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Halifax Regional Council  
January 27, 2004

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Traffic Authority

**DATE:** January 20, 2004

**SUBJECT:** Crossing Conditions - Leeds Street

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

Petition presented at the regular meeting of Regional Council held on Tuesday, January 13, 2004, item 9.2.2.

**BACKGROUND**

The covering letter portion of the petition as it turns out already was received from the St. Stephen's Parent Teacher Association in December 2003.

Stop signs have been in effect on the Robie Street approaches to Leeds Street since 1985 as a reflection of the traffic volume using the intersection at that time. Subsequent studies since then have confirmed that the stop signs should remain on Robie Street and that all-way stop control was neither warranted nor recommended, based upon our all-way stop installation criteria.

The intersection of Leeds Street and Highland Avenue is a "T" type intersection with a stop sign on the Highland Avenue approach and a pedestrian crosswalk across Leeds Street at the east side of the intersection. The crosswalk was partially obscured by asphalt patching during last year's construction season and was subsequently repainted this past fall. It is designated by appropriate side mounted crosswalk signs and there are two overhead street lights at this intersection.

## DISCUSSION

The issue with respect to overhead flashing amber beacon crosswalk control known as RA-5's on Leeds Street at Highland Avenue can be addressed now. Such control is neither recommended nor approved for this crosswalk due to the fact that Leeds Street is a two-lane roadway with a modest traffic volume and good visibility during both daylight and evening hours.

RA-5 controls are reserved primarily for crosswalks located on multi-lane approach roadways and may also be considered where there is a demonstrated need to increase nighttime visibility as well as generate crossing gaps in the traffic queue.

Other forms of traffic control suggested in the petition require the collection of specific traffic and pedestrian volume and speed data. Neither can this data be collected nor could any recommendations derived from the data analysis be implemented at this time of year. Staff has therefore, scheduled data collection for the early spring and will arrange a site meeting with Councillor Blumenthal and community representatives. A comprehensive review of the concerns identified in the petition will be evaluated and staff will report back to Council once any decisions have been made. This new data should reflect any changes to traffic and pedestrian patterns as a result of the completion of new residential development in this north end of the peninsula.

A copy of this report will be forwarded to the St. Stephen's Parent Teacher Association.

## BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications.

## 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

There are no recommended alternatives.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by:

  
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KMC/bmh