



PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 5
Halifax Regional Council
September 15, 2009

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Reashor", written over a horizontal line.

Ken Reashor, Acting Director, Transportation and Public Works

DATE: August 31, 2009

SUBJECT: Request for Encroachment - Eastern Passage Banners

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Halifax Regional Council Meeting of June 30th, 2009, item 11.1.3.

“MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Lund that Halifax Regional Council request a Supplementary Report clarifying the placement of brackets on poles; whether special permission would be required from Nova Scotia Power or BellAliant if brackets were to be placed on their poles; and, the possibility of expanding to the provincially owned right of ways throughout HRM. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.”

BACKGROUND

A recommendation report was before Council on June 30, 2009. Staff received a request from the Eastern Passage / Cow Bay Summer Carnival Association to have banner brackets installed on utility poles at 18 locations in Eastern Passage. As there was no clear past precedent for such requests outside of Business Improvement Districts (BID's), staff recommended that the banners be permitted as encroachments in the public right of way until such time that a policy could be developed to address existing side-mounted banner brackets and future requests for new locations.

The recommendation passed, with a request for a supplemental report clarifying the placement of brackets on poles; whether special permission would be required from Nova Scotia Power or BellAliant if brackets were to be placed on their poles; and, the possibility of expanding to the provincially owned right of ways throughout HRM.

DISCUSSION

Placement of brackets on poles

There was discussion noted in the minutes about which side of the pole the banner brackets would be installed - the front side (facing the road), or the back side (facing away from the road). The 18 locations identified in Eastern Passage were reviewed by staff assuming the brackets would be on the front side of the pole; or facing the road. The banners and banner brackets must be at least 4.15 metres (or 13.5 ft) high if they are facing the road in order to accommodate trucks traveling on the road. Further information regarding placement of banner brackets on poles will be addressed in the upcoming policy.

Special permission of Nova Scotia Power and Bell Aliant

Both Nova Scotia Power and Bell Aliant were contacted and have had an opportunity to review the 18 locations in Eastern Passage. Regardless of pole ownership, Nova Scotia Power and Bell Aliant will review every request on a case by case basis in order to avoid conflicts with their overhead plant. Procedures regarding location selection and utility permissions will be addressed in the upcoming policy; and Nova Scotia Power and Bell Aliant will have input on this topic.

Expanding to provincially-owned right of ways throughout HRM

As HRM does not have jurisdiction on provincial right of ways, the upcoming policy will not apply outside the HRM Core Area.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications at this time.

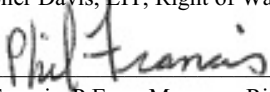
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

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.

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: Christopher Davis, EIT, Right of Way Engineer, 490-7462

Report Approved by:


Phillip Francis, P.Eng., Manager, Right of Way Engineering, 490-6219