) to the highest ranking proponent, Office for Urbanism, Inc.
- On July 5, 2006, a public launch and press conference was held for this project.
- On June 27, 2006, Council appointed members to the new Urban Design Task Force.

### **BACKGROUND**

This report provides an update to Council on the Regional Centre Urban Design Study currently being undertaken by the Capital District, and specifically outlines the elements of the proposed Public Participation Program.

Purpose of the Regional Centre Urban Design Study:

The Urban Design Plan will articulate a design strategy to foster quality development and vibrant public spaces through the creation of new policies and tools such as design guidelines, processes, and incentives. The study will address issues such as building height, heritage preservation, open space, residential infill, downtown development, architectural design guidelines, and a review of the development approval processes currently in use. The approach is intended to reinforce current community plans and values related to heritage, viewplane protection and neighbourhood stability.

The proposed study area is the Regional Centre as defined by the Regional Plan which includes the Capital District and surrounding urban core neighbourhoods on the Peninsula and within the Circumferential Highway in Dartmouth. (Please see Attachment #1 for Study Area map.) A key focus will be the Capital District and its relationship to surrounding neighbourhoods, employment centres and transportation/transit routes.

# Study Deliverables:

The project will be carried out over an eighteen month period with the assistance of the selected team of urban design consultants with Council's award of the consulting contract in March, we are now four months into the Study. Through public consultation HRM will have developed, by the end of the study period, an urban design vision and implementation strategy that will foster and maintain a culture of design within the urban core.

### **DISCUSSION**

# *Work completed to-date:*

Immediately upon the March, 2006 contract award the consultant team, led by Office for Urbanism, began their Phase One "Reconnaissance and Analysis" work. (Please refer to Attachment #2 for a detailing of all the phases, and to Attachment #3 for the Project Team Organization Chart.) The Phase 1 work has involved reviewing HRM reports, walking and windshield tours of the study area, an aggressive and ongoing schedule of stakeholder interviews, workshops with relevant HRM staff, and the highly publicized official launch of the Study at Citadel Hill on July 5, including a press conference.

The Urban Design Task Force was appointed by Regional Council on June 27, 2006. The UDTF is a body with a two-part mandate: It reports progress to Regional Council at key milestones, and it makes ongoing recommendations to Council and the Project Team regarding areas of strategic importance to the development and implementation of the Regional Centre Urban Design Study. The UDTF will also provide a key communication and working link between Council and the community, and advise on the delivery of a public participation program. (Please see Attachment #4 for a list of UDTF members.)

# Upcoming work:

- 1. The first Urban Design Task Force meeting will occur on August 2, 2006.
- 2. It is proposed that the consultant team make a presentation to Committee of the Whole on September 12 to outline the proposed approach to the project and the public consultation strategy.
- 3. Major public consultation will commence in mid-September, 2006 (Phase 2). the focus of which will be Visioning and Urban Design Principles.
- 4. Regional Council will receive reports at the conclusion of each of the Study's six major phases, plus additional reports/presentations at Council's request.

5. It is intended that the project will complete its six phases by September, 2007.

# **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications at this time. Project funding has already been approved by Council, and includes cost sharing from provincial and federal governments.

# 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**

None.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

- 6. Study Area Map.
- 7. Project Schedule.
- 8. Project Team Organization Chart.
- 9. Urban Design Task Force.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <a href="http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html">http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html</a> 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:

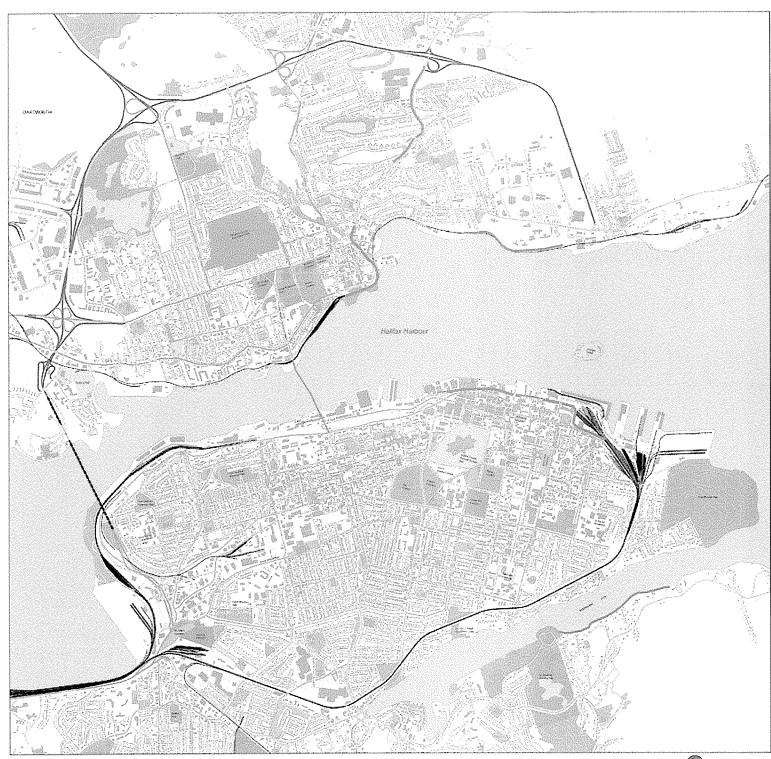
Andy Fillmore, Capital District Urban Design Project Manager, 490-6495

Report Reviewed by:

Jacqueline Hamilton, Wanager, Qapital District 490-5685

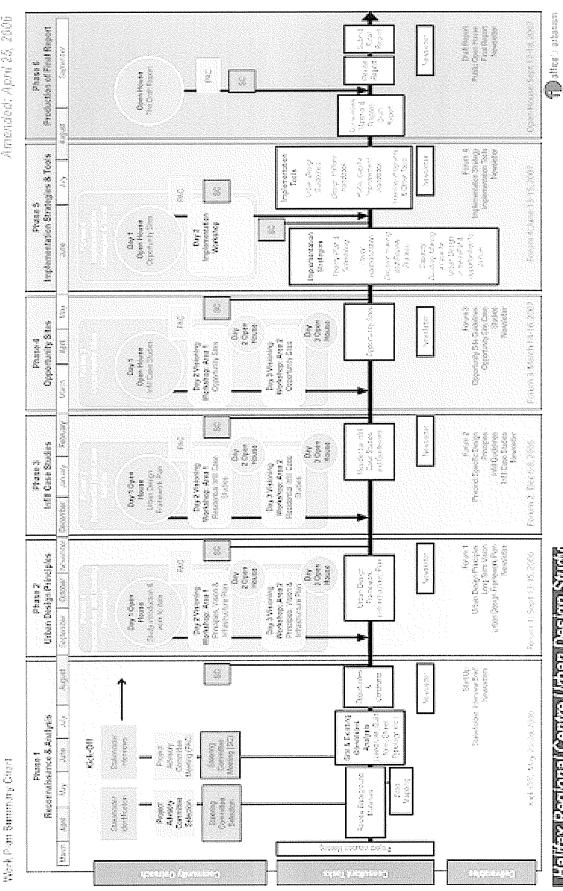
Financial Review:

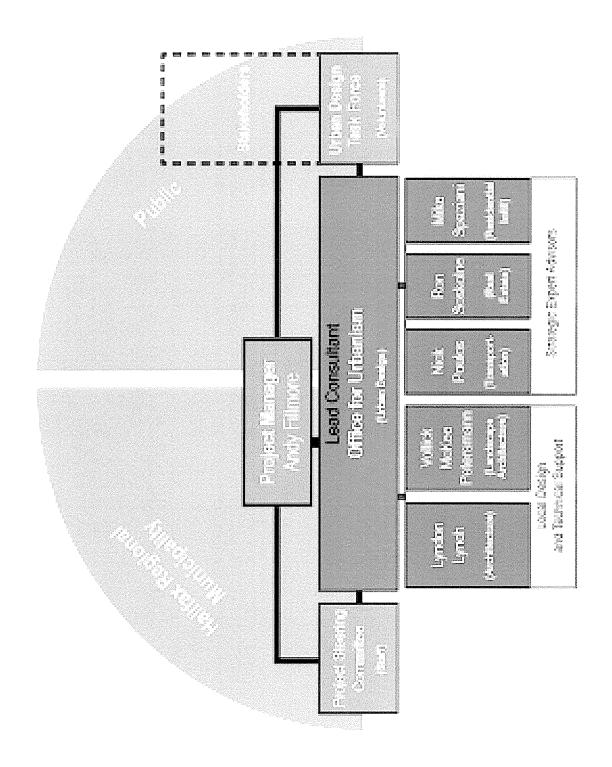
Gordon Roussel, Financial Consultant, 490-6468



HRM Regional Centre Urban Design Study







# Regional Centre Urban Design Study

- Project Personnel, current as of July 19, 2006 -

HRM, Capital District   902-490-6495   1902-490-6495   1902-490-6495   1902-490-6730   1902-490-6730   1902-490-6596   1902-490-6696   1902-490-6899   1902-490-6889   1902-490-6890   1902-	Project Manager:			
HRM, Manager of Capital District         902-490-5730         1           HRM, Manager Regional Transportation Planning         902-490-6696         1           HRM Senior Planner, Regional Planning         902-490-482         1           HRM Senior Planner, Regional Planning         902-490-6889         1           HRM Senior Planning & Development Services         902-490-6889         1           HRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning & Development Services         902-490-6889         1           HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Services         902-490-6889         1           HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Services         902-490-4933         1           HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Services         902-430-490-3691         1           Regional Centre Resident         902-42-7417         1           Regional Centre Resident         902-42-7500         1           Resident at Large         902-42-179         1           Resident at Large         Professional Design Community         902-42-6400           Professional Design Community         902-42-179           Business Community         902-42-33841           Development Community         902-42-33841           Development Community         902-423-3550           Heritage Advisory Committee Repres	Andy Fillmore	HRM, Capital District	902-490-6495	fillmoa@halifax.ca
HRM, Manager of Capital District         902-490-5730           HRM, Manager Regional Transportation Planning         902-490-6696           HRM, Manager Regional Planning         902-490-482           HRM Senior Planner, Regional Planning         902-490-6889           HRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning         902-490-6889           HRM Director, Planning & Development Services         902-490-6783           HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-4933           HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Serv.         902-420-4936           Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-420-4177           Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-420-416           Regional Centre Resident         902-420-160           Regional Centre Resident         902-420-174           Regional Centre Resident         902-420-174           Resident at Large         902-420-180           Resident at Large         902-420-174           Resident at Large         902-420-6400           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841	Steering Committee:			
Force:         Regional Centre Resident         902-490-6696           Force:         Regional Design Community         902-490-482           Force:         HRM Senior Planner, Regional Planning         902-490-6889           HRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning         902-490-6783           HRM Director, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-4933           HRM Director, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-3691           Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-426-9363           Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)         902-427-7417           Regional Centre Resident         902-427-7416           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-426-0174           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Professional Design Community         902-423-170           Business Community         902-423-3751           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-752           HRM Regional Council Representativ	Jacqueline Hamilton	HRM, Manager of Capital District	902-490-5730	hamiltj@halifax.ca
IRM Senior Planner, Regional Planning         902-490-482           IRM Regional Coordinator, Culture & Heritage         902-490-6889           IRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning         902-490-6783           IRM Director, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-4933           IRM Director, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-3691           Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-426-9363           Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)         902-424-7417           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-7416           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-1501           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-1501           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-423-170           Professional Design Community         902-423-170           Business Community         902-423-3751           Business Community         902-423-3751           Development Community         902-423-3751           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-750           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-425-752	Dave McCusker	HRM, Manager Regional Transportation Planning	902-490-6696	mccuskd@halifax.ca
HRM Regional Coordinator, Culture & Heritage         902-490-6889           HRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning         902-490-6783           HRM Director, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-3691           HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Serv.         902-420-4363           Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-424-7417           Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)         902-424-7417           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1501           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1501           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1501           Resident at Large         902-425-1501           Resident at Large         902-425-179           Professional Design Community         902-425-1179           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-752           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-425-0182	Paul Morgan	HRM Senior Planner, Regional Planning	902-490-4482	morganp@halifax.ca
FIRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning         902-490-6783           rey         HRM Director, Planning & Development Services         902-490-4933           rey         HRM Director, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-3691           auu         Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-426-9363           auu         Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)         902-427-7417           pau         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           reg         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7901           reg         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7901           reg         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1501           reg         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-107           reg         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-108           reg         Resident at Large         902-425-108           reg         Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           reg         Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           reg         Business Community         902-425-0182           reg         Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-425-0182           reg         Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-425-0182	Holly Richardson	HRM Regional Coordinator, Culture & Heritage	902-490-6889	richarh@halifax.ca
rey         HRM Director, Planning & Development Services         902-490-4933           rey         HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Serv.         902-490-3691           gau         Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-426-9363           gau         Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)         902-427-7417           n Task Force:         Regional Centre Resident         902-422-9416           ig         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           dy         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-0227           co         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-021           co         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-021           co         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-0180           co         Resident at Large         902-425-0180           c         Professional Design Community         902-421-179           d         Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           non         Business Community         902-423-3751           d         Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-7950           der         HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	Jan Skora	HRM Coordinator, Real Property Planning	902-490-6783	<u>skoraj@halifax.ca</u>
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ask Force:         Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)         902-426-9363           ask Force:         Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)         902-424-7417           ask Force:         Regional Centre Resident         902-422-9416           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1501           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1701           Resident at Large         902-422-1701           Resident at Large         902-422-1701           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3751           Development Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7550	Richard Harvey	HRM Senior Planner, Planning & Development Serv.	902-490-3691	harveyri@halifax.ca
ask Foree:         Regional Centre Resident         902-424-7417           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-9416           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-1501           Regional Centre Resident         902-42-1701           Resident at Large         902-42-170           Resident at Large         902-400-1744           Resident at Large         902-42-179           Professional Design Community         902-42-0182           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-7560           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	Lynn Adams	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (federal rep)	902-426-9363	lynn.adams@acoa-apeca.gc.ca
Task Force:         Regional Centre Resident         902-422-9416           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-027           Regional Centre Resident         902-42-1501           Resident at Large         902-42-179           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-420-174           Professional Design Community         902-420-182           Business Community         902-423-3751           Development Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	John Mercereau	Province of Nova Scotia, Planner (provincial rep)	902-424-7417	merserjf@gov.ns.ca
Task Force:         Regional Centre Resident         902-422-9416           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-7900           Regional Centre Resident         902-425-027           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-1501           Resident at Large         902-422-4179           Resident at Large         902-400-1744           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-421-170           Professional Design Community         902-421-182           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3841           Resident Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-7550           Resident Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-7950				
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/         Regional Centre Resident         902-425-0227           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-1501           Regional Centre Resident         902-422-1501           Resident at Large         902-420-1744           Resident at Large         902-490-1744           Professional Design Community         902-477-5525           Professional Design Community         902-420-6400           Professional Design Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-423-3751           Resident Community         902-423-750	Margot Young	Regional Centre Resident	902-425-7900	margot@edm.ca
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Regional Centre Resident         902-422-4179           Resident at Large         902-490-1744           Resident at Large         902-477-5525           Professional Design Community         902-420-6400           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Dan         Business Community         902-425-0182           Development Community         902-423-3751           r         Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-3751           r         HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	Paul Shakotko	Regional Centre Resident	902-422-1501	shakotko@ns.sympatico.ca
Resident at Large         902-490-1744           Resident at Large         902-477-5525           Professional Design Community         902-420-6400           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3751           Development Community         902-423-3841           r         Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-431-1700           r         HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	Linda Garber	Regional Centre Resident	902-422-4179	<u>lindadg@eastlink.ca</u>
Resident at Large         902-477-5525           Professional Design Community         902-420-6400           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3751           Development Community         902-423-3841           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-7950           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	Kendall Taylor	Resident at Large	902-490-1744	<u>taylorke@halifax.ca</u>
Professional Design Community         902-420-6400           Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3751           Development Community         902-423-3841           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-431-1700           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-423-7950	William Hyde	Resident at Large	902-477-5525	<u>bchyde@eastlink.ca</u>
Professional Design Community         902-425-0182           Business Community         902-423-3751           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-431-1700           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-431-1700           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-490-4752	Geoff Keddy		902-420-6400	geoffkeddy@hfx.eastlink.ca
Business Community         902-423-3751           Business Community         902-423-3841           Development Community         902-431-1700           Heritage Advisory Committee Representative         902-423-7950           HRM Regional Council Representative         902-490-4752	David Garret		902-425-0182	garret.arch(ans.sympatico.ca
Business Community902-423-3841Development Community902-431-1700Heritage Advisory Committee Representative902-423-7950HRM Regional Council Representative902-490-4752	Bernie Smith	Business Community	902-423-3751	spingarden@ns.sympatico.ca
Development Community902-431-1700Heritage Advisory Committee Representative902-423-7950HRM Regional Council Representative902-490-4752	Paul MacKinnon	Business Community	902-423-3841	paul@downtownhalifax.ns.ca
Heritage Advisory Committee Representative 902-423-7950 HRM Regional Council Representative 902-490-4752	Kevin Riles	Development Community	902-431-1700	kriles@caohminconsulting.com
HRM Regional Council Representative 902-490-4752	Clarence Butler	Heritage Advisory Committee Representative	902-423-7950	crbutler05@yahoo.ca
	Dawn Sloane	HRM Regional Council Representative	902-490-4752	<u>sloaned@halifax.ca</u>
To be determined Cultural Advisory Committee Representative	To be determined	Cultural Advisory Committee Representative		