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Item No. 3

**Halifax Regional Council
May 5, 2009**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Townsend".

Phillip Townsend, Acting Director Infrastructure & Asset Management

DATE: April 21, 2009

SUBJECT: Capital Cost Contributions - Bedford West

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

On April 8, 2008 Halifax Regional Council agreed to a cost-sharing arrangement with the Province of Nova Scotia for various roadway projects, including the Highway 102/Larry Uteck Boulevard Interchange.

BACKGROUND

In 2006, Regional Council approved the Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy which provided guidance for the development of a new community on the west side of the Bi-centennial Highway in the vicinity of Hammonds Plains and Kearney Lake Roads. Before development can proceed, a Capital Cost Contribution and implementation plan for infrastructure that is needed to support the development must be adopted by HRM.

In the interim, staff have been developing the Capital Cost Contribution, negotiating with stakeholders, developing cost estimates and an implementation plan. The process is complete and staff will be tabling a report with Council on May 12, 2009.

In January, 2009 joint Provincial and Federal funding was approved for the proposed Larry Uteck Interchange under the Base Funding portion of the Build Canada Program.

DISCUSSION

The most significant component of infrastructure required by Bedford West is the Larry Uteck Interchange. The interchange will be built and owned by the Province and the cost will be shared by all three levels of government. The HRM share will in turn be shared between HRM and developers who will benefit from the interchange.

The Province has informed staff that public tenders will be called on May 6, 2009. Award of tenders is subject to HRM approving a Cost Sharing Agreement with the Province.

The Cost Sharing Agreement will be tabled with Council on May 12, 2009 along with the CCC implementation plan and proposed CCC.

If Council approves the CCC implementation plan on May 12, a Public Hearing can be scheduled to adopt the charges and approve the cost sharing on the interchange on June 2.

Provincial officials have informed staff that the Province will not be in a position to award the tender for the interchange until early to mid June in any event.

This schedule provides Council the opportunity to consider cost sharing the interchange in the broader context of the implementation plan for Bedford West, and will not delay construction of the interchange if Council agrees to the cost sharing.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None at this time.

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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