



District 17 Purcell's Cove - Armdale

The Mosher Report

Spring 2003



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DEAR RESIDENTS

It has been a rough Winter, with extreme weather conditions. HRM's snow and ice removal crews had a very difficult Winter with our amount of snow fall, cold temperatures and lack of rain. This Winter, I was representing Councillor Adams' district while he was recovering from back surgery. I noted the disparity in snow removal service from HRM and the Province. In the Sambro-loop, where the Province is responsible for snow clearance, it often took two days for local streets to be plowed. This was clearly different from the superior level of service that HRM provided. I would like to thank the residents of District 17 for doing your part to keep the sidewalks clear, and also HRM staff for doing their best, in spite of the heavy snow fall.

Driving around HRM it is clear that the roads, curbs, and some resident's properties also suffered this Winter. HRM's crews will be busy in the upcoming months fixing pot holes, curbs, and lawns that were damaged. If anyone notices Winter damage, such as pot holes, please contact HRM's call centre at 490-4000 to ensure that they get repaired.

This newsletter will focus on the recently approved Budget and capital projects which will be initiated in District 17 during 2003/2004 fiscal year. I wish everyone a wonderful Summer!

Linda Mosher

COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

Along with my regular duties of serving the constituents of District 17, I am currently active on the following Committees: Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee, Appeals Committee - Chair, Pipeline Review Committee - Vice-Chair, CAO Review Committee, Deadman's Island Committee, and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. I am also a member of Chebucto Community Council, serving as Chair.

CHEBUCTO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chebucto Community Council is comprised of Councillors from Districts 15, 16, 17, 18. Community Council agendas include matters that are local in nature, and relate only to the four districts. Examples are zoning changes, development applications and parkland issues. Community Council cannot approve funding requests, these must be sent to Regional Council. Meetings are normally held the first Monday of each month, excluding August, at the Keshen Goodman Library, 330 Lacewood Drive, beginning at 7 p.m. Each agenda includes public participation. Residents are welcome to address Community Council; each participant is given five minutes in which to speak.

For up to date information on meeting times, please call the Community Council Information Line at **490-6080**.

BUDGET

The 2003/2004 Capital Budget of \$73,336,000 was approved by Regional Council. The Operating Budget is \$529,217,477 gross expenditures (\$423,903,700 non-departmental revenues, and \$105,313,777 departmental revenues).

The Province is responsible for property assessments, and HRM utilizes the assessment figures to levy property taxes. This year, we kept the tax rate the same as last year. However, as the average assessment went up 5.5% in District 17, most residents will pay more taxes this year.

The general rates of taxation on commercial, machinery and equipment, and business occupancy rates were set at: i) \$3.359 for the urban area; ii) \$3.359 for the suburban area; and iii) \$3.086 for the rural area - applied to the full assessed value of the property.

The general rates of taxation on residential and resource property were set at: i) \$1.315 for the urban area; ii) \$1.212 for the suburban area; and iii) \$1.205 for the rural area - applied to the full assessed value of the property.

Supplementary education was set at the rate of \$0.109 for the residential and resource assessment and set as \$0.278 for the commercial, machinery and equipment assessment including business occupancy of the former City of Halifax.

Final tax bills will become due on Tuesday, September 30, 2003.

SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS

Library hours will be extended at the Keshen Goodman Library. As of May 25th, it will be open on **Mondays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

HRM is always looking at ways to make our waste management system more convenient for you. With this in mind, **effective July 1/03**, we're making the following changes: **Bundled branch collection limits will increase from 2 to 5 bundles** per organics collection day. Branches must be tied in armload sized bundles; each bundle not to exceed 34kg(75lb); no individual piece in the bundle more than 1.2m(4ft) long or larger than 0.2m(8 inches) in diameter. Place beside green cart for collection.

Bundled wood or home renovation type material collection limits will increase from 2 to 5 bundles

per refuse collection day. Material must be tied in armload sized bundles; each bundle not to exceed 34kg(75lb); no individual piece in the bundle more than 1.2m(4ft) long or larger than 0.2m(8 inches) in diameter. Bundles are included in the 10 bag/container collection limit per refuse collection.

District 17 Capital Budget Approvals

The following projects have been approved by Regional Council for this fiscal year:

- Sir Sandford Fleming Park:
Canteen: install kitchen and fire suppression equipment.
- Outdoor recreation centre: roof repairs, stonework repairs, washroom upgrades
- Memorial Tower, final phase of restoration: \$50,000, (+ \$12,000 from District 17 Capital Funds).
- New playground equipment - \$50,000.
- Overhead flashing beacon for all way stop control on Williams Lake Rd/Purcell's Cove Rd/Parkhill Rd and appropriate curbing.
- Replacement of lane control signals on Herring Cove Road.
- Fenwood Road (St. Margaret's to Stonehaven), paving renewal - \$385,000.
- McLennan Avenue (Colindale to Glenora), paving renewal - \$60,000. The last section of Colindale Avenue is being considered in conjunction with this project.
- Crescent Avenue -Storm sewer rehabilitation - \$200,000.
- Fairmount subdivision, resolution of two storm drainage issues - \$ 80,000
- Stanford Street (Ernst to Oakliegh east side) Sidewalk Renewal - \$25,000.
- Royal Pine Avenue (Somerset to Murdoch east) Sidewalk Renewal - \$48,000.
- St. Margaret's Bay Road - new sidewalk installation: Fairmount to Balcolm- \$150,000.
- Deadman's Island: pedestrian access entrance, ceremonial gathering place, signage. \$70,000.
- Herring Cove Road, replacement signs.
- Main artery patching: Joseph Howe Drive, Herring Cove Road, Purcell's Cove Road.
- Herring Cove Road (Lawnwood at Withrod) - replacement of illuminated crosswalk.
- Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre - ventilation upgrades.
- Captain William Spry Centre - roof repairs, mechanical upgrades.

The above list of approvals is not inclusive of the total capital expenditures for District 17. Individual departments have also allocated funds toward projects such as street lighting, sidewalk maintenance and park upgrades. Any expenditures which are approved in previous years and not completed will be carried forward to the next budget year without requiring further approval.

DISTRICT 17 CAPITAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Committed funds from last fiscal year: At grade railway crossing - Olivet Street, \$10,000 ; Memorial Tower (Dingle) restoration, \$10,000; Community Signs-\$5,000. Bromley Road Park light standards, \$1,500.



Committed funds - new fiscal year 2003/2004:
(\$40,000 per year/per district)

- J L Ilsley Community Performing Arts Centre - \$5,000
- Old Dalhousie School Playground - new equipment and improvements: \$15,000
- Security Lighting: Fleming Tower School and ballfield - \$1,500 (estimate)
- Security Lighting: Bluestone Road - \$1,500 (estimate)
- Memorial Tower restoration - \$2,000
- Chebucto Heights Elementary School - outdoor school logo - \$1,500
- Cunard Junior High School - outdoor improvements - \$1,500
- Springvale Elementary School - outdoor improvements - \$1,500
- Mural - Purcell's Cove Rd @ Herring Cove Road - \$10,000



Site of Future Mural

Sir Sandford Fleming Park ("Dingle") Update

On behalf of HRM, Dr. Brian Cuthbertson conducted research on the historical significance of Sir Sandford Fleming, the Park, and the Memorial Tower. His report has been completed and will be forwarded to Ottawa for consideration by the National Historic Sites & Monuments Board. The completed report is available for public viewing at the Captain William Spry Public Library, 10 Kidston Road.

HRM staff is committed to improvements of this Park in the recently approved budget. As indicated above, funding has been made available for various improvements in the Park. Most importantly, the final phase of the Memorial Tower restoration will be completed this Summer. To date, HRM has spent \$275,000 in restoring the Tower, and the fourth face needs to be restored to preserve the monuments in the Tower, and to protect the work that has already been completed.

I would like to thank the members of the Friends of Sir Sandford Fleming Park, who serve on this committee on a voluntary basis, and area residents, who provide valuable insight into what is required to ensure that this gem within our district receives the attention it deserves.



Memorial Tower Restoration

SPRINGVALE APPLICATION UPDATE

HRM is considering an application to amend the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw to permit a multi-unit residential building at 7, 9, 11, and 13 Springvale Avenue. Residents in the area were invited to attend a public information meeting on October 17, 2002 to provide feedback on this application. A public hearing has been scheduled for May 20, 2003. Residents in the vicinity of these apartments will be notified directly of the hearing. As well, HRM will advertise the location in the newspaper.

The proposal is to demolish the four existing multi-unit residential buildings and replace them with a new 38 unit, four storey apartment building with underground parking. The building is designed to have nine townhouse units facing Springvale Avenue with their own private entrances. There would be a central lobby to provide access to 29 apartment suites at the rear of the building. The proponent has indicated that the units would be sold to private owners.



7, 9, 11 and 13 Springvale Avenue

KELLY STREET APPLICATION UPDATE

The staff report for the Kelly Street application has been completed. The application involves a request to amend the Mainland South Secondary Planning Strategy and Mainland Halifax Land Use By-Law to permit senior's assisted living facilities and townhouses on lands on Kelly Street. The public hearing will be held at Regional Council on June 17th. Residents who were notified directly for the public information meetings will be contacted directly with particulars on the public hearing. As well, this will be advertised in the local newspaper.

BLASTING BYLAW UPDATE

HRM staff have completed meetings with local residents and members of the development industry. They are in the process of finalizing changes to the existing bylaw, based on my request to Council. HRM will advertise a public hearing to get input from all stakeholders. This date has not been set as yet; I will notify residents in the Chebucto News.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

In the past, I have advertised the telephone numbers of various departments within HRM. To better serve the residents in HRM, we have introduced a corporate call centre, which can be reached by telephoning **490-4000 (TTY/TDD 490-6645)**. All general enquires, such as solid waste issues, street maintenance and bylaw enforcement can be made to this number. The centre is operational from 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week (not open Christmas Day and New Year's Day). If action is required, the Call Centre Agents log calls into our new computer data base system and refer them to the applicable department for follow up.

General information is also available on the internet: www.region.halifax.ns.ca

The Customer Service Centre, which is most convenient for residents of District 17, is located at the West End Mall, 6960 Mumford Road. This location offers services such as HRM Employment Opportunities, HRM Bylaws, Permit Applications, Tax Payments and Recreation Programs. The hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday.

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