

Request for Council's Consideration

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Included on Agenda
(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday) | <input type="checkbox"/> Added Item
(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday) | <input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor |
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Date of Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Subject: Review of 2007 Crosswalk Taskforce Policy

Motion for Council to Consider:

That Halifax Regional Council request a report to review the following 2007 Crosswalk Safety Task Force recommendation: "*The road authority must require the assessment of existing marked crosswalks when refurbishing highways and roadways to ensure they reflect current traffic situations guidelines and standards. **Where existing marked crosswalks are not warranted they must be removed due to potential safety hazards.***"

Reason:

In 2007, a Crosswalk Safety Task Force was appointed by the Mayor and Minister of Transportation in order to investigate and address concerns expressed by citizens of HRM and the Province relating to crosswalk safety. The objective of the Task Force was to come up with strategies and measures to improve crosswalk safety. As part of their mandate, the Task Force reviewed research, reports and background materials and accepted formal / informal submissions and sought presentations from experts and stakeholders. The end product was a report with recommendations aimed at improving pedestrian and crosswalk safety. In particular, the following recommendation provided under the Engineering section include:

- The road authority must require the assessment of existing marked crosswalks when refurbishing highways and roadways to ensure they reflect current traffic situations guidelines and standards. **Where existing marked crosswalks are not warranted they must be removed due to potential safety hazards.**

In keeping with the recommendations brought forward by the Crosswalk Safety Task Force, HRM also follows nationally accepted guidelines produced by the Transportation Association of Canada for assessing crosswalk locations. These guidelines are used when assessing a location for the installation of a new crosswalk and when assessing existing crosswalk locations. When an existing marked crosswalk is identified to fall within an upcoming capital roadway project, the location is reviewed in order to determine if any changes are required or if it meets warrants outlined in the guidelines. **If the existing crosswalk is found to not meet the warrants, it is removed as part of the capital works project.** This approach has been our practice since the release of the Task Force report and recommendations.

Outcome Sought:

Review of the current practice of requiring an assessment of existing marked crosswalks when refurbishing highways and roadways to ensure they reflect current traffic situations guidelines and standards; and, **to determine whether to continue the practice of removing existing marked crosswalks due to potential safety hazards if found they are not warranted.**

Council's continued support of pedestrian and crosswalk safety.

Councillor
Bill Karsten Original Signed

District 3
Dartmouth South – Eastern Passage