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Halifax Regional Council
September 4, 2007

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 

Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Traffic Authority

DATE: August 20, 2007

SUBJECT: **Petition for Traffic Signals at Intersection of Beaver Bank Road and
Beaver Bank Windsor Junction Cross Road**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Item 10.2 raised at the April 10, 2007 meeting of Halifax Regional Council.

A petition was submitted by Councillor Snow requesting traffic lights at the intersection of Beaver Bank Road and Beaver Bank Windsor Junction Cross Road.

BACKGROUND

Councillor Snow served a petition on behalf of residents requesting traffic signals at the intersection of Beaver Bank Road and Beaver Bank Windsor Junction Cross Road. This has been a perennial request for the past few years as residents feel that increasing development is making the left turn from Beaver Bank Windsor Junction Cross Road onto Beaver Bank Road more difficult and dangerous.

DISCUSSION

Traffic Signals are not recommended at the intersection of Beaver Bank Road and Beaver Bank Windsor Junction Cross Road.

In HRM, Traffic Signals may be installed based on the outcome of a warrant developed by the Transportation Association of Canada. Traffic and pedestrian volumes are collected and entered into the warrant, which also takes into consideration things such as whether there is a school nearby, if it is on a school route, proximity to other signals, etc. A warrant score of 100 points is needed for an intersection to be considered for traffic signals. Based on data collected in June of this year, this intersection has a warrant score of 59 points, far from the necessary 100 points.

In addition, several visits were made by staff to the intersection during peak times. At no time during these visits did staff witness any delay for left turning vehicles from Beaver Bank Windsor Junction Cross Road. Approximately thirty seconds of waiting was the longest noted delay. Nor were any 'near misses' noted, or the need for vehicles to make poor judgement calls, because there wasn't any lengthy delay to cause this.

The provincial government (TWP) controls and maintains collision data for the province. It will take a couple of years of data collection and assessment to determine what effect the left turn bay on Beaver Bank Road has had regarding this issue.

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.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.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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