

Councillor Request for Information

X Included on Agenda

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office
by Noon Thursday)

Added Item

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office
by Noon Monday)

Date of Council Meeting: November 9, 2004

Subject: Development Of An Off-Leash Area Master Plan for HRM

Request: I would like to have the item "Development Of An off-Leash Area Master Plan for HRM" included on the Council Agenda of November 9, 2004. I would like staff to provide a report on the provision of off-leash areas in various parts of the HRM, and particularly in Dartmouth and Eastern HRM. I would ask staff to examine the legality and practicality of designating, by time of day, geography, or a combination of both, multiple park and/or trail locations throughout HRM for off-leash dog use. Included should be a discussion of designating a portion or time of use for areas such as Shubie Park, the Lake Charles Trail, and Graham's Grove, all of which are currently used as off-leash areas in violation of the current by-law.

Reason: Currently, Point Pleasant Park and Seaview Park present one of the only, if not the only, legal opportunity for off-leash dog use in HRM. As a result, many residents are violating the current by-laws and using other park facilities for off-leash purposes. This is resulting in friction between those residents in favour of off-leash use, and those not in favour. In some cases, incidents have occurred between off-leash dogs and park / trail users. Both sides of the debate have indicated that designation of areas, particularly on the Dartmouth side of the harbour, as off-leash areas, would satisfy demands by dog owners for "off-leash friendly areas", as well as inform those park/trail users who do not wish to be in areas where off-leash dogs are likely to be found. Many other cities already have master plans which designate off-leash park use across their jurisdictions.

Reason: _____

I would like this response as:

- Email to Mayor and/or Councillor/Municipal Clerk's Office
- Memo to Mayor and/or Councillor/Municipal Clerk's Office
- Information Report to Community Council Regional Council
- Recommendation Report to Community Council Regional Council

Andrew Younger

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Councillor

District (*Number*)