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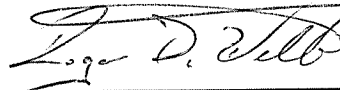
Halifax Regional Council
July 2, 2002

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Lewis M. Rogers, Director, Tourism, Culture and Heritage



Roger Wells, Capital District

DATE: June 26, 2002

SUBJECT: Capital District Boundary

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

1. June 25, 2002 Council discussion to set the boundaries of the HRM Capital District

BACKGROUND

At the June 25, 2002 meeting of Regional Council, a staff report was submitted which outlined a recommendation on the boundary for the Capital District. Time was limited as discussion on the item began at 9:50, with Council adjourning at 10:00pm.

It is anticipated that the agenda for the June 2, 2002 meeting will be long. This report is provided to focus discussion and address issues already raised by Council.

DISCUSSION

Issue:

Why do we have a Capital District?

Response:

Council established the Capital District to:

- 1) Coordinate service delivery within the urban core areas of HRM
- 2) Promote this area as a special place for HRM residents and visitors
- 3) Enhance this area as a first class destination for business, residents and visitors
- 4) Promote the Capital District's cultural and economic assets and opportunities

Issue:

Why delineate a boundary for the Capital District?

Response:

The boundary is intended to capture those areas which:

- 1) Collectively create this special place as a tourism destination location and centre for commerce and governance
- 2) Are "gateway" locations directly adjacent the downtown cores, and
- 3) Will be the focus of service delivery by the Capital District Task Force

Issue:

Why is Quinpool Road proposed to be included in the Capital District?

Response:

- 1) Quinpool Road is one of the important gateway corridors leading to the Halifax downtown core. Such entrance points create opportunities for striking "first impressions" of our Capital District
- 2) This corridor is contiguous to downtown core area rather than being physically separated by residential neighbourhoods or other land uses
- 3) It is commercial in nature, and its issues are similar to those of the downtown core areas

- 4) The Capital District was created to provide coordination to similar business agencies within a small geographic area. The Quinpool Road Mainstreet District is one of these agencies, and has had representation on the Task Force since its inception.

Issue:

How will the needs of other commercial areas situated outside the proposed Capital District be met?

Response:

Staff is aware that other commercial areas of HRM require attention, to address the needs of the business communities, the functional aspects of these streets, and to facilitate development opportunities. The Sackville Drive Streetscape study, recently approved by Council, is an example of such an initiative, and may be used as a model for other areas. Other initiatives currently underway will also be addressing this matter. These include the Regional Planning project, under its "Vibrant City, Healthy Communities" task group and the "Clean Community Campaign" under the CAO's office.

Issue:

What is the 'limit' of the Capital District?

Response:

The Capital District project and its Task Force has been in existence for approximately eight months. The proposed boundary is staff's initial advice to Council, and represents an area that we believe is reasonable and justifiable. It is an area within which staff feels it can effectively perform a satisfactory level of service delivery.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no capital or operating budget implications arising from the proposed Capital District boundary as herein proposed.

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.

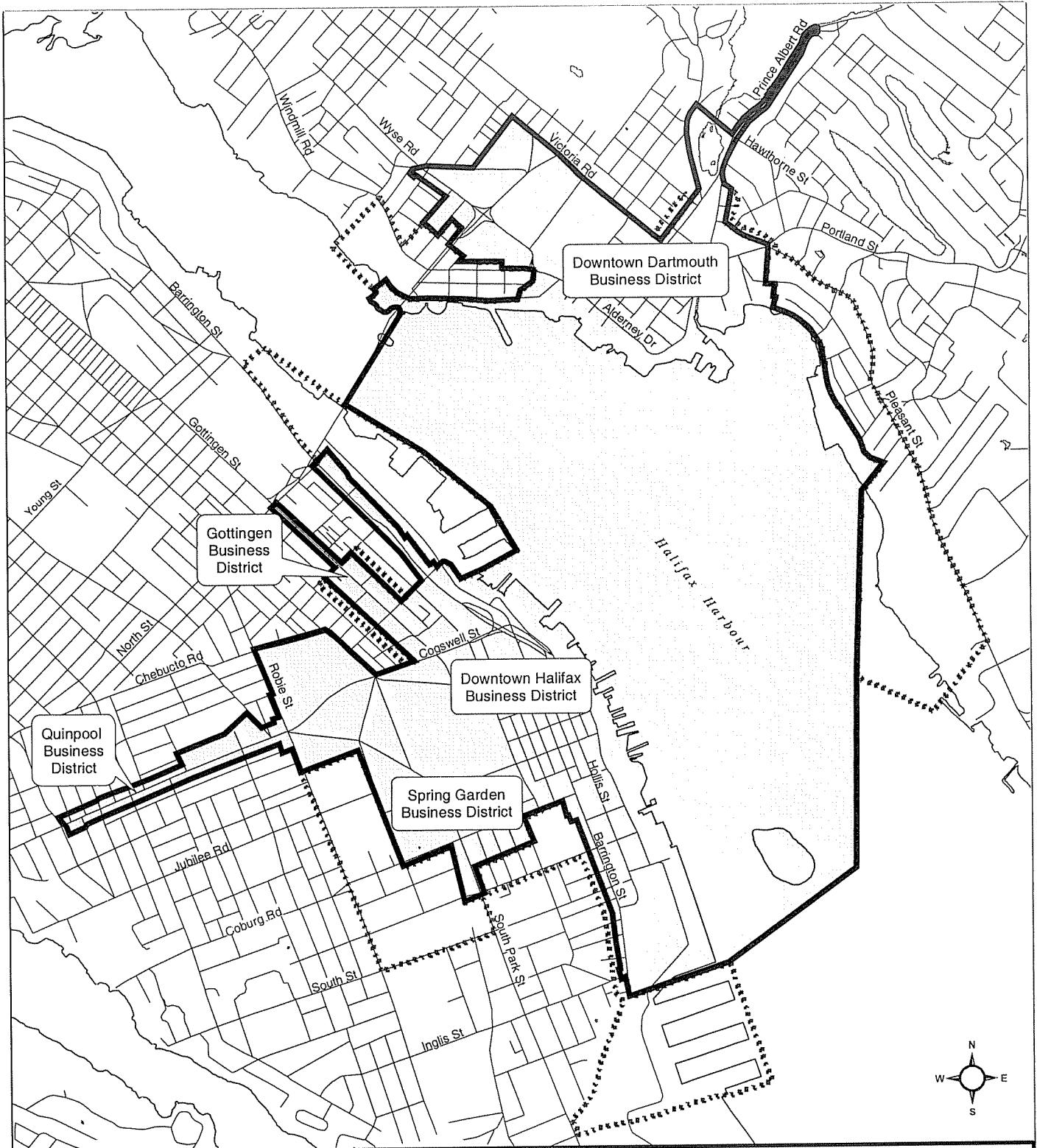
ALTERNATIVES

Council may choose to revise the boundary as presented.



ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A Map 1 - Proposed Boundary - HRM Capital District

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208. Report Prepared by: Roger Wells, Capital District
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Map 1
Attachment A

-  Primary Area
-  Secondary Area (influence/impact)

HALIFAX
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**Proposed Boundary
HRM Capital District**

