



HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
August 20, 2002

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: David McCusker
David McCusker, P.Eng., Traffic Authority

DATE: August 2, 2002

SUBJECT: FRASER STREET TRAFFIC ISSUES

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

July 9, 2002 meeting of Halifax Regional Council, item 10.2.1.

BACKGROUND

Councillor Uteck submitted a petition on behalf of Fraser Street residents concerned with the volume and speed of non-local traffic on their street.

DISCUSSION

Fraser Street is a short residential street running parallel to South Street, between Waterloo Street and Robie Street. Preliminary traffic studies conducted this past July indicate that both the vehicle speed and volume profiles fall well within the range of residential street characteristics. That is, neither traffic calming measures nor police enforcement would be expected and the Neighbourhood Short-cutting Policy would not apply. However, staff will do a follow-up survey in the fall when traffic volumes on the peninsula are normal due to the resumption of school and university classes, as well as vacations being over.

It should be recognized that heavy traffic demand in the region's core has nearly exhausted the capacity of the existing street network. This results in some streets taking on a greater role in carrying traffic than might otherwise be desired. Fraser Street, for example, should ideally be carrying no non-local traffic. However, due to high traffic demand, it has been necessary to accept small volumes of through traffic on this street and other streets like it. The issue of how great a role various classifications of streets should be playing in conveying traffic will be an important part of the upcoming regional plan.

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

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.
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490-6696.

TK/bmh