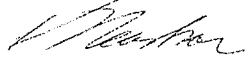


**Transportation Standing Committee
September 22, 2011**

TO: Chair and Members of Transportation Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY:



Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Director, Transportation & Public Works

DATE: August 31, 2011

SUBJECT: Bike Lane Maintenance

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Request from Councillor Mosher for enhanced maintenance, including but not limited to, street sweeping and any other measures as deemed necessary to keep the bike lanes free of debris.

BACKGROUND

Councillor Linda Mosher reported to the Chair of the Transportation Standing Committee, Councillor Reg Rankin, that she has had several calls from residents in her District that have safety concerns as a result of bicycles driving in the middle of the road, despite the presence of bike lanes. The bicycle lanes have been installed to provide a designated area for bicycle traffic separate from the vehicular traffic.

Concerns raised are that bike lanes are often full of gravel and debris making it unsuitable to drive bicycles on them, thus the bicycles drive on the roadway intended for vehicular traffic.

DISCUSSION

Municipal Operations (MOPS) is responsible to maintain the bike lanes throughout HRM to a standard that makes them as safe as possible under ideal conditions. Rain events often distribute gravel and debris to the point that obstructions will often reoccur.

MOPS has eight vacuum street sweepers and two tandem trucks with front mounted sweeper brooms to service the bike lanes throughout HRM.

The number of bike lanes continues to grow each year, which MOPS recognizes, hence the recent purchase of the tandem truck mounted sweeper brooms. These brooms maintain the bike lanes (that do not have concrete curb). They are swept every two weeks, by simply sweeping the debris back onto the road shoulder. The bike lanes that abut concrete curb are swept weekly as they are all on the main artery street sweeping routes.

MOPS has eight Maintenance Planning Supervisors who monitor the condition of the bike lanes throughout HRM. They report deficiencies that are deemed hazardous to cyclists, and also investigate complaints that are reported through the HRM Call Centre.

Attached is a list of bike lanes and the service level that applies.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for bike lanes that abut concrete curb as they are swept weekly as part of a regular service provided by MOPS.

The new service that MOPS has started this year had startup costs of \$34,000.00 to purchase the front mounted sweeper brooms and included as part of the capital budget. Costs to maintain the non-curbed streets with bike lanes are approximately \$2,000 per month and is included in the current operating budget.

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

Community Engagement was not deemed to be necessary in this process as this report deals with operational procedures and is only providing information to Council.

ATTACHMENTS

Bike lanes (with service level)

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.

Report Prepared by : Don Pellerine, Superintendent of Streets, 490-6087



Report Approved by: Peter Verge, Manager Municipal Operations, 490-4673

HRM Streets with Bicycle Lanes as of August 2011

Street		From	To	Sides	Length	Total Length - both sides	Service Level
**	Bedford Highway	Kearney Lake Road	Meadowbrook Drive	2	5.5	11	Every two weeks/weekly
	Bell Road	Robie Street	Trollope	1	0.3	0.3	Weekly
	Bell Road	Trollope	Sackville Street	2	0.5	1	Weekly
	Brunswick Street	Sackville Street	Cogswell Street	2	0.6	1.2	Weekly
	Caldwell Road	Shore Road	Himmelman	1	0.3	0.3	Weekly
	Caldwell Road	Cow Bay Road	Sea Breeze Drive	1	0.7	0.7	Weekly
	Caldwell Road	Astral Drive	Atholea Drive	2	1.5	3	Weekly
*	Chain Lake Drive	Ash Lake Court	Lovett Lake Court	1	1	1	Every two weeks
	Commodore Drive	Eileen Stubbs Avenue	John Savage Avenue	2	0.5	1	Weekly
	Dunbrack Street	Lacewood Drive	Willett Street	2	0.75	1.5	Weekly
	Dunbrack Street	Lacewood Drive	Radcliffe Drive	1	0.5	0.5	Weekly
*	Hammonds Plains Road	Hwy 102 Ramps	Bluwater Rd	2	1.3	2.6	Every two weeks
	Hemlock Drive	Westwood Boulevard		2	0.2	0.4	Every two weeks
*	Herring Cove Road	Sarah Drive	Hebridean Drive	2	2.3	4.6	Every two weeks
	Hines Road	Civic #201	+/-Civic #400	2	1.2	2.4	Every two weeks
*	Horseshoe Lake Drive	Susie Lake Cres	Hobson's Lake Drive	2	0.9	1.8	Every two weeks
	Ilisley Avenue	Ronald Smith Ave	Wright Avenue	2	1	2	Weekly
	John Savage Avenue	Commodore Drive	Wright Avenue	2	0.75	1.5	Weekly
*	Kearney Lake Road	Belle Street	Highway 102	2	3	6	Every two weeks
	Macdonald Bridge Bikeway	Halifax	Dartmouth	2	1.7	3.4	Not applicable
**	Main Road (E Passage)	Hines Road	Cow Bay Road	2	2.5	5	Every two weeks/weekly
	Main Street	Forest Hills Parkway	Ridgecrest Drive	1	0.5	0.5	Weekly
	Main Street	Ridgecrest Drive	Caledonia Road	2	2.1	4.2	Weekly
	Main Street	Panavista Drive	Montague Road	2	0.5	1	Weekly
	Main Street	MacLaughlin Road	Wilfred Jackson Way	2	1.2	2.4	Weekly
	Old Sembro Road	MacIntosh Run	Sussex Street	2	0.5	1	Every two weeks
*	Purcell's Cove Road	Spinnaker Drive	Reserve Road	2	0.75	1.5	Every two weeks
*	Purcell's Cove Road	Reserve Road	Dingle Road	1	0.6	0.6	Every two weeks
*	Purcell's Cove Road	Dingle Road	Oceanview Drive	2	3.6	7.2	Every two weeks
	Sackville Drive	Hamilton Drive	Melham Drive	2	1.9	3.8	Every two weeks
	South Park Street	Sackville Street	University Avenue	2	0.5	1	Weekly
*	St. Margaret's Bay Road	Northwest Arm Drive	Prospect Road	2	1.8	3.6	Every two weeks
	Waverley Road	Parclo	Breeze Drive	2	2.7	5.4	Weekly
*	Westwood Boulevard	Hubley Centre	Hemlock Drive	2	1	2	Every two weeks
*	Williams Lake Road	Purcells Cove Road	Clovis Avenue	1	0.9	0.9	Every two weeks
	Windsor Street	Bayers Road	Maxwell Street	2	0.5	1	Weekly
	Total				46.1	87.3	

* Paved Shoulder Bike lanes

** Paved Shoulder and concrete curb

Bike Lanes (with service Level)