

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Proposed 2012/2013 Operating & Project Budget

RESOLUTION for Approval of Operating & Project Budget and Tax Rates for Fiscal 2012/2013

It is hereby resolved that:

- a) the Operating Budget in the amount of **\$788,752,200** gross expenditures (which includes **\$667,707,200** in municipal expenditures including the reserve withdrawals specified in the Operating and Project Budget), **\$585,143,400** in property tax revenues (including area rate revenues) and **\$203,608,800** in other revenues be approved;
- b) the Project Budget in the amount of **\$131,600,000** be approved;
- c) the general rates of taxation on commercial and business occupancy be set at
 - (i) **\$3.084 for the urban area;**
 - (ii) **\$3.084 for the suburban area; and**
 - (iii) **\$2.733 for the rural area**And applied to the taxable assessment of the property;
- d) the general rates of taxation on residential and resource property be set at
 - (i) **\$0.661 for the urban area;**
 - (ii) **\$0.645 for the suburban area; and**
 - (iii) **\$0.639 for the rural area**And applied to the taxable assessment of the property;
- e) that Council approve the Metro Transit Annual Service Plan and that the tax rates associated with Transit Taxation be set at
 - (i) **\$0.051 for the Regional Transportation tax rate;**
 - (ii) **\$0.105 for the Local Transit tax rate**

And applied to the taxable assessment of the property;

- f) (i) the boundary of the urban, suburban and rural areas is as delineated in the attached “Tax Structure Map”;

(ii) the boundary of the Regional Transportation area includes all properties within communities included within the attached “Regional Transportation map”;

(iii) the boundary for the Local Transit area includes all properties within 1km walking distance of any HRM transit stop.
- g) **Supplementary Education**, under Section 80 of the Halifax Charter, shall be set at the rate of \$0.037 to the residential and resource assessment and at \$0.110 to the commercial assessment including business occupancy;
- h) **Fire Protection** rates shall be set at the rate of \$0.025 for all residential and resource assessment and at \$0.075 to the commercial assessment including business occupancy; for properties which are within 1,200 feet of a hydrant that is designed and operated for public fire protection purposes.
- i) the final tax bills will become due on **Wednesday, October 31, 2012**;
- j) the interest rate on the Special Reserve Funds, designated as requiring interest under Section 121(2) of the Halifax Charter, be set at the rate of return on funds invested by HRM for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013;
- k) the interest rate on the Pollution Control Reserves be set at the rate of return on funds invested by HRM for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013;
- l) the interest rate on all reserves except for those identified in j) and k) will be set at the rate of return on funds invested by HRM for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013;
- m) that staff return to Regional Council with a proposed Business Case for a Multi-District Facilities Reserve before July 3, 2012;
- n) that the Mayor write the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) requesting their assistance in analyzing commercial taxation trends including, but not limited to, assessment data and metrics for individual properties such as the valuation of land, buildings and improvements and the square footage of individual structures.