



PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 10.1.4

**Halifax Regional Council
June 16, 2009**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

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

SUBMITTED BY:

Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer

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

Wayne Anstey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer - Operations

DATE: June 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Margeson Drive Cost Sharing Agreement

ORIGIN

Approval of Sackville Area Road Corridor Plan and the approved five-year Capital Plan

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign an agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia to share the cost of constructing an interchange on Highway 101 at Margeson Drive.

BACKGROUND

At the August 9, 2005 meeting of Halifax Regional Council a motion was passed to approve several roadway corridors in the Middle Sackville Area including the Beaver Bank Bypass (now called Margeson Drive) and its interchange with Highway 101. This corridor and interchange are part of the Transportation Plan included in the HRM Regional Plan approved in 2006.

DISCUSSION

In 2006, the Province of Nova Scotia announced plans to construct a new interchange on Highway 101 at Margeson Drive, contingent on funding from HRM. Beginning in the 2008-09 capital budget, \$2.9 million was included in HRM's five year plan in fiscal year 2010-11 for HRM's portion of the interchange. At the time it was expected that the project would be split three ways with the inclusion of Federal infrastructure funding, which did come to be realized.

Nova Scotia Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal have indicated a desire to begin construction of the interchange this year, with the bulk of the work to be completed in 2010. They are aware that HRM is unable to contribute funding to the project until the 2010-11 budget year. Nevertheless, a cost sharing agreement is require to begin the project.

Attachment A shows the location of the cost-shared portion of the work and the proposed ownership of each. The segment of Margeson Drive between the interchange and Trunk 1 will be constructed in 2010 along with the intersection, but is cost-shared between the Federal and Provincial governments only.

The current estimate for the project is \$7.5 million, bringing HRM's share to \$2.5 million. The project is being led by the Province and HRM will be transferring its portion of the project cost to them. Any funds surplus to HRM's contribution towards the interchange will be used towards corridor acquisition for the HRM portion of Margeson Drive.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications in this budget year. Signing the agreement will commit HRM to contributing funding towards the project next budget year. This funding is included in the approved five-year capital plan for CTX01111 Margeson Drive Interchange.

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

Regional Council may choose not to enter into a cost-sharing agreement. This is not recommended, as failure to contribute is likely to result in the cancellation of a project. This is a key piece of our planned roadway network. There is no requirement for the Province to grant access to its 100-series highway network for municipal streets and it is reasonable to expect an equal municipal contribution when creating these municipal-provincial connections.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Map of Margeson Drive

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: David McCusker, Manager Strategic Transportation, 490-6696

Financial Approval by:

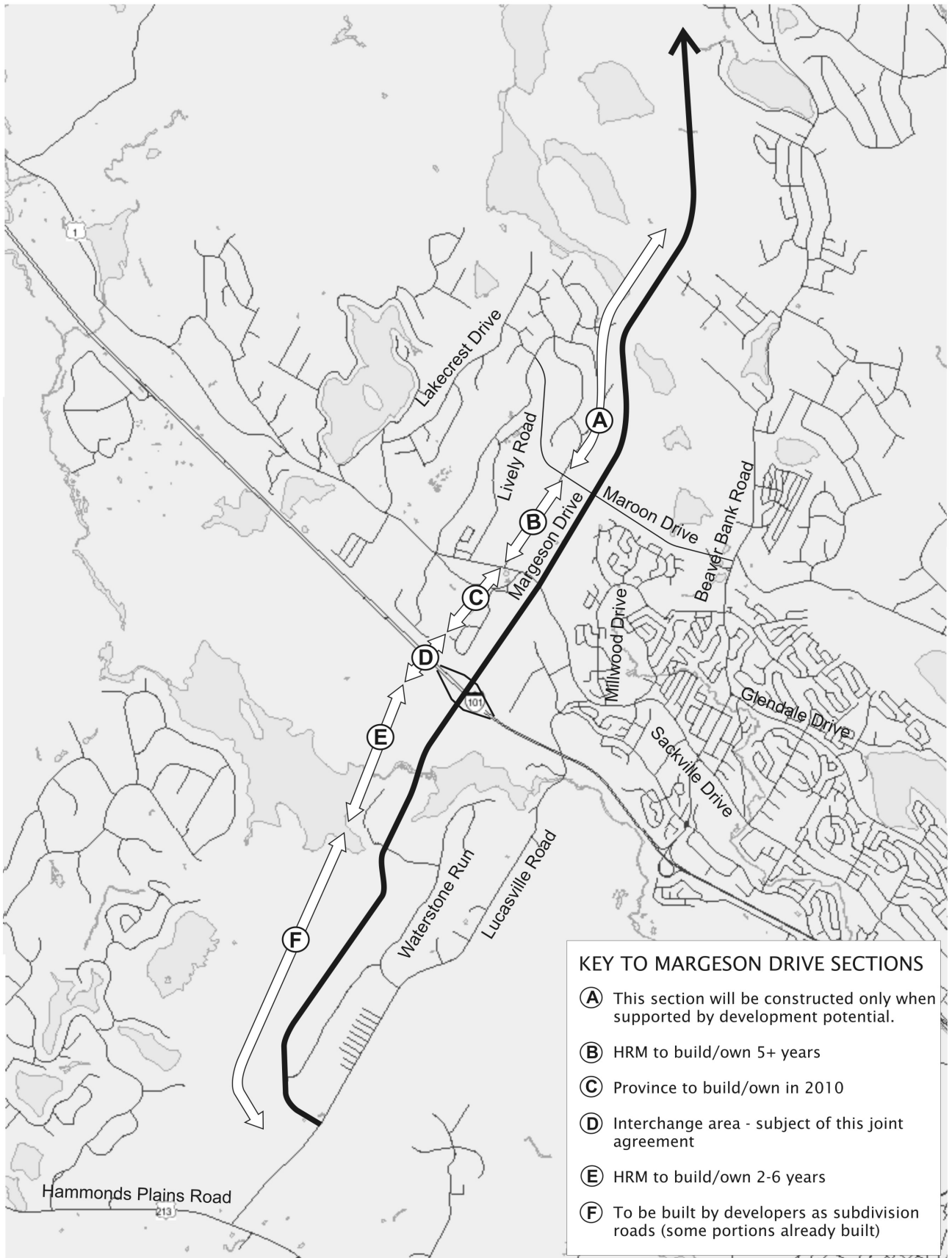


Paul Fleming, Manager, Budget & Financial Analysis, 490-7203

Report Approved by:



Phil Townsend, Acting Director, Infrastructure & Asset Management, 490-7166



Cost Sharing Agreement - Margeson Interchange

ATTACHMENT 1