

Item No. 15.6.1

Request for Council's Consideration					
	Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)	`	to Municipal ce by Noon at		Request from the Floor Notice of Motion
Date of Meeting: January 9, 2024					
Subject: Administrative Order 50 Amendments					
Motion for Consideration: THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a staff report on amending Administrative Order 50, Respecting the Disposal of Surplus Real Property (AO-50), to ensure surplus land designated for Affordable Housing can support housing construction including required provincial regulatory requirements for On Site Septic Disposal Systems (OSSDS), groundwater, wetlands, and watercourse alteration.					
Reason: In September 2020, Council approved the creation of a new designated use for municipal surplus lands: Affordable Housing. The Halifax Charter defines Affordable Housing as "housing that meets the needs of a variety of households in the low to moderate income range". This broad definition exemplifies how affordable housing encompasses a large range of our most vulnerable populations, while also enabling moderate housing affordability for the employed population in all communities. Unfortunately, HRM Council did not direct staff to ensure the property designation process for affordable housing includes an assessment of suitability for housing. In areas outside the urban service boundary, there are many considerations including provincial regulations for OSSDs, groundwater, watercourse alteration, and stormwater.					
Council's current process includes a review of potentially surplus properties identified and brought forward by operational Business Units including the solicitation of all Business Units to identify any municipal requirements for those properties identified as potentially surplus. Land is not assessed for housing construction suitability or required provincial regulations.					
The onus to do that provincial regulatory work is unfairly being placed on non-profit developers attempting to buy municipal property for affordable housing. The land identification process as it currently exists is unjust and contradicts Council's stated intent to enable Affordable housing in all areas of the municipality.					
Outcome Sought:					
Staff report on steps to initiate the planning and consultation process to develop a Functional Plan for Hammonds Plains Road.					
Moved by Councillor Pam Lovelace		District 13			