

HALIFAX

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Item No. 1
Halifax Regional Council
August 1, 2017

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

Original Signed by



Bruce Zvaniga, P.Eng., Director, Transportation and Public Works

DATE: June 13, 2017

SUBJECT: Crosswalk at Highway 2 and Coach Avenue, Fall River

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Item 14.4.1 of the May 23, 2017 meeting of Halifax Regional Council:

Motion passed that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report respecting the potential installation of a pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection of Highway 2 and Coach Avenue, crossing over to Fletcher Drive, Fall River.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Motor Vehicle Act, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.293, subsection 90 (1) The traffic authority may establish and designate and may maintain, or cause to be maintained, by appropriate devices, marks or lines upon the surface of the highways, crosswalks at intersections where, in his opinion, there is particular danger to pedestrians crossing the highway, and at such other places as he may deem necessary.

BACKGROUND

As defined by the Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act, a crosswalk exists at every intersection whether marked or unmarked and vehicles are required by law to stop for a pedestrian at both marked and unmarked crosswalks.

Because of the numerous requests to add marked crosswalks it has been necessary to establish criteria which provide an objective basis for evaluation as to where marked crosswalks are installed on HRM roadways. Most jurisdictions in Canada use some form of evaluation criteria to determine which crosswalks will be marked and which will not. HRM has adopted the nationally recognized Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) warrants as a starting point for marked crosswalk installations. The TAC Pedestrian Crossing Control Guide was developed to promote uniformity across Canada for pedestrian crossings. This guide considers a number of criteria for a given location, including vehicular volumes and speeds; pedestrian volumes, types, and delays; collision experience; visibility conditions; proximity of adjacent traffic controls; road alignment and geometry; and the availability of an adequate adjacent sidewalk or walkway system.

DISCUSSION

Highway 2 in this area is a two-lane arterial roadway with a posted speed limit of 70 km/h and a sidewalk located on the eastern side. The average daily traffic is approximately 10,000 vehicles per day. Both Coach Avenue and Fletcher Drive are local roadways with posted speed limits of 50 km/h. Neither of these streets have any pedestrian infrastructure, with the exception of a small section of sidewalk connecting the sidewalk on Highway 2 to the community mailboxes on Coach Avenue (approximately 25 metres).

Peak hour pedestrian counts were obtained and on average less than 5 pedestrians per peak hour were observed crossing Highway 2 at the Coach Avenue/Fletcher Drive intersection. Collision history for this intersection was reviewed for the past five years. This information identified no vehicle-pedestrian collisions.

The street lighting levels were also reviewed in association with this request and will be updated to meet the current municipal standards.

At this time, the installation of a marked crosswalk would not comply with HRM practice at this location due to the low pedestrian volume and lack of connecting infrastructure.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This report is in response to a petition forwarded to Regional Council.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map of Area, Hwy 2 at Fletcher Drive and Coach Avenue

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Hugh Morrison, P.Eng., Traffic Services Supervisor, 902.490.5018

Attachment 1: Map of Area, Hwy 2 at Fletcher Drive and Coach Avenue

