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Item No. 2

**Halifax Regional Council
February 24, 2009**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 

Mike Labrecque, Director Transportation & Public Works

DATE: February 24, 2009

SUBJECT: Extension of Transit Service to Margaret Lorne Manor

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

This report originates from a petition presented to Halifax Regional Council January 13, 2009.

BACKGROUND

Fourteen (14) residents of Margaret Lorne Manor submitted a petition to have the Route 20 Herring Cove extended to service 144 Hebridean Drive. The petition also requested the installation of a bus stop and shelter at the same location.

DISCUSSION

Metro Transit's service standards state that transit routes should be located so that 90% of residents are within a walking distance of not more than 500 metres of a bus stop during the daytime Monday through Saturday. The standards further set out that in evenings and all day Sundays and holidays, the walking distance should be no more than one kilometre. Currently, 144 Hebridean Drive (Margaret Lorne Manor) is 179 metres from the bus stop on St. Pauls Avenue, well within the Metro Transit service standard.

Adjusting the Route 20 Herring Cove to adhere to this petition would require Metro Transit to remove service from Lancaster Drive and the lower portion of St. Pauls Avenue. On average Metro Transit serves 60 residents per weekday on Lancaster Drive and St. Pauls Avenue. Fulfilling the requested extension would mean these residents would no longer be provided service.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Extending service to 144 Hebridean Drive would require an additional 2.5 minutes on each of the more than 13,500 annual trips at this location. The following resources would be required to meet the extension:

- 500 hours of service annually - \$40 k in additional operating costs
- Installation of the shelter - \$7 k

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.

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.

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Report Approved by: _____
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