

Councillor Russell Walker

District 10

Halifax - Bedford Basin West



Active Transportation Plan Review



Six public open houses on Active Transportation will be hosted by Halifax Regional Municipality between March 20 and April 10. These sessions are part of the five-year review of the Active Transportation Functional Plan. This is an opportunity to help develop priorities for the next five years on how to encourage more walking, cycling and other active transportation modes.

Open House Hours: 4:30pm - 8:30pm. Staff Presentation and Q&A at 5:15pm and 7:15pm

- Wednesday, March 20, Westphal Room, Cole Harbour Place, 51 Forest Hills Parkway, Dartmouth

- Thursday, March 21, Olympic Hall, 2304 Hunter Street, Halifax
- Monday, March 25, Common Room, Dartmouth Sportsplex, 110 Wyse Rd., Dartmouth
- Tuesday, April 2, Lions Den, LeBrun Center 36 Holland Ave., Bedford
- Thursday, April 4, Trinity Anglican Church Hall, 321 Main Avenue, Halifax
- Wednesday, April 10, Lions Den, 101 Old Beaverbank Road, Lower Sackville

While each open house will have a geographic focus, input for all areas of HRM will be encouraged at each session. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.halifax.ca/activetransportation/ATPlanReview.html>

If you are unable to attend an open house session, you can complete the survey online or e-mail your comments to activetransportation@halifax.ca or call 490-1665. The survey will not be posted until March 20th.



Distractions Kill Campaign



Recently Traffic Services and Police Services initiated a pedestrian safety campaign, entitled "Distractions Kill". Distracted drivers are three times more likely to be in a crash than attentive drivers (Alberta Transportation, 2011) and 84% of distracted-driving related fatalities in the U.S. were tied to carelessness or inattentiveness (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2009).

Today there are many distractions: pedestrians listening to music or texting, or drivers not following the rules and texting or talking on cell phones. Key messages of the campaign are: drivers and pedestrians must always pay attention, safety is a shared responsibility, inattention/distraction at crosswalks can lead to injury or death, let's do something about it.

The campaign is being disseminated through various mediums: on bus shelters, bus ads, print, radio, TV, and social media. The budget for the campaign is \$75,000. In addition, Transportation Association of Canada is in the process of approving a Pedestrian Crossing Control Guide so there will be uniformity across the country for seven guiding principles: safety, delay, equity, expectancy, consistency, connectivity, and pragmatism. This guide will assist HRM's Traffic Services to determine the proper pedestrian crossing control based on sound engineering and traffic principles. Check out the campaign at www.DistractionsKill.ca

HRM Crime Mapping

Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP launched the HRM Crime Mapping site to provide citizens with contextual and timely information about crime in the areas where they live, work and play. HRM Crime Mapping is an interactive site which is updated daily at 12:15 a.m. with incidents of five specific crime types:

- robberies
- assaults
- break and enters
- thefts of vehicles
- thefts from vehicles

These crime types were selected given that citizens can take steps to protect themselves from becoming a victim if armed with information about what's happening in our community.

HRM Crime Mapping allows citizens to view the selected crime types one at a time, several at a time or altogether by three different time frames – yesterday, the past four days and the past week. It also allows citizens to search crime types by street name or community. To ensure people's privacy, crimes are plotted on the mid-point of the closest block and are not associated with any specific civic address. HRM Crime Mapping is a pilot project and it's our expectation that community feedback will assist in shaping the site in future. Visit the website at <http://www.halifax.ca/police/publicsafety/hrmcrimemap ping.html> Feedback can be sent by email to contacthrp@halifax.ca.

Enjoy March Break – Be Safe

Contact

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