



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 11.4.1
Halifax Regional Council
February 3, 2015

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed
Councillor Jennifer Watts, Chair, Environment and Sustainability
Standing Committee

DATE: January 19, 2015

SUBJECT: 100 Resilient Cities Challenge

ORIGIN

Motion of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee from a meeting held on January 15, 2015

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The Terms of Reference provide that one of the objectives of the Committee is to assist Council in meeting sustainability and energy objectives, the promotion of policies appropriate to promote and protect water resources, parks, open spaces and green environment in HRM

RECOMMENDATION

The Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council request staff prepare and submit an application for the third year of the 100 Resilient Cities Challenge.

BACKGROUND

The Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee received an information report dated December 16, 2014 regarding the 100 Resilient Cities Challenge and staff presented an overview of the program at their January 15, 2015 meeting.

DISCUSSION

Following a brief discussion, the Committee approved a recommendation to Halifax Regional Council requesting that staff prepare an application in 2015 when the opportunities for submissions opens for the Rockefeller Foundation 100 Resilient Cities Challenge.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As per the December 16, 2014 staff Information report, there are no costs to application.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

All meetings of the Environment and Sustainability Committee are open to the public and agendas and minutes are posted to the web. Please see additional details in the December 16, 2014 information report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Efforts with respect to resiliency help the community adapt and respond to climate change and related stresses.

ALTERNATIVES

The Environment and Sustainability Committee did not provide alternatives

ATTACHMENTS

1. Information report dated December 16, 2014

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

Report Prepared by: Sherryll Murphy, Deputy Clerk, 902-490-4211



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Attachment 1

Item No.
Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
January 15, 2015

TO: Chair and Members of Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed

Bob Bjerke, Planning & Development

DATE: December 16, 2014

SUBJECT: 100 Resilient Cities Challenge

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee, December 4, 2014, Item 12.2 Motion: *Motion passed that that ESSC request staff provide a brief presentation overviewing the submissions of the other cities in the 100 Resilient Cities Challenge program and what they are doing with the aim to assisting in building our capacity around adaptation and sustainability.*

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM Charter, Purpose of Act, 2 (c) (iii) recognize that the functions of the municipality are to ...develop and maintain safe and viable communities.

BACKGROUND

At the June 6, 2013 Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee, staff were directed to prepare an application to submit to the newly announced Rockefeller Foundation Resilient Cities Program.

DISCUSSION

100 Resilient Cities - Pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation (100RC) is dedicated to helping cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100RC supports the adoption and incorporation of a view of resilience that includes not just the shocks (such as earthquakes, fires, and floods), but also the stresses that weaken the fabric of a city on a day to day or cyclical basis. Examples of these stresses include high unemployment; an overtaxed or inefficient public transportation system; endemic violence; or chronic food and water shortages. By addressing both the shocks and the stresses, a city becomes more able to respond to adverse events, and is overall better able to deliver basic functions in both good times and bad, to all populations.

Cities in the 100RC network are provided with the resources necessary to develop a roadmap to resilience along four main pathways:

1. Financial and logistical guidance for establishing an innovative new position in city government, a Chief Resilience Officer, who will lead the city's resilience efforts;
2. Expert support for development of a robust resilience strategy;
3. Access to solutions, service providers, and partners from the private, public and NGO sectors who can help them develop and implement their resilience strategies; and
4. Membership of a global network of member cities who can learn from and help each other.

Through these actions, 100RC aims not only to help individual cities become more resilient, but will facilitate the building of a global practice of resilience among governments, NGOs, the private sector, and individual citizens.

100 Resilient Cities—Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation is financially supported by The Rockefeller Foundation and managed as a sponsored project by Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, an independent nonprofit organization that provides governance and operational infrastructure to its sponsored projects.

The challenge will award \$1 million and a Chief Resiliency Officer to 100 Cities over a three year intake competition. The first two intakes have been completed. The final application year is 2015.

Halifax has provided an application in 2013 and 2014, and will re-apply in 2015. The Halifax Approach to the application is consistent to the operational delivery of Emergency Management in Halifax. By supporting the EMO with the funding capacity and dedicated resource (Chief Resiliency Officer), the intent is to bolster the community capacity for adaptation to shocks and stresses. The five components of Emergency Management according to the Emergency Management Framework for Canada are:

- Prevention
- Mitigation
- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery

The focus of the application and capacity is to build community resiliency in the Prevention, Mitigation, and Preparedness components. As well, by bolstering community based capacity, recovery plans can be improved.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no costs to application.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A fundamental approach to the Halifax approach is to help support the volunteer Joint Emergency Management Teams developed by the Halifax EMO.

The mission of JEM Teams is to promote awareness of local community resources, to train local agencies to work together and provide a structure for coordinated local emergency response.

JEM Concept

- To work with local agencies and community residents
- Participate in emergency planning & response
- Coordinate neighbor/community emergency preparedness and awareness
- Participate in coordinated humanitarian efforts
- Support role to 1st Responders
- Bring local community resources to bear during emergency event
- Act as single voice from the community to establish priorities & resource allocations
- Maintain a local community resource list
- Train to assist the community through future unknown perils

Joint Emergency Management (JEM) is a concept developed by the Halifax Regional Municipality's Emergency Management Office (EMO), to allow community organizations to prepare for, and respond quickly to, a wide range of emergencies. In times of crises, EMO will activate JEM Support Centres (JSC) to coordinate humanitarian response to the JEM coverage area. These centres are a facility where trained individuals can meet to provide local input to the Emergency Operations Centre, located in Dartmouth. Currently there are five such JEMs in HRM.

ATTACHMENTS

None. Staff are providing a brief presentation to Committee as requested.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/index.php> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

Original Signed

Report Prepared by:

Richard MacLellan, Manager, Energy & Environment, 902 233 4846
