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**North West Community Council
November 23, 2006**

TO: Chairperson and Members of North West Community Council

SUBMITTED BY:


Paul Dunphy, Director of Community Development

DATE: October 31, 2006

SUBJECT: Transportation Impact Studies

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

October 26, 2006 North West Community Council meeting

BACKGROUND

At the October 26, 2006 meeting, the North West Transit Advisory Committee submitted a report which indicated their concerns about the lack of consideration for active transportation means of travel in new developments and road work. North West Community Council passed a motion requesting that staff ensure that transportation impact studies for new developments consider active transportation issues.

DISCUSSION

Transportation Impact Studies (TIS) are carried out for large development projects to determine impact of the proposed development on the surrounding traffic flows and volumes. The TIS is required to outline any traffic issues caused by the development and propose solutions.

The Guidelines for the Preparation of Transportation Impact Studies require that pedestrian, cycling and transit aspects of new development be reviewed. The primary function of a TIS is to review the existing and proposed traffic of all types and to propose technical solutions to address any negative effects on the traffic flow and volume. A TIS is not intended as a method to achieve changes in the way people travel but should highlight any barriers a proposal may add to the transportation system.

The engineering specifications (Redbook) have requirements for sidewalks and walkways in the construction of new streets or upgrades to existing streets. In addition, the Redbook has recently been changed to require bicycle lanes on certain street cross sections. These requirements are in place to enhance active transportation in new developments and on existing streets which are being upgraded.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

None

ATTACHMENTS

None

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.

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