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Halifax Regional Council
January 10, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Labrecque", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Labrecque, P.Eng., Director, Transportation & Public Works

DATE: December 16, 2005

SUBJECT: **Extension of Route #3 Manors, MacDonald - Laurier Place**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Petitions submitted by Councillor Walker to the HRM Council Meetings of October 25th, item 8.2 and November 22nd, item 8.2.1

BACKGROUND

Councillor Walker submitted two petitions from residents at the HRM Regional Council meetings of October 25th and November 22nd. These petitions requested the extension of the Route 3 Manors route to serve the section of Main Avenue between Titus Avenue and the Fairview Overpass.

Several routes currently operate on this section of Main Avenue when travelling to Peninsula Halifax. Because buses are unable to turn from Joseph Howe Drive or the Fairview Overpass to Main Avenue, they operate via Dutch Village Road and Titus Avenue on trips to the Fairview Clayton Park area.

DISCUSSION

The walk distance from Main Avenue/Ford Street area is just over 200 metres to the outbound stop on Titus Avenue at Ford Street. Metro Transit walk distance standards are 500 metres for a local route and 1,000 metres for more frequent service on designated corridors. Titus Avenue and Lacewood Drive is a designated transit corridor connecting Mainland North with Peninsula Halifax.

The route 3 Manors is a special route designed to link several Peninsula seniors' facilities with hospital and shopping areas. Its design to reduce walk distances from these facilities to commonly travelled destinations make the route indirect with lengthy travel times. However, it does provide an alternative to individuals who have mobility issues that make it difficult to reach more heavily served transit corridors.

This section of Main Avenue is within accepted walk distance standards and Metro Transit would not typically extend other routes to duplicate service already in place. However, because the unique operation and purpose of the route 3 Manors, staff would support an extension to serve the section of Main Avenue between Titus Avenue and the Bedford Highway. This change will be incorporated into the May (2006) schedule adjustments.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The service extension would be incorporated into the existing service and is not anticipated to have an impact on the annual Budgeting and Business Planning processes.

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.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no recommended alternatives.

**Extension of Route #3
Council Report**

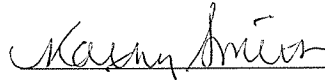
January 10, 2006

- 3 -

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: Ken Silver, P.Eng., Manager, Transit Planning and Development at 490-6689

Financial Review:



Kathy Smith, Financial Consultant at 490-6513