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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 15, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Car Pool Parking Lot - Fall River

### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

October 25, 2005 request by Regional Council (Councillor Krista Snow), item 7.1, for staff to provide report regarding the feasibility of a Car Pool Parking Lot in Fall River.

**BACKGROUND**

During the October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Regional Council meeting, Councillor Krista Snow requested that Staff prepare a report regarding the development of a carpool parking lot in Fall River.

Several years ago, a site in Fall River, which is now currently leased by Farmer Clem, was leased by the Inn on the Lake from Nova Scotia Power (the owners of this parcel) to use for an overflow parking lot for the guests of the Inn. Some residents may have used it as a carpool parking lot, but it was never a designated Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works carpool parking lot.

Approximately 2 or 3 years ago, the Inn on the Lake opted not to renew its lease on those lands. The Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works approached Nova Scotia Power about acquiring the property for use as a carpool parking lot. However, Nova Scotia Power did not want to dispose of the lands. The department attempted to negotiate an agreement to lease the property, but were not able to.

**DISCUSSION**

Carpool parking lots are designed to provide parking for individuals commuting from remote areas to meet up with other commuters to continue the journey to work. Costs to design, construct and maintain these lots can be high, and land acquisition will be required.

Within the transportation section of the regional plan, policies are in place to develop a transit node within Fall River. A rural express bus service which will run along Highway 102 will stop at a designated park and ride facility in proximity to the highway. However, the location under discussion is located adjacent to the interchange which is extremely busy and the stopping sight distances are less than adequate. Since the site, in the opinion of Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works, is not suitable for a carpool parking lot, other locations should be explored in the Fall River area.

There is a significant amount of land acquisition involved in creating the transit service recommended in the Draft Regional Plan. Staff is currently evaluating opportunities and establishing priorities for assembling the needed land for this, and other rural transit service locations.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications at this time.

**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**

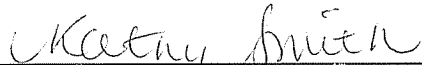
There are no alternatives proposed.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments.

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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