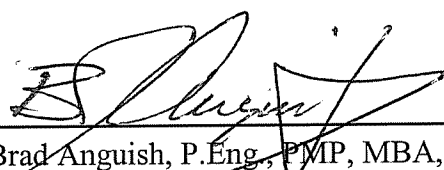




PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Halifax Regional Council
July 15, 2003

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Brad Anguish, P.Eng., PMP, MBA, Director
Environmental Management Services

DATE: July 4, 2003

SUBJECT: Water Resource Management Policy Report

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Staff

BACKGROUND

Staff is in the process of developing comprehensive and modern policies with respect to water resource issues in Halifax Regional Municipality. The project is a joint effort of Environmental Management Services and Planning & Development Services and will harmonize and update the differing policies and regulations relative to the various aspects of wastewater and storm water management, including those related to the development of land.

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. Since then, staff have sent information reports to Halifax Regional Council giving updates on the progress of the consultant's report. The consultant's report was completed in December 2002 and, as approved by Halifax Regional Council, it was presented to the three Watershed Advisory Boards in January. Staff requested comments from the Boards and answers to a number of specific questions relative to the consultant's report. We have now received responses from each of the Boards.

The development of comprehensive water resource management policies has a strong link to regional planning. The policies are far reaching and complex, and will affect HRM water resources for many years to come. Staff has therefore arranged for a presentation of the report to Council by the Consultant after the summer break. Staff has been developing a detailed implementation plan and at that time will submit the plan, including priorities and public participation, with recommendations for Regional Council's consideration.

Included in Appendix A of this report is a CD of the complete consultant's report and the submissions received from the Watershed Advisory Boards. Councillors that wish to obtain a hard copy of the report can do so by contacting the City Clerk's office.

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.

REGIONAL PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

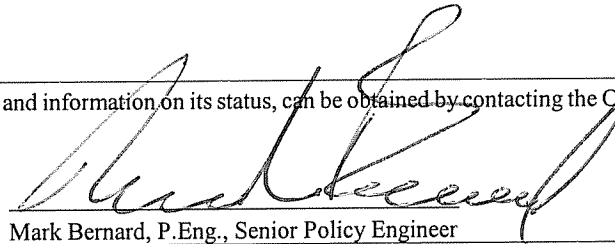
N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: HRM Water Resource Management Study and WAB's submissions - CD format

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:



Mark Bernard, P.Eng., Senior Policy Engineer



Phone # 490-6716