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Halifax Regional Council
October 21, 2003

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Gerry Boyd, P.Eng., A/Director, Public Works and Transportation

DATE: October 10, 2003

SUBJECT: Petition for Upgrading of Brook Street, Central Region

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council meeting of September 9, 2003, Item 8.2.1.

BACKGROUND

At the September 9, 2003 Halifax Regional Council meeting, Councillor Goucher served a petition containing approximately 166 signatures of residents of Wellington/Fletcher's Lake requesting that school bus service to Holland Road Elementary School be reinstated and that Brook Street be upgraded to suitable standards for pedestrians.

DISCUSSION

As school bus service is under the authority of the Halifax Regional School Board (HRS), this report only deals with the upgrading of Brook Street. The petition has been forwarded to Mr. David Driscoll, Chair, HRS for comment.

Brook Street is a local street in Wellington that runs generally north from Holland Road and ends in a cul-du-sac. The petition requests Brook Street be upgraded to suitable standards for pedestrians. For the purpose of this report, it will be assumed that a sidewalk will suitably achieve this goal; and, that a sidewalk would only be necessary between Holland Road and Jeffrey Lane since the remainder of Brook Street is a dead end.

The proposed sidewalk would be approximately 1.2 kilometres in length and the cost is estimated to be in the vicinity of \$1.2 million. It should be expected that this cost will increase over time as construction costs rise incrementally each year.

This sidewalk has been added to the list of proposed sidewalks for the Halifax Regional Municipality and referred for consideration as part of HRM's normal Capital Budget process.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

New sidewalks and new concrete curb and gutter (which is integral to the sidewalk installation) require the recovery of a Local Improvement Charges. The 2003 rates for sidewalk and concrete curb and gutter have been established at \$14.97 and \$14.24, respectively, per lineal foot of frontage. We would note that the residents of this street have not been petitioned to determine their acceptance of this frontage charge. Alternatively, the Local Improvement Charges may be recovered by an area rate over a part or all of the district area. Based on the 2003 rates, the required Local Improvement recovery has been estimated at \$226,300.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

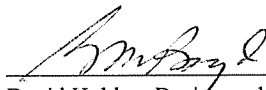
This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no recommended alternatives.

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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Report Approved by: 
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