



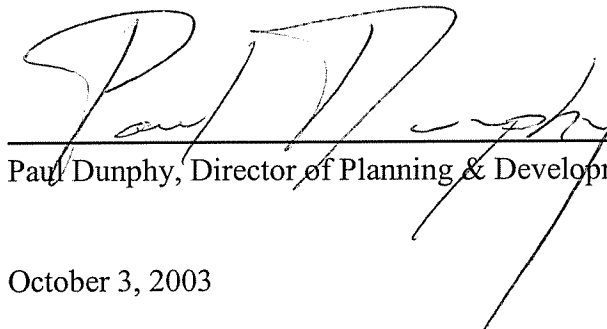
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Halifax Regional Council
October 7, 2003

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Paul Dunphy, Director of Planning & Development Services

DATE: October 3, 2003

SUBJECT: Regional Sign By-law

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Staff presentation made to Committee of the Whole (C.O.W.) session on May 13, 2003.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

Staff have been working towards the adoption of a new Regional Sign By-law. A draft by-law has been developed and the local sign industry has had considerable input into this draft. Since then, the by-law and its associated processes have been reviewed by the By-law Rationalization Working Group, focussing on staff resourcing, treatment of encroaching signs, the LIS system for permitting/licensing and tracking, and appropriate mechanisms for enforcement and impoundment of illegal signs. The by-law was presented to Committee of the Whole in May, followed by a series of meetings with councillors to discuss sign standards specific to each district.

Staff are now finalizing the by-law. The following points outline the steps and schedule for implementation of the new regional by-law:

- final meeting with the permanent sign industry to resolve the few remaining issues;
- presentation of draft by-law at C.O.W. on October 21, 2003;
- a Notice of Motion should be given that evening;
- staff will make any final changes to the by-law as requested by Council;
- a staff report and final version of the by-law will be presented to Council on November 4, 2003, to set a public hearing date;
- hold the public hearing in late November/early December for approval of new by-law and repeal of existing by-laws; and
- approval of an Administrative Order to implement a new fee schedule.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The staff report to be presented on November 4, 2003, will contain recommendations with regard to enforcement levels and required funding.

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

Not applicable.

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.

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