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Halifax Regional Council October 22, 2002

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

Rick Paynter, P. Eng., Acting Director, Public Works & Transportation

Paul Dunphy, Director, Planning and Development Services

DATE: October 8, 2002

SUBJECT: Water Resource Management Study

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Staff

BACKGROUND

Staff has been in the process of developing a Water Resource Management Policy for the Municipality. The objective of this project is to harmonize the differing policies, regulations and practices the four predecessor municipalities had related to various aspects of wastewater and storm water management, including those related to the development of land, and to develop comprehensive and modern policies with respect to water resource issues in Halifax Regional Municipality. The project is a joint effort of Public Works & Transportation Services and Planning & Development Services.

DISCUSSION

By a motion of Regional Council on September 19, 2000, a consultant was engaged to develop a report to assist HRM in adopting water resource management policies. Based on the consultant's proposal, the report was to be completed by March of 2001. In a September 18, 2001 Information Report (copy attached), Council was advised that the project was delayed but that the consultant had committed to complete the project by January 2002. This deadline was also not met.

The consultant is now in the process of completing the final draft of the report. We expect to receive this draft in December whereupon we shall immediately distribute this report, as requested by Council, to the three Watershed Advisory Boards. We have offered to then do a presentation to their representatives in early January. The Boards can then review the report in more detail and provide written comments by mid-February. The report and the comments will then be presented to Council in the Spring of 2003.

If current projected time lines are met, the consultant will complete this project with a delay of approximately 20 months. The report however will be completed at no additional cost to the Municipality, and both Public Works & Transportation and Planning & Development agree that the delay was necessary to ensure quality of the final product.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None.

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 recommended.

ATTACHMENT

Information Report, Water Resource Management Study, dated September 18, 2001

Report Prepared by	r its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210/ Fax 490-4208. Mark Bernard, P.Eng, Senior Engineer, Environment and Right of Way Services, 490-6716
Report Approved by:	fred level / FOR
	John P. Sheppard, P.Eng., Manager, Environmental & Right of Way Services, 490-6958





Halifax Regional Council September 25, 2001

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Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

Kulvinder S. Dhillon, P.Eng., Director, Public Works & Transportation

Paul Dunphy, Director, Planning & Development

DATE:

September 18, 2001

SUBJECT:

Water Resource Management Policy

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Staff.

BACKGROUND

Staff is in the process of developing a Water Resource Management Policy for the Municipality. The four predecessor municipalities had differing policies, regulations and practices related to various aspects of wastewater and stormwater management, including those related to the development of land. The objective of this project is to develop a comprehensive policy, current to today's needs with respect to water resource issues in Halifax Regional Municipality. The project is a joint effort of Public Works & Transportation Services and Planning & Development Services. The Project Steering Committee is comprised of two staff from each business unit.

DISCUSSION

A consultant was retained to develop the policy, in conformance with the purchasing policy of the Municipality. The project was awarded by a motion of Regional Council on September 19, 2000.

Based on the consultant's proposal, the project was to have been completed by March of 2001.

As a result of their work to date, the consultant has concluded that the effort on their part to complete the project as required by the Terms of Reference is much greater than they had originally contemplated. Also, the consultant has re-organized their project team, utilizing resources in their offices in other parts of Canada. Consequently, the time to complete the project is longer than originally proposed.

The consultant recently submitted a revised work plan and schedule which now indicates a completion date of January 2002. The consultant is committed to completing the project within this revised time frame, at no additional cost to the Municipality.

Both Public Works & Transportation Services and Planning & Development Services are in agreement with the revised work plan and schedule. Although the completion date is much later than originally contemplated, both business units agree that the quality of the final product is more important.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None.

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 recommended.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

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 and Approved by:

John P. Sheppard, P.Eng., Manager, Environmental & Right of Way Services, 490-6958