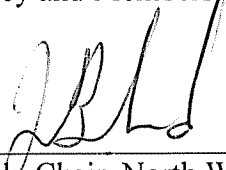


**Item No.**  
**North West Community Council**  
**June 23, 2011**

**TO:** Councillor Harvey and Members of the North West Community Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
Mr. John Merrick, Chair, North West Transit Advisory Committee

**DATE:** May 12, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Request for Bus Route Improvements - Hammonds Plains Road Corridor

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**ORIGIN**

The March 9, 2011 and May 11, 2011 meetings of the North West Transit Advisory Committee.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the North West Community Council request:

1. A staff report on the feasibility of improving the busing service along the Hammonds Plains Road corridor from the Tantallon Park n' Ride to Mill Cove in Bedford, including Lucasville Road; and
2. A staff report on the feasibility of implementing Park n' Rides at the subdivision access points along the Hammonds Plains Road.
3. Request that staff implement a clause in new development agreements that Park 'n Rides must be built in all new subdivisions in the Greater Hammonds Plains area.

## **BACKGROUND**

The North West Transit Advisory Committee discussed this matter at their March 9, 2011 meeting. A report was then presented to the North West Community Council for their March 24, 2011 meeting. The report was deferred back to the North West Transit Advisory Committee for clarification on the route requested.

## **DISCUSSION**

The North West Transit Advisory Committee would like the North West Community Council to request that Metro Transit consider implementing a bus route from the Park n' Rides in Tantallon along the Hammonds Plains Road corridor, connecting with the Lucasville Road transit service once developed, to Mill Cove in Bedford. This corridor service would provide transfer connections to both Halifax and Dartmouth bound routes and would be an ideal precursor for servicing a future harbour link.

The Committee discussed the possibility of mini Park n' Rides, with bicycle lockers, located at major subdivision access points along the Hammonds Plains corridor, including Tantallon. The heavily travelled Hammonds Plains corridor lacks sidewalks, safe bus / pedestrian access points, and; in general, is a very poor pedestrian-transit friendly locale. The intent of this suggestion is to provide a safe place for transit users to be dropped off/picked up and would also provide minimum off-highway diversions for busses serving the corridor which in turn might reduce the need for large scale parking spaces at the bus access points or elsewhere.

The Committee also suggests that the North West Community Council request that staff implement a clause in any new subdivision, or other residential development agreements, that Park n' Ride spaces, be planned and built adjacent to the Hammonds Plains road at major access points to all new subdivisions along that corridor.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications associated with this report.

## **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**

The North West Transit Advisory Committee is currently comprised of nine (9) citizen representatives from Districts 19, 20, 21 and 23 and one Councillor representing the North West Community Council. The Community Engagement aspect has been met as citizen members

represent the residents of the North West Community Council areas including the portions of District 2 and 23 recently incorporated into the North West Community Council.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The North West Community Council may choose not to recommend a staff report on the feasibility of implementing Park 'n Rides at the subdivision access points along the Hammonds Plains Road; feasibility of improving the bus service along the Hammonds Plains Road corridor, including Lucasville Road, from the Tantallon Park 'n Rides to Mill Cove; implement a clause in new development agreements that Park 'n Rides must be built in all new subdivisions in the Greater Hammonds Plains area. This is not the recommended option.

**ATTACHMENTS – NONE**

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

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