

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

#### Item No. 14.1.2 Halifax Regional Council March 6, 2018

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by

SUBMITTED BY:

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** January 22, 2018

SUBJECT: Street Closure - Lot LA, Lethbridge Avenue, Dartmouth

#### **ORIGIN**

This report originates with a request from the abutting property owners (the "Purchasers"), located at 51 Lethbridge Avenue, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, identified as PID 40180697, to acquire a portion of the Lethbridge Avenue right-of-way in front of their property.

#### **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, Chapter 39:

Section 61(5)(b): The Municipality may sell property at market value when the property is no longer required for the purposes of the Municipality.

Section 325 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where a street or part of a street is being altered, improved or redesigned part of that street may be closed without holding a public hearing under subsection (1) if

- (a) the part of the street that remains open
  - (i) is open to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and
  - (ii) meets all the municipal standards; and
- (b) the part of the street that is closed
  - (i) is determined by the engineer to be surplus; and
  - (ii) is worth less than fifty thousand dollars.
- (6) A copy of the policy passed by the Council, certified by the Clerk under the seal of the Municipality, incorporating a survey or a metes and bounds description of the street that is closed, must be filed in the registry and with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve Administrative Order SC-87 as set out in Attachment 'B' of this report to close that portion of Lethbridge Avenue described as Lot LA in the legal description and survey plan shown in Attachment B.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In the fall of 2015, Lot LA, Lethbridge Avenue, Dartmouth (see Attachment 'A) more particularly described as Lot LA in the legal description and survey plan shown in Attachment B (hereinafter referred to as "Lot LA"), was declared surplus and categorized as 'Extraordinary' under Administrative Order 50 at the request of the abutting property owners at 51 Lethbridge Avenue. Their intent is to square off the front property line of their lot in anticipation of subdividing their property to create an additional residential lot.

The subject property was once the boundary between Lethbridge Avenue and the Old Cobequid Road. Old Cobequid Road was closed in March 1986 by the former City of Dartmouth, and portions were incorporated into the lot fabric of the Keystone Village subdivision. Lot LA's southern boundary represents the intersection between the two streets and its flared radius is indicative of intersection design in the area. However the intersection is no longer required.

Lot LA is a flat, grassed area which does not contain municipal infrastructure and is not required for municipal right-of-way purposes.

As per Section 325 of the HRM Charter, Council may, by policy, permanently close any street or part of a street. The portion of the street that is being closed is valued at less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), and therefore a public hearing is not required.

#### DISCUSSION

The Purchasers' property is currently approximately 21,800 square feet in area and appears to be capable of meeting lot size requirements for subdivision in the R-1 Zone of the Dartmouth Land Use Bylaw. Lot LA is 244 square feet in area. Its addition to the Purchasers' property would not add any development rights to the property. In other words, the addition of Lot LA does not increase the lot yield of the property because the Purchasers' property can already be subdivided.

The consolidation of Lot LA will alleviate potential setback issues by creating a continuous line of street frontage, allowing for a dwelling to be situated in a similar setback to existing dwellings on the street.

The purpose of this report is to close the portion of street right-of-way under Administrative Order SC-87. The property transaction approval (subject to successful street closure) will be covered under a separate report under the appropriate delegated authority.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation however, the future net proceeds from the sale of the property will be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund Q526.

#### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report. The risks considered rate Low.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

As per Administrative Order 50, the area Councillor was advised of the recommendation to surplus the subject property with the Extraordinary categorization. A public hearing is not required, as the closure meets Section 325(2) of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Environmental Implications were not identified.

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

Halifax Regional Council could **not** declare the subject property closed, and retain ownership for street right-of-way. This is not recommended as it is classified as surplus and is not required for street right-of-way purposes.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 'A' – Surplus Plan Attachment 'B' – Administrative Order SC-87

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <a href="https://halifax.ca">halifax.ca</a> or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Mike Cowper, Senior Real Estate Officer, Finance and Asset Management, 902.490.5332

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## ATTACHMENT 'A' LOCATION MAP





## HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER Admin Order #SC-87

#### RESPECTING CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF

#### **LETHBRIDGE AVENUE, DARTMOUTH**

**BE IT RESOLVED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER** of Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality pursuant to Section 325 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter Act as follows:

1.	as Lot LA, described on the Schedule is h	,
	REBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Adm fax Regional Council, theday of	
		Mayor
		Municipal Clerk
	evin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk of Halifax Regional d Administrative Order was passed at a meetin, 2018.	
		Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk

#### SCHEDULE

### Legal Description of **Lot LA**Dartmouth, Halifax County, Nova Scotia

ALL THAT LOT OF LAND SITUATE, lying and being at Lethbridge Avenue, Dartmouth, Halifax County, Nova Scotia, shown on a plan entitled, *Plan of Survey of Lot LA*, *A Subdivision of Lethbridge Avenue*, *Lands Conveyed to Halifax Regional Municipality*, by Halifax Regional Municipality, certified by Kyle Harrington, N.S.L.S., dated October 26, 2017, on file at the office of the Director of Transportation and Public Works, Halifax Regional Municipality as plan number 17027401, said **Lot LA** being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on a southeastern boundary of Lethbridge Avenue at the northwestern corner of Parcel PDE-1 as shown on Land Registration Office plan number 75391657, said point also being the most northern corner of the Lot under description;

THENCE South 24 degrees 20 minutes 58 seconds East, 9.959 meters, along a western boundary of Lot H-40B1 to a curved northern boundary of Lot H-40B1;

THENCE in a westerly direction, along a northern boundary of Lot H-40B1, along a curve to the left of radius 6.096 meters, an arc distance of 12.454 meters, to a southeastern boundary of Lethbridge Avenue;

THENCE North 38 degrees 35 minutes 30 seconds East 9.959 meters, along a southeastern boundary of Lethbridge Avenue to the place of beginning.

Lot LA contains an area of 22.7 square meters.

Bearings are grid, NAD83(CSRS2010.0), Nova Scotia 3 degree Modified Transverse Mercator projection, zone 5.

