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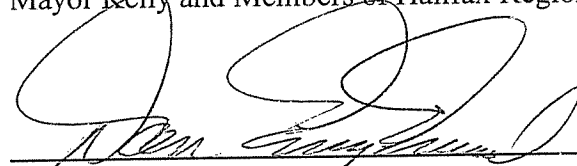


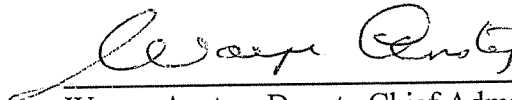
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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Halifax Regional Council  
April 24, 2007  
May 1, 2007

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Anstey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer - Operations

**DATE:** April 11, 2007

**SUBJECT:** By-Law Number S-422 , Respecting Charges for Street Improvements

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### ORIGIN

Approval by Regional Council on April 11, 2006 of a new policy whereby LIC rates for sidewalks, new concrete curb and gutter, and new paving projects are to be calculated in a blended rate; and, on April 10, 2007, the inclusion in LIC's of engineering fees.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council:

1. approve and apply (where applicable) the new Local Improvement blended costs for Capital Projects in the 2006/07 fiscal year as per the attached Schedule "A",
2. approve, in principle, the adoption of By-Law Number S-422 , Respecting Charges for Street Improvements, as per the attached, and to give Notice of Motion to begin the formal adoption process,

## **BACKGROUND**

By-Law Number S-400 deals with the recovery of costs where Council undertakes a project to install new street paving, new sidewalks, and new concrete curb and gutter. This By-Law provides the authority to impose a charge on persons owning property that abuts either side of the street as described in By-Law S-400.

## **DISCUSSION**

On April 11, 2006, Council approved a new policy where LIC rates for new sidewalk, new concrete curb and gutter, and new paving projects are to be calculated based on the average (or blended rate) of the actual construction costs of projects tendered within the same construction season. Based on this policy, staff reviewed construction costs for the new concrete sidewalks, concrete curb and gutter, and new paving projects constructed in 2006, and recommends the blended unit costs be set as identified in the attached Schedule "A". As a note the rate for the replacement of asphalt sidewalk with concrete is based on a 1/3 credit as per the policy established several years ago.

The proposed By-Law Number S-422, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements, is an amendment to By-Law Number S-400, The Street Improvement By-Law, and will enable HRM to charge Local Improvement Charges for new street improvements. The rates to be applied are also identified on the attached By-Law Number S-422. On April 10, 2007, Council also approved the adoption of an engineering fee to be added to the overall LIC rate through Bylaw S-421 and Administrative Order Number 15.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Upon Council's approval of the blended costs, Local Improvement Charges for the 2006/07 capital projects will be levied, and the amount will be collected as operating revenue.

**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.

The installation of new sidewalk, and curb and gutter will provide better pedestrian safety. As the infrastructure ages, capital funds will be required for replacement.

**ALTERNATIVES**

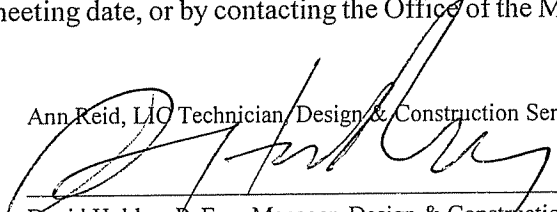
Council could choose not to move forward with incorporating the blended costs for the 2006/2007 capital projects; however staff does not recommend this alternative.

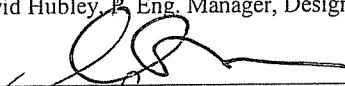
**ATTACHMENTS**

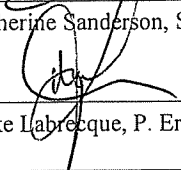
- By-Law Number S-422, Respecting Changes to Street Improvements
- Schedule "A" Local Improvements Rates

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 at 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Ann Reid, LIO Technician, Design & Construction Services at 490-6849

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

Financial Review by:   
Catherine Sanderson, Senior Manager, Financial Services at 490-1562

Report Approved by:   
Mike Labrecque, P. Eng., Director, Transportation and Public Works at 490-4855

AR/pm

**REVISED**

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

**BY-LAW NUMBER S-422**

**RESPECTING CHARGES FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality that By-Law Number S-400, The Street Improvement By-Law, is hereby amended as follows:

1. Schedule "A" of By-Law Number S-400 is amended by adding the following:

For all projects completed after January 1, 2006, the charges shall be as follows:

For **new** concrete sidewalk, the charge per foot of frontage to be applied to both sides of the streets shall be \$25.08 plus \$2.50 for the engineering fee for a total charge of \$27.58.

For **replacement** of existing asphalt sidewalk with new concrete sidewalk, the charge per foot of frontage to be applied to both sides of the street shall be \$16.72 plus \$1.66 for the engineering fees for a total charge of \$18.38.

For **new** concrete curb and gutter, the charge per foot of frontage to be applied to both sides of the street shall be \$38.41 plus \$3.84 for the engineering fee for a total charge of \$42.25.

For **new** asphalt paving, the charge per foot of frontage to be applied to both sides of the street shall be \$26.91 plus \$1.35 for the engineering fee for a total charge of \$28.26.

Done and passed by Council this      day of                      , A.D. 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk

I, Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above-noted by-law was passed at a meeting of the Halifax Regional Council held on                      ,2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Gibson  
Municipal Clerk

**Schedule "A"**

**Local Improvement Rate By-Law S-422  
Projects Completed 2006**

LIC Project	50% Construction Cost to Residents	Cost per foot to Residents	Engineering Fee Revenue	Engineering Fees per foot	LIC + Eng Fees
New Sidewalk	\$640,991.56	\$25.08	\$64,099.16	\$2.50	\$27.58
Curb & Gutter	\$274,087.36	\$38.41	\$27,408.74	\$3.84	\$42.25
New Paving	\$446,023.37	\$26.91	\$22,301.17	\$1.35	\$28.26