


Peninsula Community Council
June 11, 2012

TO: Chair and Members of Peninsula Community Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Peter Stickings, Acting Director, Planning & Infrastructure

DATE: May 24, 2012

SUBJECT: Update – Commons Pay Parking

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the June 28, 2011, meeting of Halifax Regional Council (item 10.3), staff was directed to proceed with a pay-and-display pilot installation in the Halifax Commons.

BACKGROUND

The ecoMOBILITY project was funded through Transport Canada and intended to develop small-scale projects that encourage a shift from less-sustainable means of commuting to more sustainable means. Presentations were made to the Transportation Standing Committee and Peninsula Community Council on a pay parking initiative as part of the ecoMOBILITY project. A recommendation to proceed was forwarded to Regional Council.

DISCUSSION

The area approved for a new pay parking control technology pilot is shown in Attachment One. Following approval to proceed, an examination of implementation options was undertaken. Although this examination focused on the pilot area, consideration was given to future transportability to other areas of the region where parking payment is now controlled by individual meters.

A staff committee has determined that “pay-by-plate” technology is most suited to the pilot project and likely long term as well. In making this decision, three alternative technologies for on-street parking control were considered:

Pay-and-Display

This method is commonly used now in off-street parking lots. The client parks, walks to the pay station, purchases a ticket for the amount of time he/she requires and returns to the vehicle to place the ticket on their dashboard for display.

Pay-by-Space

Parking spaces are marked and numbered. The client parks, walks to the pay station, and registers the parking space number and amount of time to be purchased.

Pay-by-Plate

The client parks, walks to the pay station, and registers their license plate number and amount of time to be purchased.

In all cases, the area on the street for which payment is required is marked by street signs.

The examination compared the technologies against several desirable features. The features that were met are indicated by tick marks in the table below.

	Pay-and-Display	Pay-by-Space	Pay-by-Plate
Convenience (no need to return to car)		✓	✓
Optimization of space (no need to mark spaces)	✓		✓
Can be used by motorcycles		✓	✓
Ability to add time remotely (pay by cell phone)		✓	✓
Already in use in HRM in off-street lots	✓		
Used on downtown streets in these cities	Toronto Ottawa Saint John Winnipeg Kingston Kelowna	Montreal Victoria Fredericton	Vancouver Calgary

Staff is currently working on By-Law changes to provide the regulations needed to implement this technology and a call for expressions of interest for technology vendors. We hope to be in position for a launch in the Fall, 2012.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As part of the ecoMOBILITY project, the capital start-up costs are intended to be funded from the approved Project No. CTR00908, Transportation Demand Management. Those costs are expected to be between \$50,000 and \$70,000, although as a pilot installation, a favourable leasing arrangement may be possible.

Operating costs will be more than offset by operating revenues. Budget implications will be well defined following a vendor expression of interest process and will be taken to Regional Council for approval at that time. A recommendation on parking rates will also be made at that time.

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

No community engagement specific to this technology has been undertaken to date, although an extensive program providing public information will be required prior to rollout of the technology.

ATTACHMENTS

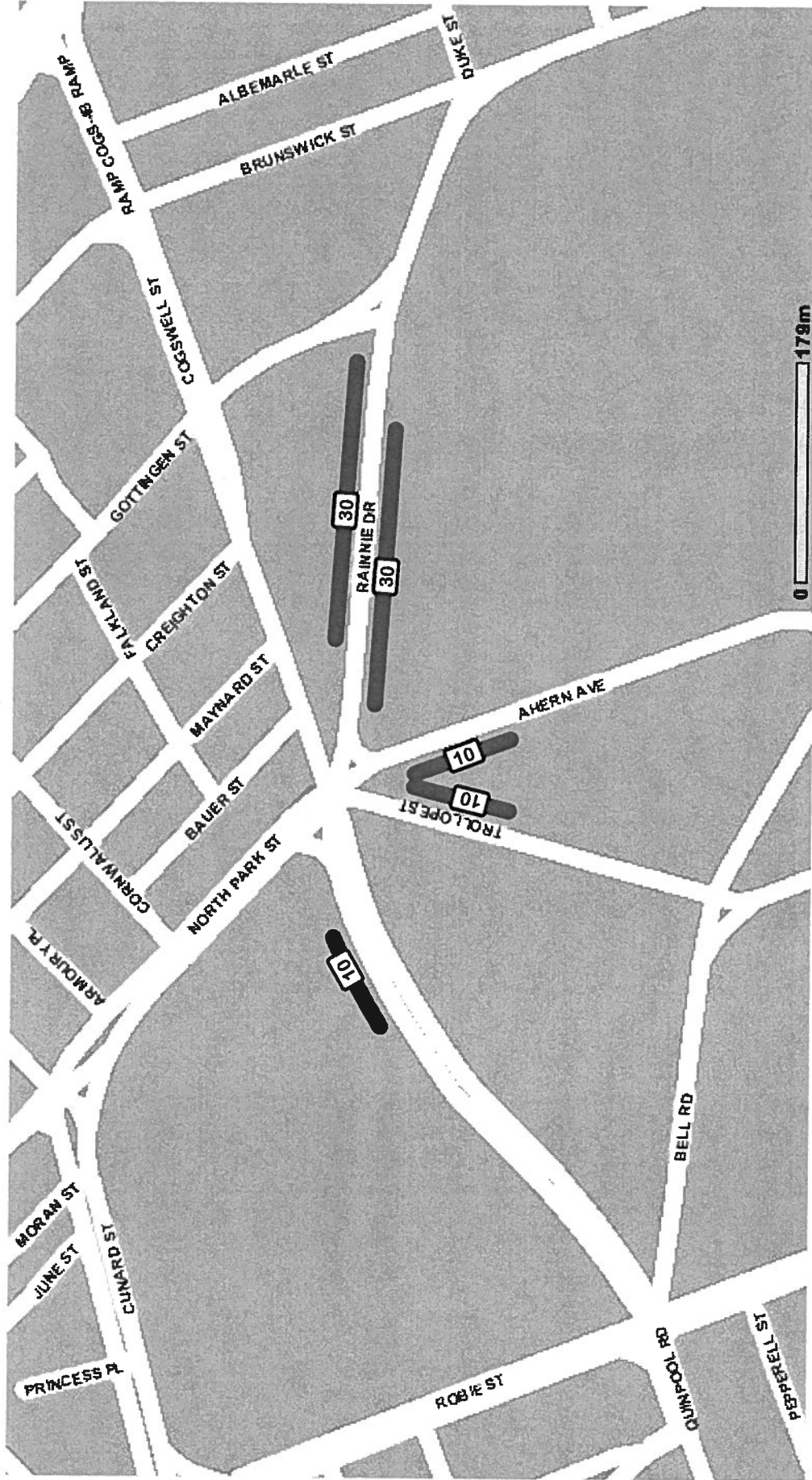
Attachment One: Pay Station Parking Area

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: Austin French, Manager, Planning, 490-6717



April, 2011

ecoMOBILITY Program

ATTACHMENT 1

Proposed Areas for Pay-and-Display Parking

