
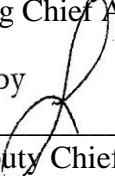


Item No. 10.1.2
Halifax Regional Council
January 18, 2011

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by 
Wayne Anstey, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Original Signed by 
Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: December 10, 2010

SUBJECT: Economic Action Plan – Extension on Project Completion Dates

ORIGIN

On December 2, 2010, the Federal Government announced an extension to the Economic Action Plan (EAP) deadline of March 31, 2011 to October 31, 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve the resolution to request extensions to the March 31, 2011 deadline for funding of projects under the Federal Government's Economic Action Plan, included with this report as Attachment A.

BACKGROUND

The Government of Canada's Economic Action Plan (EAP) provided funding for projects that were construction ready and could be substantially completed by March 31, 2011.

The Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF) targeted \$4-billion for the rehabilitation and construction of new projects. An additional \$500 million was approved under the Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program (RInC).

HRM has applied for and received \$22 million in Federal and Provincial contributions for eleven projects under ISF, and \$1.9 million in Federal contributions for five projects under RInC. The total value of the work, including HRM contributions, is \$38.9 million.

Under the terms of the Contribution Agreements for both ISF and RInC, all projects need to be completed by March 31, 2011.

On December 2, 2010, the Federal Government extended the deadline for the work to be completed to **October 31, 2011**. Approximately 10 per cent of the 23,000 infrastructure projects across Canada will likely miss the original deadline of March 31, 2011.

DISCUSSION

While the majority of the HRM funds are currently spent and the remainder COULD be spent by March 31, 2011, there are a number of projects that will benefit from a seven month extension to October 31, 2011. Extending the deadline for completion is significant because it allows another construction season to complete projects.

To qualify for an extension, projects must have begun work and incurred eligible costs by March 31, 2011, and **a Council resolution is required which commits to finishing the projects and accepting responsibility for any costs incurred beyond October 31, 2011.**

In addition, a forecast of project expenses that will be spent and federal funding that will be claimed by March 31, 2011; a forecast of how much will be incurred between April 1 and October 31, 2011; and a detailed construction schedule signed by a professional engineer, are required. Staff can provide this information if the resolution is approved by Council.

Amended Contribution Agreements will be prepared by the Canada/Nova Scotia Infrastructure Secretariat and must be signed no later than February 28, 2011.

This extension does not apply to projects that are funded under the National Historic Sites of Canada Cost Sharing Program. This program funds the Public Gardens bandstand and the Memorial (Dingle) Tower projects.

ISF Project Summary

The following table summarizes the status of projects that are funded by the ISF program:

Project Name	Amount	Status
Washmill Lake Court Underpass	\$10,000,000	Original \$10M budget has been spent. Project can be completed in 2011 pending budget availability and Council approval
Burnside North Trunk Sewer	\$ 4,000,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget
Sheet Harbour Sidewalks	\$ 3,500,000	Phase I completed. Phase II cancelled because community could not raise the necessary matching funds. \$640,000 Federal/Provincial contribution will be un-spent ¹
Otter Lake WSF¹ Roof	\$ 3,000,000	Project completed. \$47,000 Federal/Provincial contribution will be un-spent ¹
Herring Cove Fire Station	\$ 3,000,000	Under construction and weather tight - on schedule and within budget
Hubley Fire Station	\$ 3,000,000	Under construction and weather tight - on schedule and within budget
Point Pleasant Park Upgrades	\$ 2,000,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget
Halifax City Hall Restoration	\$ 2,000,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget
Ernst Mill Bridge Replacement	\$ 1,500,000	Project Completed. \$150,000 Federal/Provincial contribution will be un-spent ¹
Chester Spur Line Trail	\$ 1,000,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget
All Buildings Program	\$ 610,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget

Notes

¹ - Staff is currently negotiating with our funding partners regarding opportunities to re-allocate un-spent funds.

Washmill Lake Court Underpass

This report does not deal with this project. Budget availability and a request for an extension to complete the Washmill Lake Court Underpass project, is the subject of a separate report to Regional Council.

It is proposed to request a deadline extension on three other ISF projects for the reasons described below:

Council Report

Burnside North Trunk Sewer - An extension would allow final landscaping and slope construction to be completed in spring conditions.

Point Pleasant Park Upgrades - an extension would allow concrete and other work to be carried out in the spring at a reduced cost.

Ernst Mill Bridge - Although the work is completed, there is a dispute with the contractor that could delay submitting the final claim beyond March 31, 2011.

RInC Project Summary

The following table summarizes the status of projects that are funded by the RInC program:

Project Name	Amount	Status
Bedford Lions Pool Expansion	\$ 480,000	Remaining work is weather dependent
Sport Court Upgrades	\$ 750,000	Acrylic Coating and asphalt delayed due to weather
Centennial Pool Renovations	\$3,000,000	Under construction. Project delayed and behind schedule
Dartmouth Sportsplex	\$ 960,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget
Portland Hills Trail	\$ 600,000	Under construction, on schedule, and within budget

It is proposed to request deadline extensions on three of the RInC projects for the reasons described below:

Bedford Lions Pool

The spray coat, solar panels, and landscaping cannot be completed until spring, 2011.

Sport Court Upgrades

Acrylic Coating and asphalt were delayed and cannot be completed until spring, 2011.

Centennial Pool

The project was delayed due to coordination with current programming and cannot be completed by March 31, 2011.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications. HRM's portion is included in previous year's budgets. The recommendation to extend the project deadline will ensure HRM leverages as much external funding as possible, and take full advantage of the terms outlined in the contribution agreement.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could decide to not request extensions to ISF projects. This is not recommended for the reasons outlined in this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Motion to Request an Extension for Infrastructure Projects under Canada's Economic Action Plan

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.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: Bruce Colborne, P.Eng. Construction Supervisor, Design & Construction Services, 490-4896

Report Prepared by: Peter Duncan, P.Eng. Manager Infrastructure Planning Office, 490-5449

Financial Approval by: _____
Cathie O'Toole, CGA, Director of Finance, 490-6308

Report Approved by: _____
Phillip Townsend, Director Infrastructure & Asset Management, 490-7166

Original Signed

Attachment A
MOTION TO REQUEST AN EXTENSION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
PROJECTS UNDER CANADA'S ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

Moved by
Seconded by

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments will make a one-time extension of the deadline for funding of projects under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund and the Building Canada Fund – Communities Top-Up from March 31, 2011 to October 31, 2011;

AND WHEREAS all funding from the Government of Canada and the Province will cease after October 31, 2011;

AND WHEREAS the Halifax Regional Municipality has asked the provincial government for an extension to federal and provincial funding to October 31, 2011 for the following projects:

Project number	Project title	Total eligible cost (\$)	Federal contribution (\$)
05-09-0118	Burnside/North Dartmouth Trunk Sewer	4,000,000	1,333,333
05-09-0117	Point Pleasant Park Upgrades	2,000,000	666,667
05-09-0116	Ernst Mill Bridge	1,500,000	500,000
196439	Sport Courts Upgrades	750,000	250,000
195904	Centennial Pool	3,000,000	1,000,000
196380	Bedford Lions Pool	480,000	160,000

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Halifax Regional Municipality attests that it will continue to contribute its share of the required funding for the aforementioned projects;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT actual claims for all eligible costs incurred by March 31, 2011, for the aforementioned projects must be and will be submitted no later than April 30, 2011 to the Province of NS;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Halifax Regional Municipality will ensure that the project will be completed.

[CARRIED]