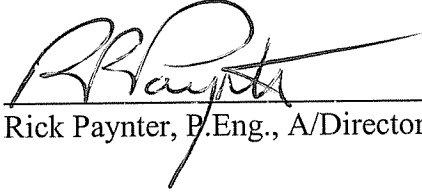

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
August 20, 2002

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Rick Paynter, P.Eng., A/Director, Public Works & Transportation

DATE: August 6, 2002

SUBJECT: **CONDITION OF ROAD MAINTENANCE - BEAVER BROOK
SUBDIVISIONS**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council, May 21, 2002, item 9.2.5.

BACKGROUND

Councillor Hines served a petition from residents of Richard and Hescott Streets in Elmsdale demanding the following: proper maintenance and upgrading of both streets, posted speed limit signs, posted "caution children playing" signs and paving of both roads.

DISCUSSION

Staff response to the issues raised are as follows:

Maintenance and paving

The sections of both Hescott Street and Richards Street between Old Post Road and Nathan Street, and Nathan Street are owned by the Province and maintained by the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works (NSTPW). The remaining sections of Hescott Street and Richards Street are owned and maintained by HRM.

All streets in this subdivision are gravel roads which require grading on a regular basis. Staff of HRM Streets and Roads has inspected the sections of streets that HRM is responsible for and has indicated that they are in reasonably good condition at this time. Staff has contacted the Province to make them aware of the concerns of residents regarding street maintenance and dust control (see attached).

In 1999 the streets owned by the Province were petitioned for paving under the Municipal Aid Program at a cost to homeowners of \$17.00 per foot. This petition failed, and the streets have not been repeteditioned since. The street sections owned and maintained by HRM are the newest streets in the subdivision and have not been petitioned for paving.

Posted Speed Limit Signs

NSTPW has been contacted and provided a response regarding the approval of speed limit signs (see attached).

Children Playing Signs

Children Playing Signs are not used in HRM. Children live on nearly every residential street and this should be an expectation of all drivers. Experience has shown that attempts to warn motorists of obvious conditions have little benefit. Warning signs are most effective when used sparingly to advise motorists of unusual or unexpected conditions ahead. National standards do not support the use of these signs because they suggest it's okay for children to play on or near the street. This is not something Traffic Services wants to encourage parents and children to believe in.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

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

N/A

ATTACHMENT

Copy of correspondence from David VanSlyke regarding signs
Copy of correspondence to Paul O'Brien regarding street maintenance

Additional copies of this report and information on its status can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report prepared by: David McCusker, P.Eng., Manager, Traffic & Transportation Services,
490-6696. *DMC*

DMC/bmh

Tracking #414
File # 1201.1

June 28, 2002

David McCusker, P.Eng.
Manager, Traffic & Transportation Services
Halifax Regional Municipality
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

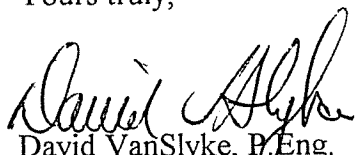


Dear Mr. McCusker:

Re: Richard and Hescott Streets, Elmsdale

Further to my letter of June 26, 2002 on the above captioned topic, I can confirm that speed limit signs are now in place on the Old Truro Road approach to the subdivision (approved sign plan enclosed for reference). "Children Playing" signs will not be erected and there are no public playground area within the subdivision that would qualify for the approval of advance playground signs.

Yours truly,


David VanSlyke, P.Eng.
Area Manager Halifax East

DVS/kmi

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

07 August 2002

Paul O'Brien, P.Eng.
Area Manager - Halifax Suburban
Transportation & Public Works
Box 44144
1658 Bedford Highway
Bedford, N. S.
B4A 3X5

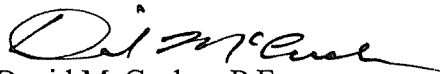
Dear Mr. O'Brien:

Re: Street Maintenance - Richard and Hescott Streets - Elmsdale

At the Halifax Regional Municipality's Council meeting of May 21, 2002, Councillor Hines served a petition from residents of Richard and Hescott Streets in Elmsdale concerned that the sections of Old Post Road and Nathan Street owned and maintained by the province do not get the same degree of regular maintenance and dust control treatments that the sections owned and maintained by HRM do.

This information is brought to your attention for whatever measures you may deem appropriate.

Yours truly



David McCusker, P.Eng.
Manager, Traffic & Transportation Services

DMC/bmh

cc File #31680-75 (Richard Street)
File #31680-75 (Hescott Street)