

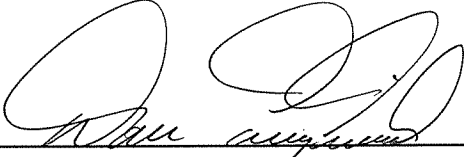
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PO Box 1749  
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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**December 14, 2004**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** December 3, 2004

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Advance Funding Approval for the 2005/06 Capital Budget

**ORIGIN**

This report originates from staff.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council provide advance funding approval of the proposed 2005/06 Capital Roads & Sidewalk, Traffic and Transportation Services and Metro Transit Budgets for Public Works and Transportation Services (PWT), and the Capital Sewer Budget for Environmental Management Services (EMS), in the amounts of \$6,691,000, \$1,243,000, \$3,626,000 and \$1,515,000, respectively as outlined within the attached Schedule "A" and as per the Discussion and Budget Implications sections of this report.

## **BACKGROUND**

Early approval of the proposed Capital Budget has always been a desirable goal of staff to ensure an earlier start on project implementation as it relates to design, land acquisitions where required, and utility and regulatory approvals - all of which translates into a more timely tendering of projects.

## **DISCUSSION**

The present timing of the approval of HRM's Capital Budget - generally March/April, becomes a hindrance in staff's ability to take advantage of early year tendering of projects which is significant for three reasons:

1. not being able to take advantage of lower tendered prices from contractors which historically is the case with those projects tendered in the early period of the year.
2. not being able to take full advantage of the peak summer construction period of the year to implement projects which are sensitive to time and weather such as those of an environmental nature requiring the dry summer season of the year or those within school zone areas where implementation and completion become desirable during the summer school break.
3. not being able to tender projects which require a long lead time to order equipment that will significantly delay the construction or implementation of services.

Achieving advanced approval of a portion of the proposed Capital Budget would address those issues and improve significantly staff's ability to get a much earlier jump on project design, tendering, contract awards and start of construction. Staff's proposal for advanced funding approval of a portion of the proposed 2005/06 Capital Budget would be similar to the same practice that is in place with the Provincial level of government and consistent with HRM's previous practice.

The majority of Metro Transit's request is to pre-order a portion of next year's bus order to help address some of the service issues that are currently being experienced due to an unprecedented growth in transit ridership. The remainder of the request, as indicated in Schedule "A", is critical due to the timing and coordination of projects associated with the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Showcase Project.

Projects to be considered for this advance approval would be those of a regular repair or rehabilitation nature. The projects listed on the attached Schedule "A" fall into this category. They include those that are:

- approved untendered Paving Renewal and Resurfacing projects carried over from the 2004/05 Capital Budget that require additional funding;
- are of a high priority nature based on existing infrastructure conditions;
- are critical due to the timing and coordination with other capital projects; and,
- are of a seasonal nature making early construction advantageous.

All projects listed on the attached Schedule "A" are presently included in the proposed 2005/06 Capital Budget. The normal public tendering process followed with Council/CAO approval of the contract award would still apply.

**Advanced Funding Approval Amount Requested:**

PWT staff is requesting advance funding approval in the amounts of \$6,691,000, \$1,243,000 and \$3,626,000 from the 2005/06 Capital Plan (which is within 50% of the funding for Roads & Sidewalks, Traffic and Transportation, and Metro Transit, respectively). EMS is requesting advance funding in the amount of \$1,515,000 which is within 50% of the funding for Sewer projects in the 2005/06 Capital Plan.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The requested advance funding amounts of \$6,691,000, \$1,243,000, \$3,626,000 and \$1,515,000 would be the first charges against the upcoming 2005/06 Capital Budget.

**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.

**ALTERNATIVE**

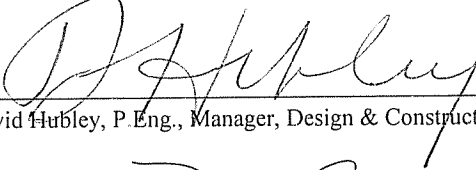
Delay this recommendation and defer to the approval of the entire Capital Budget to March of 2005. The consequences of this deferral would place HRM in the same position as in previous years in regards to the lateness of implementing the approved Capital Budget.

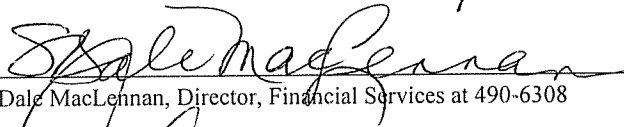
**ATTACHMENTS**

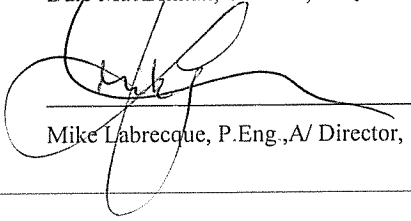
Advance Capital Project Listing Schedule "A."

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: David Hubley, P.Eng., Manager, Design & Construction Services at 490-4845

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## REVISED

## Schedule "A"

## Advanced Capital Budget Listing 2005/06

The following project listing is taken from the Proposed 2005/06 Capital Budget for Public Works & Transportation, and Environmental Management Services.

<u>Paving inside the Core area</u>		
Street Name	District	Estimate
Cherylann (Cow Bay Rd to End)	8	\$235,000
Astour Dr (Cherylann to Cherylann)	8	\$315,000
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$550,000</b>
<u>Paving Renewal Program</u>		
Street Name	District	Estimate
Dorothy/Gloria (Beaverbank to Lois)	20	\$395,000
Wedgewood (Wilson to Beechwood)	16	\$380,000
Rose St (Beech to end)	5	\$270,000
Palmer Rd (Rocky Lake to End)	2	\$290,000
Crestview (Glenora to Bryden)/Fleming	17	\$370,000
Chestnut Lane (MacRae to Portland)	5	\$235,000
Smokey Dr (Stokil to Civic 185)	19	\$350,000
Heffler (High to Cul de sac)	21	\$168,000
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$2,458,000</b>
<u>Resurfacing Program</u>		
Street Name	District	Estimate
Glen Harbour Way (Skye to Carley)	23	\$200,000
Novalea Dr (Stanley to Young)	11	\$330,000
Avondale (Agincourt to Colby)	4	\$275,000
Tartan (Athlone to End)	18	\$237,000
Stephen Cross (Belle Vista to Spring)	7	\$360,000
Gourok Ave (Civic #58 to Montrose)	6	\$270,000
Erondale (Zinck to End)	20	\$165,000
Brenda Drive/Verge Ct (Kingswood to Civic 84)	23	\$350,000
Armshore (Herring Cove to End)	17	\$50,000
Francklyn St (Inglewood/Chain Rock)/Pinehill	13	\$80,000
Wren St (Forest Hill Dr/Pioneer Ave.)	16	\$100,000
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$2,417,000</b>
<u>Sidewalk Renewal Program</u>		
Street Name	District	Estimate
Shamrock (Victoria to Slayter)	9	\$58,000
Merkel St (Prescott to Robie)	11	\$44,000
Regina Terrace (Beaufort to Bellevue)	13	\$153,000
Binney St (Edward to Robie)	13	\$42,000
Gottingen St (Portland to Cogswell)	12	\$53,000
Cork St (Dublin to Oxford)	14	\$89,000
Vienna St (Connolly to Swaine)	14	\$59,000

Pennington (Pearson to End)	15	\$93,000
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<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$591,000</b>
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**New Sidewalks**

<b>Street Name</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
Smokey Dr (Stokil to Civic 185)	19	\$150,000
Cobequid Rd (Midpoint to Judy Ann Ct)	20	\$145,000
Rocky Hill Rd (Tremont to Forest Hills)	16	\$55,000
Wren St (Forest Hill Dr/Pioneer Ave.)	16	\$55,000
Victoria Rd (Primrose St/Trinity Ave.)	9	\$125,000
Arklow Dr (School to walkway)	4	\$145,000

<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$675,000</b>
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<b>Total Advanced Budget Requirement for PWT</b>		<b>\$6,691,000</b>
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**Sewers**

	<b>District</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
Johnson Road PS, North Preston	3	\$150,000
Chestnut Ln (between Portland and MacRae)		
- Sewer Renewal	5	\$150,000
Raymond St, Dartmouth - Storm Sewer Rehab	6	\$75,000
Ellenvale Run, Dartmouth - Drainage Imp.	7	\$500,000
Plymouth Road PS, Dartmouth	6	\$200,000
Crescent Avenue PS, Halifax	17	\$100,000
Quigley's Corner PS, Eastern Passage	8	\$75,000
Valleyford Holding Tank, Dartmouth	6	\$50,000
Beaver Crt, Cole Harbour - PS & Forcemain Study	4	\$40,000
Bissett Lake PS, Dartmouth	4	\$25,000
Windmill Road PS, Dartmouth	9	\$50,000
Sewer Drags - Cleaning Large Diameter Sewers	HRM	\$100,000

<b>Total Advanced Budget Requirement for EMS</b>		<b>\$1,515,000</b>
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**Traffic and Transportation**

<b>Street Name</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
Traffic Signal Compliance Program	Misc. Districts	\$145,000
Traffic Signal Rehabilitation Program	Misc. Districts	\$97,000
Traffic Signal Installation	District 23	\$320,000
Intersection Improvement Projects	Districts 9 & 22	\$611,000
Controller Cabinet Replacement Program	Misc. Districts	\$70,000

<b>Total Advanced Budget Requirement for Traffic and Transportation</b>		<b>\$ 1,243,000</b>
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**Metro Transit**

	<b>Estimate</b>
Bus Rapid Transit Showcase Project	\$832,000
Transit Terminal Upgrade & Expansion	\$121,500

Conventional Transit Bus Replacement	\$2,672,500
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<b>Total Advanced Budget Requirement for Metro Transit</b>	<b>\$3,626,000</b>
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