



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Transportation Standing Committee
July 23, 2014

TO: Chair and Members of the Transportation Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Original signed

Jane Fraser, Director, Planning & Infrastructure

DATE: June 12, 2014

SUBJECT: NS Moves Program – 2014 Funding Application

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

The approved Project Budget for 2014-15, page K1 includes funding for the implementation of the Porter's Lake Area Active Transportation Plan.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM Charter section 74 (1) states: "The Municipality may agree with one or more municipalities, villages, service commissions, the Government of the Province or of Canada or a department or agency of either of them or a band council pursuant to the Indian Act (Canada) to provide or administer municipal or village services."

BACKGROUND

On May 5, 2014 the Province announced that for the third consecutive year the NS Moves program will provide funding for projects that promote sustainable transportation. Key components of this year's program include:

- Deadline for applications is June 23, 2014 with funding announced in August
- Project work must be completed by March 31, 2015
- Focus on action-oriented projects
- Program will fund up to 50% of project costs to maximum of \$200,000

DISCUSSION

On June 23, 2014, staff submitted an application to NS Moves for funding of initial phases of the Porter's Lake Area Active Transportation Plan.

The tight time frame between announcing the funding in August, 2014 and fully completing the project by March, 2015 demand that funding be used for a project already approved in the 2014-15 Project Budget and with preliminary design work completed, but which can be increased in scale should additional funding be secured.

The project best fitting that description is the Porter's Lake Active Transportation (AT) Plan Implementation. In March, 2014 the Active Transportation Plan – Porter's Lake and Surrounding Communities was completed. This plan set out a multi-phase strategy to develop active transportation infrastructure in the Porter's Lake Area providing greater detail to objectives in the Regional Active Transportation Plan. The approved 2014-15 Project Budget included \$150,000 to begin implementing the first priority from this plan – the Porter's Lake Core Greenway. Additional funding from the NS Moves program would allow additional phases of the project to be undertaken in 2014-15.

The Porter's Lake Core Greenway is shown in Attachment One. This greenway will provide important connections between neighbourhoods, the commercial district along Trunk 7, the new school and the new MetroX transit terminal and primarily follows an abandoned rail corridor. Most of the corridor is currently owned by NS Natural Resources and further discussion and consultation will be needed to determine whether ownership or an easement in favour of HRM will be required and which, if any, of the greenway sections will need to accommodate off-highway vehicles alongside active transportation.

The tables below describe the funding strategy with and without funding from NS Moves. Some funding from N.S. Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR) is anticipated in connection with the construction of the school and improved access across Highway 107.

TABLE 1 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN WITHOUT NS MOVES FUNDING

	Estimated Cost	Funding Source		
		HRM	NS Moves	NSTIR
Phase 1 – Park & Ride Lot to Highway 107	\$60,000	\$30,000		\$30,000
Phase 2 – Highway 107 overpass sidewalk	\$105,000	\$80,000		\$25,000
Phase 3 – Highway 107 south side access	\$55,000	\$40,000		\$15,000
Phase 4 – Highway 107 to Les Collins Drive	\$20,000	future year		
Phase 5 – School to Trunk 7	\$100,000			
TOTAL	\$340,000	\$150,000		\$70,000

TABLE 2 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN WITH NS MOVES FUNDING

	Estimated Cost	Funding Source		
		HRM	NS Moves	NSTIR
Phase 1 – Park & Ride Lot to Highway 107	\$60,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000
Phase 2 – Highway 107 overpass sidewalk	\$105,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$25,000
Phase 3 – Highway 107 south side access	\$55,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$15,000
Phase 4 – Highway 107 to Les Collins Drive	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Phase 5 – School to Trunk 7	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
TOTAL	\$340,000	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$70,000

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no funding implications to submitting an application to the program. Should funding be granted, a report will be submitted to the Audit & Finance Standing Committee requesting that Project Budget CTU00420 Active Transportation Plan Implementation be increased by the amount granted by NS Moves for the purpose of expanding the scope of the Porter's Lake AT Plan Implementation. If funding is not granted, the project will proceed as approved in the 2014-2015 Project Budget.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement was undertaken as part of the development of the Porter's Lake Area AT Plan. This consisted of stakeholder consultation, two well-attended public meetings, and an on-line survey. Further community engagement is planned as part of the engineering design process.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The purpose of the NS Moves Program is to reduce environmental implications associated with transportation demand. Staff believes this project matches well with the program objectives.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment One – Porter's Lake Core Greenway – Proposed Phasing Plan

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.

Report Prepared by: David McCusker, P.Eng., Manager, Strategic Transportation Planning, 490-6696

Original signed

Report Approved by:

Bob Bjerke, Chief Planner, 490-1627

Original signed GT Bannon, For

Report Approved by:

Eddie Robar, Director Metro Transit, 490-6720

