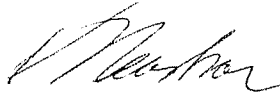


**North West Community Council**  
**May 5, 2011**

**TO:** Chair and Members of North West Community Council



**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Traffic Authority

**DATE:** April 13, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Crosswalk Request: Glendale Drive at Smokey Drive

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

Item 12.4 raised at the March 24, 2011 meeting of North West Community Council.

**BACKGROUND**

Moved by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Lund, that North West Community Council request that Traffic Services review the installation of a crosswalk near the bus stop on Glendale Drive across from Smokey Drive. Motion put and passed.

The first recorded council request for a crosswalk at this location was when the North West Community Council passed motion 12.1 requesting the installation of this crosswalk when the Community Council was convened December 10, 1998. In response to that motion, Traffic Services wrote an information report dated December 17, 1998 and submitted the report to the North West Community Council for its meeting on January 21, 1999. Since that time, Traffic and Right of Way Services has received requests on a regular basis for a crosswalk at this location. Traffic and Right of Way Services has responded to each request noting the very low pedestrian crossing volumes.

## **DISCUSSION**

As with all other crossing locations throughout HRM, Traffic and Right of Way Services assess the location based on an analysis of the traffic volumes and pedestrian volumes. Marked crosswalks are only approved for installation where there are significant volumes of vehicles and pedestrians to meet the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) warrants for the installation of a marked crosswalk. Studies conducted on the relative safety of crosswalks show that marked crosswalks provide a false sense of security for pedestrians and therefore, Traffic and Right of Way Services is reluctant to recommend the installation of unwarranted, marked crosswalks. As this location is at an intersection, a crosswalk exists whether or not it is marked as such.

There are two components to the TAC warrant for crosswalks: traffic volumes and pedestrian crossing volumes. The most recent daily counts conducted by the HRM on June 22, 2010 show a weekday PM peak hour volume of 1438 vehicles on Glendale Drive. Pedestrian counts were last performed by Traffic and Right of Way staff on May 14, 2010 from 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm and showed that in the AM and PM peak hour pedestrian volumes at the location were 10 and 6, respectively. The primary use of this crosswalk is by transit passengers. As such, an analysis of the not yet finalized November 2010 load counts for this bus stop show that the weekday activity was 31 passengers per day in both directions, while the November 2009 load counts show that weekday activity was 30 passengers per day in both directions. At no time did the 2009 hourly counts exceed 10 passengers.

The TAC warrant requires sufficient volumes of both vehicles and pedestrians. Although there are sufficient vehicles on Glendale Drive, the volume of pedestrians crossing at this location does not warrant the installation of a marked crosswalk. Traffic and Right of Way staff are, and have been, well aware of this location with respect to the senior's residence relative to the bus stop and will continue to monitor this unmarked crosswalk to determine if and when a marked crosswalk is warranted.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications.

## **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

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

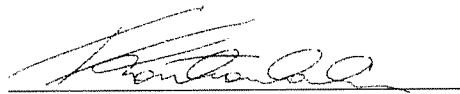
**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Community engagement was not deemed to be necessary in this process because decisions were based on operational procedures.

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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.

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Report Approved by: Taso Koutroulakis, P. Eng., Acting Manager, Deputy Traffic Authority, 490-4816

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