

Item No. 1
Halifax Regional Council
November 19, 2013

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by Director

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Brad Anguish, Director, Community and Recreation Services

DATE: September 24, 2013

SUBJECT: **Case 16029: Amendments to Halifax MPS and Halifax Mainland LUB
– Metro Transit Facilities**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

- March 29, 2011, Regional Council initiation of the plan amendment process

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Rankin, that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Authorize staff to initiate a process to consider amending the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and the Halifax Mainland Land Use By-law to create a new zone to regulate the development of transit facilities; and*
- 2. Request that staff follow the public participation program approved by Council on February 25, 1997.*

- July 23, 2013, Regional Council approved the siting of a new Metro Transit Terminal on Lacewood Drive, Halifax.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, Part VIII, Planning & Development

BACKGROUND

In early 2011, Metro Transit was seeking a new location for the Lacewood Transit Terminal as the existing terminal was deficient in capacity, safety and amenities. Metro Transit had investigated several candidate sites, all of which were zoned P (Park and Institutional) and K (Comprehensive Development District). Neither the P nor K zones permit transit uses as-of-right. Further, Metro Transit had anticipated the development of a new Park and Ride lot in the Halifax Mainland Plan Area in addition to the new Lacewood Transit Terminal. In response, Regional Council initiated the process to amend the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) for Halifax and the Land Use By-law (LUB) for Halifax Mainland on March 29, 2011. The proposed amendment to the Halifax MPS and Halifax Mainland LUB would create a new zone that could be applied to lands in the Halifax Mainland Plan Area to be developed for Metro Transit facilities. The application of the new zone would include criteria to assess if the site was suitable for such a use.

DISCUSSION

Subsequent to the initiation of the proposed amendments, Metro Transit determined that a Park and Ride is no longer required for the area and has chosen a site on Lacewood Drive, adjacent to the Canada Games Centre, for the new transit terminal. The new transit terminal will be situated on part of the Mainland Common and therefore, could be considered through a resolution of Regional Council. On July 23, 2013, Regional Council approved the location on the Lacewood Drive site. Further, the amendments to the Regional Plan, through RP+5, are to include a municipal wide policy that discusses the locating of public transit facilities throughout HRM.

As an amendment to the Halifax MPS and Halifax Mainland LUB is no longer required for Metro Transit to complete the transit facility projects, staff is closing this application.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community engagement process is consistent with the intent of the HRM Community Engagement Strategy. The level of community engagement was consultation, achieved through two Public Information Meetings held on October 7, 2010 and May 4, 2011.

ATTACHMENTS

None

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: Jillian MacLellan, Planner I, Development Approvals, 490-4423

Original Signed

Report Approved by: _____
Kelly Denty, Manager, Development Approvals, 490-4800
