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Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 11.1.2
Halifax Regional Council
August 14, 2012

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original signed by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "R. Butts", written over a horizontal line.

SUBMITTED BY:

Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

Original signed by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "B. Anguish", written over a horizontal line.

Brad Anguish, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: July 11, 2012

SUBJECT: **Budget Increase, Project No. CPX01177 – New Ball Field Development, Kingswood, Hammonds Plains**

ORIGIN

In accordance with the Changes to Cost Sharing for Capital Projects Policy passed by Council on April 24, 2007, project budget increases related to cost sharing exceeding \$100,000 must be approved by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve an increase to Project No. CPX01177 – New Ball Field Development, by \$150,000, with no change to the Net budget, to reflect secured funding for the Kingswood Ball Field Development, Lakeshore Drive, as outlined in the budget implications section of this report.

BACKGROUND

During the budget process, staff identify and incorporate all known funding opportunities into the budget for Council approval. However, every year additional opportunities from various sources become apparent after budget approval. Some of these sources include the Government of Nova Scotia's Recreation Facility Development (RFD) Grant program, community groups, corporate sponsorship, development agreements, school parent groups and Area Rate funding.

When additional funding is received after the approval of the project budget, staff is required to obtain Regional Council approval for any increases to the Project Budget over \$100,000. Outlined below is the project funding source and the capital budget account number impacted by the requested increase.

This ball field development project was identified in the approved 2012/13 Project budget as a cost shared project with proposed funding from the Nova Scotia Recreation Facility Development Grant Program. However, the project was not approved for a grant in the 2012-13 fiscal year. The shortfall in provincial funding resulted in the community requesting additional funding from the area rate so construction could proceed. Approval was obtained on July 5, 2012, through the North West Community Council to use funding from the Hammonds Plains Common area rate, account C170, in the amount of \$50,000 and the Kingswood Area Rate, account C135, in the amount of \$100,000 to fully fund the construction of the new ball field (a copy of the minutes are attached).

The new ball field is a first phase of construction and application will be made to the Nova Scotia Recreation Facility Development Grant Program for an additional 1/3 cost sharing for the 2013/14 Provincial budgeting process. The submission of an early application will make any expenses incurred this year eligible as leverage for funding next year. Any other approved funds will be used to develop pedestrian connections to adjacent streets bordering the park.

The need for the development of this field was identified in consultation with the Kingswood Ratepayers Association to accommodate the lack of a field for the minor ball players.

The estimated cost of the ball field is \$150,000. The 2013-14 Project Budget will identify \$5000 OCC funding to maintain the field.

Funding Sources

Project Name	Project #	Funding Source	Budget Increase
Kingswood Ballfield Development	CPX01177	Hammonds Plains Common Area Rate (C170)	\$50,000
Kingswood Ballfield Development	CPX01177	Kingswood Area Rate (C135)	\$100,000

DISCUSSION

Under the Changes to Cost Sharing for Capital Projects Policy passed by Council on April 24, 2007, when additional funding is received for a project after approval of the project budget, staff is required to obtain Regional Council approval to increase the project budget for amounts over \$100,000.

The site improvements proposed, for the park located on Lakeshore Drive in Kingswood, primarily include the regrading of existing fill material currently on site, top soiling and sodding of the ball field and installation of fencing. In addition, the work will include upgrades to the access road and parking improvements.

The project is scheduled to proceed in September, 2012

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

**Budget Summary: Project No. CPX01177 – New Ball Field Development
Res# 1743.5 Kingswood Ball Field Development**

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$ 0
Add: Budget Increase from C135	\$100,000
Add: Budget Increase from C170	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
Balance	\$150,000

The budget availability has been confirmed by Finance.

Both area rates, which have been in existence for several years, were established primarily to provide funding for recreational projects. Surplus remaining at year end from these area rates is brought forward to future years and accumulated until sufficient funds are available to fund these projects. Staff have reviewed the availability of funds from both area rates and can confirm that sufficient funding is available for this new ball field development without requiring changes to the rates themselves or placing them in deficit positions.

The 2013-14 Project Budget will include \$5,000 in OCC funding in Project CPX01177 to maintain this field.

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. If approved, this report will increase the Gross Project Budget but not the net.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At the request of the community of Kingswood this request was brought to the North West Community Council for consideration and approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The location for the ball field is currently rubble rock and the ball field construction will stabilize and re-vegetate the area.

ALTERNATIVES

Regional Council may decide not to approve the Project Budget increase. This is not recommended by staff. Not approving the Project Budget will prevent the project from proceeding.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - Draft Minute Extract of North West Community Council – July 5, 2012

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: Steve Oakey, Parkland Planner, Facility Development - Parks P&I 490-4746

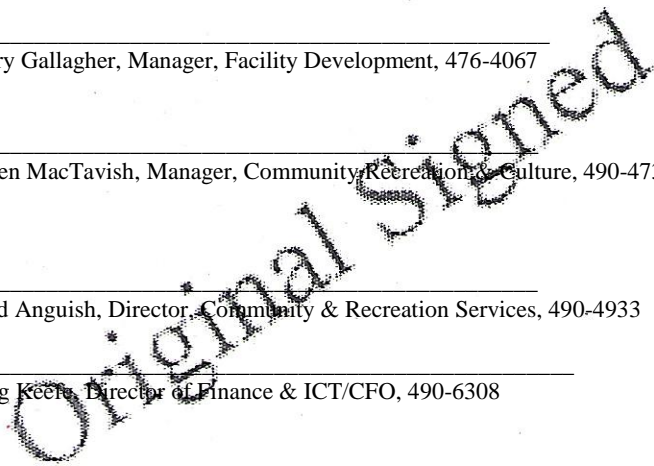
Report Approved by: _____
Terry Gallagher, Manager, Facility Development, 476-4067

Karen MacTavish, Manager, Community Recreation & Culture, 490-4734

Brad Anguish, Director, Community & Recreation Services, 490-4933

Financial Approval by: _____
Greg Keefe, Director of Finance & ICT/CFO, 490-6308

Report Approved by: _____
Peter Stickings, Acting Director, Planning and Infrastructure (490-7129)



**Appendix A
Draft Minute Extract of North West Community Council – July 5, 2012**

11.1.2 Councillor Lund – Funds for Construction of Baseball Field – Hammonds Plains Common Rate/Kingswood Ratepayers Association

A motion memorandum dated July 5, 2012 was before the Community Council.

Councillor Lund provided an overview of the July 5th motion memo, indicating that the Province has declined HRM's funding request, and that the Kingswood Ratepayers Association are now providing \$100,000 of their funds instead of \$50,000 to make up the difference.

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Johns that North West Community Council:

- 1. Approve \$50,000 from the Hammonds Plains Common Rate (cost centre C170), and \$100,000 from the Kingswood Ratepayers Association area rate (cost centre C135) for the construction of a baseball field along Lakeshore Blvd in Kingswood South; and**
- 2. Request staff to prepare a report to Halifax Regional Council as Project # CPX01177 New Ballfield Development will need to be increased by \$150,000 with area rate funding from cost centres C135 and C170 in the amounts of \$100,000 and \$50,000 respectively.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.