

Halifax Regional Council
April 7, 2009

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Dale Godsoe, Chair UDTF
Dale Godsoe, Chair, Urban Design Task Force

DATE: March 12, 2009

SUBJECT: **Regional Centre Urban Design Study - Downtown Halifax Urban Design Plan**

ORIGIN

Urban Design Task Force meeting of February 18, 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council:

1. Give First Reading to the proposed Downtown Halifax Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy, as amended by the Urban Design Task Force (see #5), the proposed Downtown Halifax Land Use By-law, the proposed Barrington Street Heritage Conservation District Revitalization Plan & By-law, the proposed amendments to the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, the proposed amendments to the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy, the proposed amendments to the Halifax Peninsula Land Use By-law, the proposed amendments to the Heritage Property By-law, the proposed amendments to the Building By-law, and the proposed amendments to the Encroachment By-law as provided in Attachments "A" and "B" of the February 4, 2009 staff report, and schedule a Public Hearing.
2. Approve the proposed Downtown Halifax Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy as amended by the Urban Design Task Force (see #5), the proposed Downtown Halifax Land Use By-law, the proposed Barrington Street Heritage Conservation District Revitalization Plan & By-law and, the proposed amendments to the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, the proposed amendments to the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy, the proposed amendments to the Halifax Peninsula Land Use By-law, the proposed amendments to the Heritage Property By-law, the proposed amendments to the Building By-law, and the proposed amendments to the Encroachment By-law as provided in Attachments "A" and "B" of the February 4, 2009 staff report
3. Approve the Priorities after Adoption as outlined in Attachment "C" of the February 4, 2009 staff report.

(recommendations cont.'d pg. 2)

4. Approve the Barrington Street Heritage Conservation District Financial Incentives Program Terms and Conditions for Capital Grants, Tax Incentives, and Permit Fee Waivers as outlined in Attachment "D" of the February 4, 2009 staff report pending Council budget approval including identification of a funding source for the program.
5. Amend Section 8.6 of the proposed Downtown Halifax Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy such that the Plan Monitoring Committee membership be comprised of Urban Design Task Force members for approximately the first two years after adoption of the Plan, and not the Regional Planning Advisory Committee as currently outlined Section 8.6.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Staff presented the report (dated February 4, 2009) on the Regional Centre Urban Design Study - Downtown Halifax Urban Design Plan to the Urban Design Task Force (UDTF) on February 18, 2009. The Task Force endorsed the staff recommendation with an amendment in regard to the Plan Monitoring Committee. The Task Force was in general agreement that it should have a significant role in the monitoring program, at least in the initial stages and passed an amendment in this regard and directed the UDTF Executive (Chair and Vice Chair) to work out the details with staff. The staff supplementary report provides further details.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

For budget implications, please see the February 4, 2009 staff report.

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

Please see the February 4, 2009 staff report.

ATTACHMENTS

None with this report.

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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