

Request for Council's Consideration	
<p>X Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday one week prior to meeting)</p> <p>Date of Council Meeting: April 14, 2020</p> <p>Subject: Halifax Regional Municipality – Halifax Port Authority Fish Passage Project</p>	
<p>Motion for Council to Consider: That Halifax Regional Council request that the CAO and staff engage with the Halifax Port Authority on the potential use of offsetting funds to enable fish passage from Sullivan's Pond to Lake Banook and that the CAO report back to Council with results of that engagement to identify the potential for a joint project.</p> <p>Reason: As part of the Halifax Port Authority's (HPA) expansion, HPA is required to by the Fisheries Act to compensate for damage done to the aquatic environment by improving/creating new habitat elsewhere. This is commonly known as offsetting. HPA and DFO have been investigating fulfilling HPA's offsetting requirement by constructing a fish ladder around the Lock at Findlay Park and removing the Hawthorne Street culverts, which would allow fish passage between Lake Banook and Sullivan's Pond. When the Sawmill River Project is complete, this would allow then allow fish passage from Banook all the way to the Harbour. Without a project to connect Sullivan's Pond to Lake Banook, the Sawmill River's fish ladder will only provide a faction of the environmental benefits that it was designed for because fish won't be able to travel any farther inland than Sullivan's Pond.</p> <p>HRM owns the culverts that cross Hawthorne Street, the Lake Banook Lock, and the land in Findlay Park that would be required to provide fish passage. The possibility of a partnership with HPA provides HRM with the opportunity to share the cost of providing fish passage through these municipal assets, costs that would otherwise fall to the municipality alone.</p> <p>Outcome Sought: Staff report and potential agreement with HPA and project details for Council consideration</p>	
<i>Councillor</i> Sam Austin	<i>District</i> 05