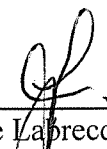




PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

Chebucto Community Council  
September 8, 2008

**TO:** Chair and Members of Chebucto Community Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Mike Laprecque, P.Eng., Director of Transportation and Public Works

**DATE:** June 23, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Traffic and Safety on Trailwood Place and Tremont Park Issues

**ORIGIN**

Items 12.2 and 12.3 raised at the July 9, 2007 meeting of Chebucto Community Council.

12.2 Councillor Hum - Tremont Park Issues

This item was added at the request of Councillor Hum. Councillor Hum advised that this item and item 12.3 are related, but in the interest of timeliness in getting staff reports back to Community Council, she was separating this item. The Councillor explained that she received correspondence from a resident containing a number of concerns involving inappropriate activity in Tremont Park, as well as policing issues, and access to Tremont Park. She advised that the residents would like to have another main entrance into Tremont Park. **MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Adams that staff provide a report on the possibility of providing another main entrance to Tremont Park. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

12.3 Councillor Hum - Traffic and Safety on Trailwood Place

This item was added at the request of Councillor Hum. Councillor Hum advised that traffic on Trailwood Place seems to increase every year in late spring, summer, and early fall and she suggested this was due to the fact that the main entrance to Tremont Park is located there, and due to the intense use of the baseball and soccer fields during those months. Councillor Hum advised that it has been suggested to her that the installation of speed bumps on Trailwood Place would help in slowing down the traffic and would address a safety concern. Councillor Hum noted that staff was aware of this matter and other related issues, as correspondence with more details had been sent directly to staff. **MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Adams that staff provides a report with recommendations for short and longer term recommendations to best address issues pertaining to the local area of Tremont Park and the abutting neighbourhood streets which**

**include the following: traffic and safety; the need and timeline for an alternative main entrance into Tremont Park, the ongoing problem with graffiti, vandalism, and other inappropriate activity taking place in the Park. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Tremont Plateau Park was acquired by the municipality as a parkland dedication from subdivision of the adjacent land. The location and configuration of the parcel were established to accommodate future passive and active recreation needs of the surrounding residential areas. One of the key objectives for this park was also to connect communities of Rockingham and Clayton Park. The parcel is classified as a Community Park.

The park was developed in 1986 as part of Clayton Park residential development. At the time of land acquisition and development of the park, the only available access points were from the surrounding local residential streets: Trailwood Place, Tremont Drive, and Pioneer Avenue. This was intended to be a temporary situation - the future primary access to the park was envisioned to be located from the anticipated extension of Knightsridge Drive. The implementation of this vision is subject to development of the adjacent land now owned by Maritime Broadcasting System.

The initial negotiation with this owner allowed installation on his land by HRM of a tennis court and parking area. The development was arranged through a Letter of Agreement. At this time the owner is not interested in selling the land to HRM or allowing a new primary access point to the park to be created on his land.

### **DISCUSSION**

**Speed Humps:** It has been suggested that drivers proceeding to and from the park entrance on Trailwood Place are speeding and that speed humps are installed to slow drivers down. Speed humps are installed in HRM only under the requirements of the Neighbourhood Short-Cutting Policy. This Policy limits the application of speed humps to this location because the drivers to and from the park are not short-cutting - the park parking lot is a destination off of Trailwood so by definition it is not a short-cut trip.

Since the Short-Cutting Policy is a Council policy HRM Council could choose to exempt Trailwood or any other location if it chooses, but there is another reason why speed humps are not a practical idea for Trailwood Place. Trailwood Place is about 120 metres long from the park driveway to the stop sign at Flamingo Drive. This distance does not allow for drivers to typically achieve very high speeds traveling in either direction. The speed hump design used in HRM a standard in Canada will only slow drivers down to about 35 or 40 kph, which is likely the speed they are traveling anyway. Therefore speed humps would not reduce actual operating speeds but would add a hazard for emergency vehicles and bicycle users on the street.

**Night-time Vehicle Access to the Park:** The motor vehicle access to Tremont Park that connects to Trailwood Place has a gate installed. There is another motor vehicle access to Tremont Park that

connects from Tremont Drive over private land. This access now does not have a gate or chain. HRM Municipal Operations and Parkland Planning staff will negotiate with the owner to try to see if a gate or chain could be built to control motor vehicle access. The gate or chain would be double locked to allow either HRM or the owner 24-hour access when needed. There is also a gate that controls motor vehicle access to the nearby Sheffield Mini Sports Park where the driveway meets Meadowlark Crescent.

Halifax Regional Police Park Patrol can sweep the parking areas for vehicles and then lock the gates at night, and HRM park maintenance workers can be scheduled to unlock the gates in the morning. This should reduce some undesirable activity in the parks at night by reducing accessibility by motor vehicle. Extra Park Patrol sweeps of the parking areas and locking of gates at night and unlocking in the morning (where gates are already in place) has already been started this summer.

**Long Term Entrance to Tremont Park:** HRM Parkland Planning has a long term plan to connect Tremont Park to a better and more visible entrance feature on an extension of Knightsridge Drive whenever the lands to the northwest come up for development. At this time the owner of the land has expressed no interest in development, so the timetable for this possibility is unknown. The lands are now zoned I-2 (Radio Transmitter Zone) so any redevelopment will require a re-zoning application and approval at which time there may be an opportunity to negotiate for an access that would permit the Trailwood Place and Tremont Drive accesses to be changed to non-motor vehicle access only.

**Reduction of Undesirable Activities in the Parks:** Nearby residents have complained of loitering, drinking, street-drug use and sales, rowdy behavior, and graffiti in the parks and in the parking lots. The effort to close and lock the access gates will reduce some of this behavior because then the persons who wish to engage in it would have to walk in and out, something they may not all want to do.

Directed patrols of West Division parks and school property will be conducted by the Regional Police assisted by Parks Patrol throughout the summer. The focus will be to reduce the incidents of nuisance complaints resulting from youths drinking, committing damage and other quality of life issues that affect local residents.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

A small amount of operating funds would be needed to build one new gate in the short term. In the long term, a new entrance to Tremont Park would be part of a redevelopment scenario of Maritime Broadcasting System property located to the North from the Park.

### **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.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by : Alan Taylor, P.Eng., Transportation Planner, 490-6680



Report Approved by: Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Manager of Traffic and Right of Way, 490-6637

### Council Report Sign-Off Sheet

**Subject: Traffic and Safety on Trailwood Place and Tremont Park Issues**

**Meeting Date: September 8, 2008**

Regular Council     In Camera     Information Report  
 Community Council                       Board/Committee

Alan Taylor, P.Eng., TPW

June 23, 2008

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Business Unit

√	Stakeholder - Internal	Reviewed By	Date/Time	Time Spent on Report	Initial/Signature
	<b>Not Required (unique to originating BU)</b>				
	<b>BPIM</b>				
	<b>CD</b>				
	<b>Finance</b> - FinTrack - Accounts - Financial Consultants - Procurement - Manager				
	<b>Fire</b>				
	<b>HR</b>				
√	<b>IAM</b>	<b>Peter Bigelow</b>			
	<b>Legal</b> - By-Laws - Admin Orders - Other				
√	<b>Police</b>	<b>Jim Perrin</b>			
√	<b>TPW</b>				
	<b>Library</b>				
	<b>Halifax Water</b>				
	<b>Councillor(s)</b>				
	<b>Regional Youth Advisory Committee (RYAC)</b>				
	<b>Stakeholder - External</b>				

Revised: March 2008

**From:** FinTrack (Finance Report Tracking)  
**To:** Dawn Veinot  
**Date:** 07/08/2008 8:26:11 am  
**Subject:** FIN OK: Re: Traffic and Safety on Trailwood Place and Tremont Park Issues

Good morning, please see the attached ok from Finance staff.

Thank you,

Sue

FinTrack - Finance Report Tracking Team  
Duke Tower, 3rd floor  
phone: 490-8928  
fax: 490-6238

>>> Dawn Veinot 08/01/08 1:04 pm >>>

Chebucto Community Council report attached for Finance's review and approval. If approval is granted between August 4th - August 11th, please forward approval to Rhonda Hughes. Thanks.

**CC:** Alan Taylor; Karen Zinck; Ken Reashor; Rhonda Hughes; Shawnee Gregory

**From:** FinTrack (Finance Report Tracking)  
**To:** Rhonda Hughes  
**Date:** 07/08/2008 8:46:35 am  
**Subject:** **Fwd: FIN OK:** Re: Traffic and Safety on Trailwood Place and Tremont Park Issues

Hi Rhonda, fin ok, FYI.

Thanks,

Sue K.

FinTrack - Finance Report Tracking Team  
Duke Tower, 3rd floor  
phone: 490-8928  
fax: 490-6238

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