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Information Item 3
Transportation Standing Committee
May 28, 2015

TO: Chair and Members of Transportation Standing Committee
Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Eddie Robar, Director, Halifax Transit

DATE: March 27, 2015

SUBJECT: Commuter Rail Feasibility Study Project Update

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

This information report originates from a request from the Transportation Standing Committee for monthly status updates on the Commuter Rail Feasibility Study project.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Section 69(1) of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter provides the legislative authority for the municipality to provide a public transportation service.

BACKGROUND

Regional Council has directed staff to undertake a feasibility study for commuter rail in the Halifax to Windsor Junction to Enfield corridor. In order to complete this work the services of an external rail consultant was procured in August 2014, and the study began in September 2014.

DISCUSSION

Following the public open house approximately 40 email comments were received; these comments were used to formulate a question and answer section to be posted on the project website. The consultant is now in the final phase of the study and is preparing the complete document to be available for Transportation Standing Committee's consideration in early summer.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report as it is only providing information to the Committee.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A public open house was held February 26th 2015 to share information about this study. Information is also available on the Halifax Transit website. Once the final study is assembled and presented, if Council chooses to pursue commuter rail, a more comprehensive public consultation program may be warranted.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

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

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