
News Release

Regional Council Selects Site for Quad-pad Arena Project

For Immediate Release: January 28, 2009

Last night Regional Council unanimously approved the new quad-pad arena project to be built on Hammonds Plains Road (at the intersection of the future Gary Martin Drive). "The Regional Plan has identified both Bedford South and Bedford West as further growth areas. Mayor Peter Kelly said "the Hammonds Plains Road site will provide ease of access given its proximity to Highway 102 and will accommodate a larger number of users."

Councillor Tim Outhit who represents the area said, "The Community Facility Master Plan has identified the need for additional ice surfaces in HRM as an early deliverable and short term solution for the existing arena inventory crisis, and I am thrilled the business case was made for the new quad-pad to be built in this area. The RFP process allowed proponents to recommend the best locations in HRM to house this facility. "

The Hammonds Plains Road site was selected from proponents who responded to the Expression of Interest Call in January of 2008, and who subsequently were short listed and invited to submit proposals through the Request for Proposals process, to construct the quad-pad arena.

HRM staff will now enter into negotiations with the winning proponent to set the parameters for the design, build and operation phases of the project. As owners of the facility, HRM will be responsible for the capital costs of construction and debt financing. The negotiation process is expected to take 2-3 months. Construction is slated to begin in Spring 2009 with completion targeted for Fall 2010.

This is the first short term step in a much longer term strategy to ensure HRM continues to meet the recreation needs of its citizens. "Council's unanimous decision is a positive move forward as the next step in the arena strategy and staff have been directed to research and analyse additional facility requirements." says Mayor Kelly.

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Contacts:

Mayor Peter Kelly, Halifax Regional Municipality, Phone: 490-4010, kellyp@halifax.ca

Councillor Tim Outhit, Halifax Regional Municipality, Phone: 229-6385, outhitt@halifax.ca

Paul Dunphy – Director of Community Development - HRM, Phone: 490-4933 dunphyp@halifax.ca