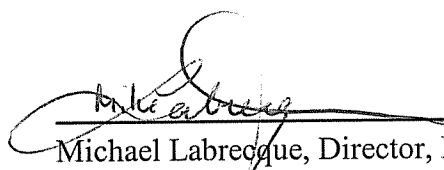


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Halifax Regional Council  
August 20, 2002

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Michael Labrecque, Director, Real Property Services

**DATE:** August 12, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Community Parking Lot on Fall River Road

## INFORMATION REPORT

### ORIGIN

This report originates from a request by Councillor Hines at the February 13, 2001, Regional Council Meeting, that staff prepare a study for non-conforming use of this property to allow an agreement with Nova Scotia Power and HRM which will allow continued use of the parking lot as a park and ride.

### BACKGROUND

The subject property is located on Highway 2, Fall River Road across from Inn on the Lake. The land is owned by Nova Scotia Power and has been used as an informal parking lot by both local commuters and Inn patrons for over a decade. During 1999, NSP informally agreed to allow HRM's Streets and Roads to infill and expand the parking area.

During 2000, NSP agreed to a further expansion of the lot in exchange for HRM entering into a lease for \$1.00 per year and assuming full responsibility for all maintenance and liability issues. NSP also stipulated that the lot was to continue as a free, community parking lot.

Real Property Services staff explored internal avenues respecting a maintenance program for the lot. Streets and Roads agreed they would maintain the lot, however, funding for this work was not in their budget and another funding source could not be identified. Staff approached Metro Transit to determine their interest in the lot, however, after investigation, it was found that the majority of the

people parking in this lot were associated with the Inn on the Lake and commuters going to the Airport. Very few people were using the lot for car pooling to come into the downtown core. Metro Transit advised that since the lot was not being used as a commuter facility they would not be interested in assuming the costs to maintain the lot.

Staff approached the Inn on the Lake to determine if they had an interest in maintaining the lot and the response was negative.

### **DISCUSSION**

Real Property Services and Councillor Hines concurred earlier this year that HRM should not become involved in this lot, given its usage as outlined above, and we would not be pursuing this matter any further.

NSP subsequently advised Real Property Services that they would be closing the lot shortly and marketing the land for sale.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

N/A

### **ALTERNATIVES**

N/A

### **ATTACHMENTS**

N/A

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: Stephen Smith, Real Estate Officer 490-5477