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> Halifax Regional Council June 14th, 2005

TO:

Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

M. Labrecque, P.Eng., Director, Transportation & Public Works

DATE:

June 6th, 2005

SUBJECT:

Proposal for a Mumford Road Area Traffic Study

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council, October 9, 2001, item 11.1.1.

BACKGROUND

At its October 9, 2001 meeting, Council passed a motion to move forward with some traffic initiatives, and that the area of Mumford Road/West End Mall be forwarded to the regional planning exercise as a possibility for one of the many case studies. Further, Council requested in future Capital Budgets that instead of just looking at infrastructure improvements in roadways, issues such as technological improvements and transportation systems being integrated with transit, be looked at, as well as rethinking the manner in which Council deals with allotting budgets for transportation.

DISCUSSION

The Draft Regional Plan has strived to deal with transportation issues in the Mumford Road/West End Mall area and areas similar to it throughout HRM.

The Plan includes an investment strategy for expansion of both the roadway and transit network to ensure increasing transportation demands can be safely and effectively handled. Although the plan does not include roadway projects within the Mumford/West End Mall area specifically, it does include projects to enhance the adjacent road network to this area. These projects are expected to keep traffic loading from increasing as the region grows over the next twenty-five years. However, it is important to recognize that the Plan is designed with the expectation that Mumford Road, and other collector roads like it, will continue to bear a moderate portion of regional traffic.

In the past, HRM has been at the forefront in applying technology to maximizing transportation efficiency. Two leading edge technologies, SCOOT for traffic signal optimization and GoTime for real-time reporting of transit schedule adherence, were introduced in the early nineties. These two systems, and other new transportation technologies, will continue to be developed and explored. For example, last year HRM secured federal funding to assist in the development of a pilot expansion to the GoTime system to include GPS (Global Positioning Systems) vehicle tracking.

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.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no recommended alternatives.

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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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