

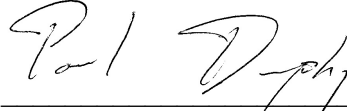


PO Box 1749  
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**Item No. 2**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**May 18, 2010**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development

**DATE:** May 13, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Herring Cove Water and Sewer Project

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### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

- A. July 5, 2005 - (Regional Council Meeting (item 8.3):  
“Moved by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that:
  - 1. Council approve By-law L-124, Respecting Local Improvement Charges, Herring Cove Water and Sewer Servicing.
  - 2. Staff look at the next series of projects and give Herring Cove consideration for the future list of projects.
  - 3. Staff develop a strategy to extend water services to Phase 4.” Phase 4 comprises sections of road in the northern and southern portions of Herring Cove, and were not included in the current servicing project.
  
- B. Staff Reports dated February 12 and February 15, 2007 to Regional Council - Award of tenders for sewer and water services for Phases 1B and 2A
  
- C. Western Region Community Council: Establishment of Herring Cove Advisory Steering Committee - January 18, 2010

## **BACKGROUND**

The Harbour Solutions Project includes a sewage treatment plant located in Herring Cove. In hosting this plant, Regional Council agreed, in 1999, that the community of Herring Cove be serviced with central water and sewer. Subsequently, several engineering studies were completed, extensive public consultation was conducted, and amendments to the planning documents were approved. In July, 2005, Regional Council endorsed the central servicing project and the Local Improvement By-law L-124.

Funding for the servicing work, to be completed in several phases, came from contributions from a senior government infrastructure program available at the time, the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project (Community Integration Fund), the Halifax Regional Water Commission Stewardship Fund, capital cost contributions, sewer redevelopment charges, and local improvement charges from area property owners.

In 2007, Regional Council approved tenders for the installation of sewer and water services for Phases 1B and 2A. These phases are now complete. Phase 2B has not yet been initiated. This is due to the fact that escalating construction prices exceeded the original budget, and Council determined that the majority of the original budget, plus some Halifax Harbour Solutions Project Contingency funding, was to be directed to completing Phases 1B and 2A. Thus at the present time, insufficient funds are available to complete Phase 2B (Map 1 of this report illustrates the Phasing of the project).

Phase 3 of the project - Reservoir and water main twinning - will be completed by Halifax Water at a later date, depending on future demand on the water supply system. This phase is not included in the current servicing project.

In January, 2010, Western Region Community Council formed the Herring Cove Advisory Steering committee, whose mandate, in part, is “to advise Community Council on the final stage (Phase 2B) of sewer and water development in Herring Cove”.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff of HRM Planning Services, Finance and Halifax Water have assembled a team to address the remaining phase of the Herring Cove sewer and water project. The team will work closely with the Steering Committee, and the larger community, to determine a satisfactory outcome.

From a preliminary standpoint, the steps to be carried out include the following:

1. Complete a thorough review of project history and current status. This will be conducted by all members of the project team.
2. Determine status of any remaining available project funds and potential sources of new funds. This will be conducted by representatives from Finance, Harbour Solutions, and Halifax Water.

3. Develop engineering options for completing Phase 2B. This will be undertaken by Halifax Water and reviewed by the project team.
4. Consult with the Steering Committee and larger community to determine feasibility and acceptability of engineering options and associated financial implications. This will be facilitated by Planning Services, with subject expertise provided by Finance and Halifax Water.
5. Through the Committee, advise Western Region Community Council and Regional Council of the results of this work and direction forward. Council reporting will be led by Planning Services, with input provided by Finance and Halifax Water.

With respect to timeframe, the Herring Cove Advisory Steering Committee's term is eighteen months (from approximately February, 2010). Staff will work within this timeline to hopefully achieve a satisfactory resolution to this important project.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications arising from this report. In future reports to Regional Council, staff will report on any budget implications related to servicing in Herring Cove.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the proposed Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

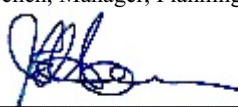
**ATTACHMENTS**

Map 1: Water and Sewer Phases, Herring Cove

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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