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**Item No.1**  
**Halifax & West Community Council**  
**February 18, 2014**

**TO:** Chair and Members of Halifax & West Community Council

Original Signed

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
David Hubley, P. Eng., Acting Director, Transportation and Public Works

**DATE:** December 20, 2013

**SUBJECT:** **Traffic Signals Request – Timberlea Village Parkway at St.  
Margaret’s Bay Road**

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**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

Item 13.3 of the November 18, 2013, meeting of the Halifax & West Community Council.

Motion approved that Halifax and West Community Council Request a staff report regarding the lack of signalization at the intersection of Timberlea Village Parkway and St. Margaret’s Bay Road.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Part 1, Section 25, (e), (i) “Powers and Duties of Community Council” of HRM Charter.

**BACKGROUND**

St. Margaret’s Bay Road is an arterial roadway that runs east-west and connects many communities in the Beechville-Timberlea-Tantallon area with Halifax.

Timberlea Village Parkway is an arterial roadway that runs north-south and connects St. Margaret’s Bay Road to Nova Scotia Highway 103.

At the stop controlled T-intersection of St. Margaret’s Bay Road at Timberlea Village Parkway, both roadways are two lane roadways (one lane in each direction) with an auxiliary left turning lane from St. Margaret’s Bay Road onto Timberlea Village Parkway. There is also a large radius right turn bypass for the right turning traffic turning from Timberlea Village Parkway onto St. Margaret’s Bay Road.

The Brunello Estates Subdivision is currently being constructed in phases and accesses both Timberlea Village Parkway and St. Margaret’s Bay Road. Phase 1 of the development has been fully developed and permits 180 residential units. Phase 2 is currently under review for approximately 30 additional units. When construction of the development is completed there will be approximately 3500 units.

**DISCUSSION**

The Halifax Regional Municipality uses the Canadian Matrix Traffic Signal Warrant Analysis developed by the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) when determining whether traffic signals are warranted at an intersection. The national standard requires that a location generate 100 points in the warrant matrix before traffic signals are considered for installation. The points system is a good indication of whether the intersection warrants the installation of traffic signals.

Prior to the motion at Halifax and West Community Council, HRM staff last conducted a six hour turning movement count at this intersection in July 2012. An analysis of the traffic counts revealed that the intersection generated only 48 points in the warrant matrix. However, recognizing the ongoing development in the area HRM conducted a new six hour turning movement count on Tuesday, December 3, 2013. An analysis of the new traffic counts reveal that the intersection’s warrant point score has increased to 54 points in the warrant matrix. Despite this increase, this low rating neither warrants nor supports recommending that signals be installed at this intersection at this time. Given the results of this warrant, the current stop control is the appropriate method of traffic control at this intersection.

Additionally, it is noted that during the six hour count in July 2012 there were a total of seven pedestrians crossing St. Margaret’s Bay Road while during the six hour count in December 2013 there were a total of four pedestrians crossing St. Margaret’s Bay Road. These results indicate that the marking of one of the existing unmarked crosswalks crossing St. Margaret’s Bay Road at this intersection is not warranted at this time.

Staff recognize that there is development ongoing in this area and as the development progresses, continued assessment of this intersection will be undertaken.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications.

**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/index.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: Patrick Hatton, P.Eng., Traffic Analyst, Traffic and Right of Way Services, 490-6644

**Original Signed**

Report Approved by: Taso Koutroulakis, P.Eng., PTOE, Manager, Traffic and Right of Way Services, 490-4816

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