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Item No. 10.3.1

Halifax Regional Council
January 6, 2009

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Chris Newson
for Councillor Steve Adams, Chair,
Taxi And Limousine Advisory Committee

DATE: December 15, 2008

SUBJECT: **Proposed Amendments to By-law T-108 to Permit the Introduction of
Smaller, Fuel Efficient Vehicles in the HRM Taxi Fleet.**

ORIGIN

The Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee meeting of December 11, 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve in principle the request for staff to initiate the process to amend By-Law T-108 in order to:

1. permit the introduction of smaller, fuel efficient vehicles that would fit into the performance standard of 7.8 litres per 100 km;
2. reduce the door post to post size requirement to 51 inches from 54 inches;
3. reduce the wheelbase to 101 inches from 105 inches.

BACKGROUND

A presentation by Ms. Colleen Paton, Program Administration Officer, Transportation, Conserve Nova Scotia, was given at the December 11, 2008 Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Patton requested the Committee's support for a one year pilot project to assist in compiling a business case for the introduction of high fuel efficient vehicles in the HRM taxi fleet. The pilot project would introduce six (6) "green" taxis, 7.8 litres per 100 km or less, into the taxi fleet. A \$3700 incentive per vehicle would be provided to the operators willing to participate in the pilot project which would include the compilation of data on mileage, fuel consumption, repairs and maintenance to the hybrid vehicles. The test fleet would be compared to a control group.

A greener taxi fleet would help reduce green house gas emissions, improve the economics for the taxi industry (reducing fuel and maintenance costs) and offer a positive signal to the public by taking environmental action.

In order to implement the pilot project, amendments to By-Law T-108 would be required in regard to size requirements.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Unknown.

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.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Regional Council could choose to not approve in principle the amendments to By-Law T-108 in regard to size requirements and introduction of more fuel efficient vehicles. This is not the recommended option.

ATTACHMENTS

None

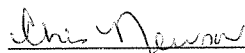
Proposed By-law T-108 Amendments Re: Introduction of Smaller, Fuel Efficient Vehicles
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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by:



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