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Item No. Item 16.1
Halifax & West Community Council
April 19, 2016

TO: Chair and Members of Halifax & West Community Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original signed by
Bob Bjerke, Chief Planner & Director, Planning & Development

DATE: March 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Herring Cove Road Traffic Concerns

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax & West Community Council motion of December 2, 2013 as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Mosher and seconded by Councillor Adams that Halifax and West Community Council request a staff report addressing the work plan and safety measures for pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle traffic on the Herring Cove Road and the Purcell's Cove Road/Herring Cove Road merge lane; and that the following information be included in the report:

- (a) A response to the recent traffic study that was conducted as part of the Purcell's Cove Servicing Study; and
- (b) An update on the road networks projects from the Regional Plan, namely, the Herring Cove Widening Project.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* subsection 322(1) states that "Council may design, lay out, open, expand, construct, maintain, improve, alter, repair, light, water, clean, and clear streets in the Municipality."

BACKGROUND

Herring Cove Widening is identified in both the 2006 and 2014 Regional Plans as a roadway network planned project. The widening of Herring Cove Road was first identified as a project by the City of Halifax in 1976, at which time functional design work was completed and property acquisitions initiated.

DISCUSSION

At its meeting of February 23, 2016, Regional Council approved undertaking a Regional Integrated Mobility Plan. This plan, which is expected to be completed in February 2017, will consider future demands on corridors like the Herring Cove Road and will propose strategies involving integration between land use, transit, active transportation and the roadway network. The traffic study conducted as part of the Purcell's Cove Servicing Study identified future increases in demand which will be an important consideration in the Regional Mobility Plan.

The Integrated Mobility Plan will look at integrating land use and transportation planning. While corridor-level changes will be examined as part of this plan, ongoing work is currently examining the potential of some localized changes within the corridor. A safety and performance audit of the Armdale Roundabout undertaken in 2014 has led to preliminary engineering design work for modifications to the Herring Cove Road approach to the Roundabout being undertaken in 2016. Additionally, work is currently underway examining how modifications to the Herring Cove Road/Purcell's Cove Road may improve safety and operation. Both studies are expected to be completed in April, 2016. These studies consider pedestrian and bicycle traffic as well as transit vehicles.

Information from these two studies will be provided to the public at a meeting scheduled for April 18, 2016 at the Captain Spry Centre. Information will be available for viewing at 5:00 pm and a presentation and question-and-answer session will start at 6:30 pm.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications. Ongoing work referenced in this report is part of the Strategic Studies project Functional Transportation Plans (cost centre R951), funded from the Strategic Studies Reserve (Q330).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is taking place in April 2016, as described in the Discussion section, above.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/index.php> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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