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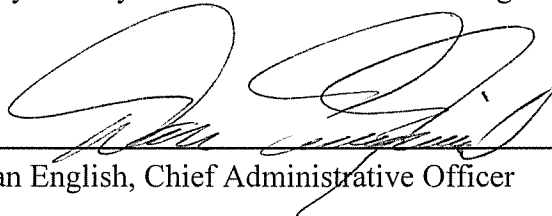


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Halifax Regional Council
February 14, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer



Wayne Anstey, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: February 10, 2006

SUBJECT: Proposed Advanced Funding Approval for the 2006/07 Capital Budget

ORIGIN

This report originates from a motion in Committee of the Whole on November 22, 2005 in which Council approved the pre-tendering of playground capital projects.

RECOMMENDATION

1. It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council provide advanced funding approval of the proposed 2006/07 Capital Budget in the amount of \$5,411,600 as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the report.

BACKGROUND

As in previous years, early approval of selected projects within the proposed Capital Budget is desirable. Early approval enables staff to start on projects as it relates to design, land acquisitions where required, and utility and regulatory approvals - all of which translates into a more timely tendering of projects.

During the debrief session of the Business Planning and Budgeting Process for 2005/06, held in late spring, Program and Service Committee articulated a need for Council to be more involved in the process at an earlier stage to provide more meaningful direction. To address this, staff developed a strategy to enable early Council consultation on the process. This was first discussed at Committee of the Whole on November 15, 2005 with a report titled "Council Direction - 2006/07 Business Planning and Budgeting Process".

As noted in this report, Council sets the overall fiscal framework. Staff first came to Council seeking direction on the overall fiscal framework and our working assumptions on November 15, 2005. During that discussion, direction from Council indicated that staff should proceed with the development of a proposed capital budget assuming total capital budget capacity of \$76.8m in 2006/07 (2005/06 approved Capital Budget \$69.8m).

The attached "Advanced Capital Budget Listing" is presented within the context of this discussion and also considers the Council approved General Infrastructure Criteria (approved by Council October 18, 2005).

This is the second Advanced Capital Project Funding request. The first request was approved by Regional Council on November 22, 2005. The total approved as advance funding at that time is as follows:

Roads, Streets, and Sidewalks	\$ 9,592,000
Stormwater and Wastewater	\$ 3,120,000*
Traffic and Transportation Services	\$ 1,459,000
Metro Transit	<u>\$ 4,109,000</u>
Total	<u>\$18,280,000</u>

The total approved on November 22, 2005 is \$18,280,000. When the 2006/07 proposed capital budget is considered by Council for approval, these amounts will be presented as "previously approved by Council".

* Includes an additional \$1,070,000 in funding for projects not previously shown in the proposed 2006/07 plan.

DISCUSSION

The attached Schedule A represents projects that staff feel will benefit from earlier approval of capital projects. Schedule A details projects that were previously included in the 2006/07 proposed capital budget plan as "year 2" of the 2005/06 capital budget.

The present timing of the approval of HRM's Capital Budget reduces staff's ability to take advantage of early year tendering. This is significant for three reasons:

1. Being able to take advantage of historically lower tendered prices from contractors for projects tendered early in the year.
2. Being able to make full use of the peak construction period to implement projects which are sensitive to time and weather.
3. Being able to tender projects that require a long lead time to order equipment; reducing or eliminating delays in construction.

Advanced approval of a portion of the proposed Capital Budget will address the above issues and enable staff to get a much earlier start on project design, tendering, contract awards and start of construction. Staff's proposal for advanced funding approval of a portion of the proposed 2006/07 Capital Budget is similar to the practice used at the Provincial level of government.

Projects to be considered for this earlier approval are those of a regular repair or rehabilitation nature. The projects listed on the attached Schedule "A" fall into this category. They include projects that are:

- of a high priority nature based on existing infrastructure conditions;
- critical due to the timing and coordination with other capital projects; and,
- are of a seasonal nature making early construction advantageous.

The normal public tendering process will still apply for these projects.

Additional Funding Approval Amount Requested (Schedule B):

The Ralston/McCurdy Ave project on the proposed Additional Capital Budget Requirements Schedule B for 2006/07 was not previously included in the proposed 2006/07 capital budget. While such projects would normally not be included in an advanced funding request, this particular project is to address an underlying condition which results in an accumulation of ice in an HRM street, which staff feel may expose HRM to potential liability. The project is a Priority 1 as defined by the Stormwater and Wastewater Priority Rating Process approved by Regional Council on February 1, 2005. The project is also integrated with work to be performed by Roads and Streets and which was approved for advanced funding on November 22, 2005. The entire project can be ready to be tendered quickly, which makes it a good candidate for the Advanced

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Funding List. Because this project was not included in the proposed 2006/07 Capital Plan, approval of the project in Schedule B may mean that some other project(s) that were planned in 2006/07 may not be completed under current funding levels. For the reasons outlined above, staff believe this project warrants inclusion in the recommendation.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The requested advanced funding amounts are as follows (details in Schedule A and Schedule B):

	<u>Feb14/06</u>	<u>Nov 22/05</u>	<u>Total</u>
Parks and Playgrounds	\$1,713,000	0	\$ 1,713,000
Buildings	1,801,600	0	1,801,600
Roads and Streets	1,637,000	\$9,592,000	11,229,000
Stormwater and Wastewater	260,000*	3,120,000**	3,380,000
Traffic and Transportation	0	1,459,000	1,459,000
Metro Transit	<u>0</u>	<u>4,109,000</u>	<u>4,109,000</u>
 Total	 <u>\$5,411,600</u>	 <u>\$18,280,000</u>	 <u>\$23,691,600</u>

* Includes \$160,000 for a project not previously shown in the proposed 2006/07 plan.

** Includes an additional \$1,070,000 in funding for projects not previously shown in 2006/07.

The requested advanced funding amounts will be combined with the previously approved amount of \$18,280,000 to total \$23,691,600 and, if approved, will become a required portion of the proposed 2006/07 capital budget. Approval of these additional amounts will reduce the ability to reallocate funds within the upcoming 2006/07 Capital Budget. All projects are funded through debt, capital from operating, or another broadly available funding sources except for Sullivan's Pond Outlet Rehab which will be funded from the Sewer Redevelopment Reserve. Funding and total amounts may be adjusted as part of the proposed 2006/07 Capital Budget.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

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ALTERNATIVE

Delay the recommendations and defer to the approval of the 2006/07 Capital Budget. This is not recommended for the reasons outlined in the body of the report.

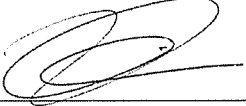
ATTACHMENTS


Advanced Capital Project Listing Schedule "A"
Additional Capital Budget Requirements Schedule "B"

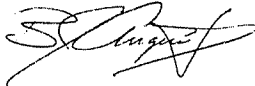
A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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Report Approved by: 
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Report Approved by: 
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Schedule "A"

Advanced Capital Budget Listing 2006/07

The following project listing is taken from the Proposed 2006/07 Capital Budget for Real Property Asset Management.

Parks and Playgrounds

Playground Upgrades and Replacements (CPC300559)

Project	District	Estimate
Sheet Harbour Lion's Park Playground	1	\$ 20,000
Humber Park Playground	2	35,000
Shannon Park School Playground	9	30,000
St. Joseph A MacKay School	11	30,000
Central Common Surfacing	12	40,000
Conrose Park	13	35,000
Ardmore Park	14	<u>35,000</u>
Subtotal		\$225,000

New Playground Development (CPC00677)

Project	District	Estimate
Oldham	1	\$ 40,000
Westwood Hills	23	<u>20,000</u>
Subtotal		\$ 60,000

Ball Field Upgrades (CPC00304)

Project	District	Estimate
West Dover Parking Lot	22	\$ 50,000
Spry Harbour Outfield Refurbishment	1	35,000
Various Fencing	NA	<u>45,000</u>
Subtotal		\$130,000

Sport Court Upgrades (CPC00684)

Project	District	Estimate
Brownlow - Tennis Courts	5	\$ 45,000
Metropolitan - Tennis Courts	20	<u>45,000</u>
Subtotal		\$ 90,000

Sports Field Upgrades (CPC00683)

Project	District	Estimate
MicMac #1 and #2 - Irrigation System	5	\$ 45,000

HRM Walkways (CPR00325)

Project	District	Estimate
MacIntosh Run Bridge	18	\$ 50,000

Lawn Bowling Facilities (CPS00041)

Project	District	Estimate
Dartmouth Facility - Artificial Green	8	\$ 30,000

Skateboarding Facilities (CPC00682)

Project	District	Estimate
Halifax Common	12	\$ 50,000
Eastern Passage	8	40,000
Beaverbank	19	15,000
Tantallon	23	<u>15,000</u>

Subtotal \$120,000

Park Upgrades (CP300560)

Project	District	Estimate
Oyster Pond Boat Launch	1	\$ 15,000
Brownlow Park Lighting and Walkway Upgrades	5	20,000
Belcher Pond Park	10	25,000
Dover Village Green	22	25,000
Various Lake Signage	NA	<u>8,000</u>

Subtotal \$ 93,000

New Park Development (CPC00676)

Project	District	Estimate
Rivendale/Monarch Subdivision	2	\$ 30,000
Joshua Slocum	23	<u>25,000</u>

Subtotal \$ 55,000

Track and Field Upgrades (CPC00675)

Project	District	Estimate
Beazley Field Track Surface Refurbishment	6	\$ 15,000

East Region Artificial Field (CPG00581)

Project	District	Estimate
Turf Installation	NA	\$800,000

Total Advanced Budget Requirement for Parks and Playgrounds \$1,713,000

Buildings

Safety Upgrades (CB300621)

Project	District	Estimate
Upgrade Fire Panels	NA	\$ 11,900
Fire Suppression System	NA	11,900
Energy Management Upgrades	NA	<u>20,000</u>
Subtotal		\$ 43,800

Regional Library Upgrades (CB100066)

Project	District	Estimate
Halifax Main Branch	12	\$ 100,000
Halifax North Branch	12	<u>16,200</u>
Subtotal		\$ 116,200

Transit Facilities Upgrades (CB100077)

Project	District	Estimate
Metro Transit (Halifax Ferry Terminal)	NA	\$ 50,400
Metro Transit (Painting Ferry Terminals)	NA	20,000
Metro Transit (Garage)	NA	18,000
Metro Transit (Generator)	NA	3,500
Metro Transit (Woodside Ferry Terminal)	NA	<u>24,500</u>
Subtotal		\$116,400

Fire Services Station Upgrades (CB100080)

Project	District	Estimate
Station #2	12	\$ 16,000
Station #3	12	20,000
Station #4	11	10,000
Station #5	15	25,000
Station #6	18	5,000
Station #8	21	19,700
Station #10	19	27,300
Station #11	19	<u>15,000</u>
Subtotal		\$138,000

Management Agreement Community Centres - Upgrades (CB200240)

Project	District	Estimate
Porters Lake Community Centre	3	\$ 14,000
Alderney Landing	5	17,200
Dartmouth North Community Centre	9	50,000
Bengal Lancers	12	32,000
Springfield Lake Recreation Centre	19	<u>17,200</u>
Subtotal		\$130,400

Heritage Building Upgrades (CB200452)

Project	District	Estimate
Teachery Museum Building	7	\$ 60,000
Other Heritage Projects	NA	<u>27,600</u>
Subtotal		\$ 87,600

Various Recreation Facilities - Upgrades (CB300551)

Project	District	Estimate
Captain William Spry Centre	17	\$201,000

HRM Admin Buildings - Upgrades (CB300552)

Project	District	Estimate
Eric Spicer Building	8	\$ 40,000
City Hall	12	<u>28,000</u>

Subtotal \$ 68,000

HRM Depot Upgrades (CB300553)

Project	District	Estimate
Fire Fleet Garage	6	\$ 19,600
Turner Drive Depot	9	15,000
MacKintosh Street Depot	11	3,400
Point Pleasant Park (Shakespeare-By-The-Sea)	11	5,000
Greenhouse #5	12	15,000
Bayers Lake Salt Dome	21	5,600
Fairview Cemetary Works Building	21	12,000
Youth Live	22	<u>12,000</u>

Subtotal \$ 87,600

Arena Upgrades (CB300554)

Project	District	Estimate
Bowles Arena	8	\$ 25,000
Gray Arena	9	15,000
Devonshire Arena	11	<u>25,000</u>

Subtotal \$ 65,000

Major Facilities Upgrades (CB300555)

Project	District	Estimate
Eastern Shore Community Centre	1	\$ 48,000
Cole Harbour Place	4	108,000
Dartmouth Sportsplex	9	40,000
Centennial Pool	12	30,000
World Trade Centre	12	160,000
Halifax Forum	14	60,000
Centennial Arena	15	20,000
Spryfield Lions Arena	18	46,000
Sackville Sports Stadium	20	50,000
St Margarets Arena	23	<u>20,000</u>

Subtotal \$582,000

200 Hsley Safety Upgrades (CBR00750)

Project	District	Estimate
Hoists (2)	9	\$174,600

Total Advanced Budget Requirement for Buildings \$1,801,600

The following project listing is taken from the Proposed 2006/07 Capital Budget for Transportation and Public Works.

Roads and Streets

<u>Concrete Curb Renewals (CRU00683)</u>		
Project	District	Estimate
Windmill Rd (Dawson to Jamieson)	9	\$118,000
Hillside Ave (Hillcrest to Skyridge)	20	80,000
Tower Rd (Inglis to Gorsebrook)	13	83,500
Summit St (Oxford to Windsor)	14	70,500
Norwood St (Rosebank to Cambridge)	13	45,000
Smokey Dr (Civic 59 to Civic 185)	19	65,000
Smokey Court (Smokey Dr to End)	19	60,000
Bedford Highway	15	<u>105,000</u>
Subtotal		\$627,000
 <u>Bridge Repair and Renewals (CRU00684)</u>		
Project	District	Estimate
Lady Hammond Rd	11	\$300,000
 <u>Other Related Road Work (D & C) (CRU00584)</u>		
Project	District	Estimate
Materials Testing	NA	\$200,000
Sewer Videos	NA	50,000
Retaining Walls	NA	100,000
Guiderrails	NA	<u>100,000</u>
Subtotal		\$450,000
 <u>New Paving Inside Core (CXU00715)</u>		
Project	District	Estimate
Old Sackville Rd	19	\$ 35,000
Lindfirest Dr	19	<u>225,000</u>
Subtotal		\$260,000
Total Advanced Budget Requirement for Roads and Streets		\$1,637,000

The following project listing is taken from the Proposed 2006/07 Capital Budget for Environmental Management Services.

Stormwater and Wastewater

Project	District	Estimate
Sullivan’s Pond Outlet Rehab (CSI00706) (Sewer Redevelopment Reserve)	5	\$100,000
Total Advanced Budget Requirement for Stormwater and Wastewater		\$100,000

Schedule "B"

Additional Capital Budget Requirements 2006/07

Project	<u>Stormwater and Wastewater</u>	Estimate
Ralston/McCurdy Ave (CGI00787)	District 9	160,000
Total Additional Budget Requirement for Stormwater and Wastewater		\$ 160,000