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Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 10.1.6

Halifax Regional Council
October 7, 2008

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan English".

Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wayne Anstey".

Wayne Anstey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer - Operations

DATE: September 23, 2008

SUBJECT: Laurie Lively Park - Parkland Reserve Withdrawal

ORIGIN

Requirement for parkland dedication for Newridge Subdivision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that Regional Council;
 - 1) Approve the withdrawal of \$54,625 from the Parkland Reserve Q107, to fund Capital Account CPX01023 Park Upgrades.
 - 2) Increase Capital Account CPX01023 Park Upgrades by \$54,625 to be dedicated to improvements to Laurie Lively Park.

BACKGROUND

Raymar Developments has undertaken a multi-phase residential development, Newridge Subdivision in the community of Upper Sackville. The development is small in scale and long and narrow. Under the permitting process, HRM staff determined that no physical park property was required for the subdivision as the project is across the street from Laurie Lively Park in the Berry Hill Subdivision. Laurie Lively Park is a ten acre district park located on the site of a former gravel pit. It provides the community with a playground, dirt bike jump course and a sport court. It also has the capability to accommodate a future sports field and several other minor park amenities.

A local residents association had been working with staff and the area Councillor towards the development of Laurie Lively Park. That group has been successful in developing the playground and has attracted funding from the province of Nova Scotia. The group is working with staff to further develop the park's facilities and attract additional funding from the province of Nova Scotia.

During the subdivision approval process, as no park land would be required for Newridge subdivision, the developer offered to improve Laurie Lively Park. This entailed providing and placing necessary fill to a value equal to that of the park land owing (\$54,625). Staff and the local community association worked to determine the areas to be filled and developed. After all parties had come to an agreement it was determined that Raymar Developments could not generate suitable fill from its Newridge project. Raymar and HRM staff determined that cash towards the improvement of Laurie park would be a substitute for the work in kind. However the developer and the community still wished the cash be put towards work required in Laurie Lively Park to better serve the additional residents of Newridge.

DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Municipal Government Act and the HRM Subdivision Bylaw's parkland dedication requirement, the municipality may accept land for parks, work in kind towards new or existing parks to directly serve the subdivision, or cash value in lieu of parkland to meet the parkland dedication requirement. In the instance of cash in lieu of parkland, all funds must be deposited in the Parkland Reserve (HRM Parkland Reserve Q107). In HRM, the Parkland Reserve is primarily used for purchases of parkland, however it is sometimes used for park development. In this case, whereby the original intent and agreement was to accept work in kind, which did not work out, it is justifiable the cash funds be used to improve the park which is to serve the Newridge subdivision. In accordance with regulations the funds have been deposited in the Parkland Reserve and require the approval of Regional Council to withdraw them and apply them Laurie Lively Park.

The funds will be used to further develop Laurie Lively Park and to leverage additional funds from Recreation Facility Development grants of the Province of Nova Scotia.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Applicable funds from Newridge Subdivision which have been received by HRM and deposited in Parkland Reserve Q107 are;

Newridge Subdivision - Newridge Drive Phase application # 13390 - \$30,875
Newridge Subdivision - Tanshire Court Phase application # 13867 - \$23,750
\$54,625 Total

**Budget Summary: Capital Account No. CPX01023 Park Upgrades
Reservation 1428.9**

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$ 0
Add: Increase to capital account as per recommendation	<u>\$54,625</u>
Balance	\$54,625

The reservation has been created in SAP.

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. If approved, this report will increase the gross Capital budget and Reserve withdrawals for 2008/09.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could choose not to approve the withdrawal of the funds from the Parkland Reserve in which case the funds would remain in the reserve for other parkland related uses. This would result in the loss of opportunities to leverage funds from the Province of Nova Scotia.

ATTACHMENTS

None

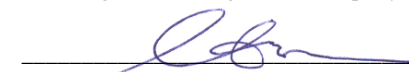
A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared & Approved by:



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Financial Approval by:



Catherine Sanderson, Senior Manager, Financial Services, 490-1562

Report Approved by:



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