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Item No. 4
Halifax Regional Council
March 18, 2014

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by Director

SUBMITTED BY: _____
David Hubley, P.Eng., A/Director, Transportation and Public Works

DATE: February 20, 2014

SUBJECT: Petition for Safe Pedestrian Routes for Smokey Drive and
Gertrude Parker Elementary Schools

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Regional Council motion of December 10, 2013, Item 10.2.1

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Section 31 of Administrative Order One respecting the procedures of Council on the rules relating to petitions presented to Council.

BACKGROUND

At the December 10, 2013 meeting of Regional Council, Councillor Craig submitted a petition containing 192 signatures on behalf of the School Advisory Council of Ecole Gertrude Parker Elementary School requesting HRM establish safe routes for the children walking from what are currently the school collector areas for Smokey Drive and Gertrude Parker Elementary schools.

DISCUSSION

On February 5, 2014 HRM staff met with Councillor Craig, Halifax Regional School Board, Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial (CSAP) and Halifax Regional Police to discuss pedestrian movements in a number of collector areas including Smokey Drive and Gertrude Parker schools. As a result of school boundary changes, pedestrian movements in these areas will be altered. Items discussed included required sidewalk locations, crosswalk concerns, need for crossing guards, traffic signal modifications and traffic speeds. Until such time that the overall review is completed, staff is unable to formalize a decision on priorities for improvements to infrastructure in this area. Discussions with the above agencies will be ongoing as part of school relocations, closures and new school construction to identify infrastructure requirements early in the process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications at this point in time. Future impacts to capital and/or maintenance will be identified when a decision is formalized.

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

N/A

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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Report Approved by:

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