

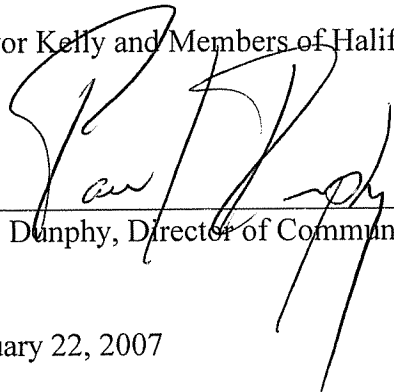


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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**January 30, 2007**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
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Paul Dunphy, Director of Community Development

**DATE:** January 22, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Fall River Water Service Project

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

Motion of Council on May 30, 2006 to have staff provide a report on the process to follow to have the community of Fall River in the Water Service District Boundary for the provision of central water services.

**BACKGROUND**

On May 30, 2006 Regional Council directed staff to provide a report on the process to be followed to have the community of Fall River included within the Water Service District Boundary (WSD).

This was partly in response to previous requests of the Fall River Community to have Phases 1-9 of the Fall River Village included within a WSD; an area that was subject to a plan amendment process initiated by Regional Council on October 1, 2002. It was also in response to community requests to have additional lands within the broader community of Fall River included within the WSD as contemplated for the Fall River Centre under the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS).

Phases 1-9 of the Fall River Village were included within the Water Service District boundary with the adoption of the Regional MPS. Decisions concerning what additional areas of the Fall River Community should be included in the WSD were subject to the completion of a Watershed Study and the Community Visioning Process for the Fall River Rural Commuter Centre.

**DISCUSSION**

The Regional MPS contemplates the extension of its WSD to designated growth areas through a secondary planning process. The Regional MPS also specifies that a secondary planning process has to be preceded by a watershed study to determine the amount of growth that the watershed can accommodate without exceeding its water quality objectives. A community visioning process is also required to enable the community to determine how the designated growth centres should be designed and serviced in accordance with the objectives of the Regional MPS.

The Community Visioning Process for the Fall River Rural Commuter Centre has commenced and a Request for Proposals for a Shubenacadie Lakes - Fall River Watershed Study has been issued. Phase I of the Watershed Study will examine where central water and sewer services maybe feasible in the Fall River Area from a technical and financial perspective. Phase II will examine how much growth can be accommodated in the centre and the surrounding area without compromising the water quality objectives established for the Shubenacadie - Grand Lake Watershed. The award of the contract for this study is anticipated for February 2007. Phase I of the study is expected to be completed at the end of April 2007 and Phase II is scheduled for completion at the end of September 2007.

The information obtained from Phase I of the study will be presented to the Community Liason Group (CLG) for consideration in the formation of their vision and action plan for the Fall River Commuter Centre. Following the completion of the Fall River Community Visioning Process in August 2007, a secondary planning process will be have to be initiated by Council to undertake all of the amendments recommended in the action plan. Amendments will be brought forward to Regional Council through the secondary planning process to, among other things, consider the extension of the WSD to additional areas of Fall River under the Regional MPS and Subdivision By-law.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications arising from this report.

**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.

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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