

Russell Walker

District 15
Fairview-Clayton Park



New Highway 102 Overpass and Extended Washmill Lake Drive

A new overpass on Highway 102 and the extension of Washmill Lake Drive are contributing to better traffic flow and safer driving for Haligonians. Washmill Lake Drive (formerly Washmill Lake Court) now extends under Provincial Highway 102 and into Bayers Lake Business Park. The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) also upgraded Washmill Lake Drive from two lanes to a major collector with four lanes in most sections, with new bike lanes, sidewalks and storm water services.

These changes created a much needed third entrance and exit to the Bayers Lake Business Park, and residents of Fairview, Clayton Park, Mainland South and Peninsula Halifax now have an alternate access. The project also reduced traffic loading on Lacewood Drive - relieving existing and future traffic pressures and allowing for continuing development in this economic centre of HRM.

The completion of Washmill Lake Drive emphasizes HRM's commitment to maintaining and improving our infrastructure. By partnering with the other levels of government, we are able to make the maximum use of our financial resources as we keep pace with the growth of our community.

The Government of Canada provided about \$3.3 million towards the project, with the Province of Nova Scotia matching this contribution. The Halifax Regional Municipality is contributing the remaining balance to the project.

Limited Access-A-Bus Service to Begin Monday

Metro Transit will be offering a limited Access-A-Bus service to its clients beginning Monday. The services will be available to registered Access-A-Bus users for transportation to and from medical and specialist appointments.

HRM recognizes that this transit strike is hard on all passengers, but feel our limited staff resources must be directed to assisting those most in need. This decision was made to resume the service because the strike was causing distress and suffering to vulnerable residents of HRM. Registered Access-A-Bus users are unable to keep medical appointments, often made months in advance. These and similarly situated citizens have very limited mobility options and depend on Metro Transit's Access-A-Bus service.

Until the strike is over, Transit management staff will be operating the Access-A-Bus vehicles. Service to dialysis patients, which has been in place since the Feb. 2 beginning of the strike, will continue. While this is a limited service, we hope it will offer some help to the people whose medical well-being depends upon our Access-A-Bus service.

HRM urges the Access-A-Bus passengers to be patient as staff work through familiarizing themselves with scheduling trips and operating the service.

Access-A-Bus passengers can call 490-6999 starting this Saturday, Feb. 18, to begin booking trips for Monday and beyond.