

**HALIFAX**

**Item No.**

**Integrated Stormwater  
Management Policy**

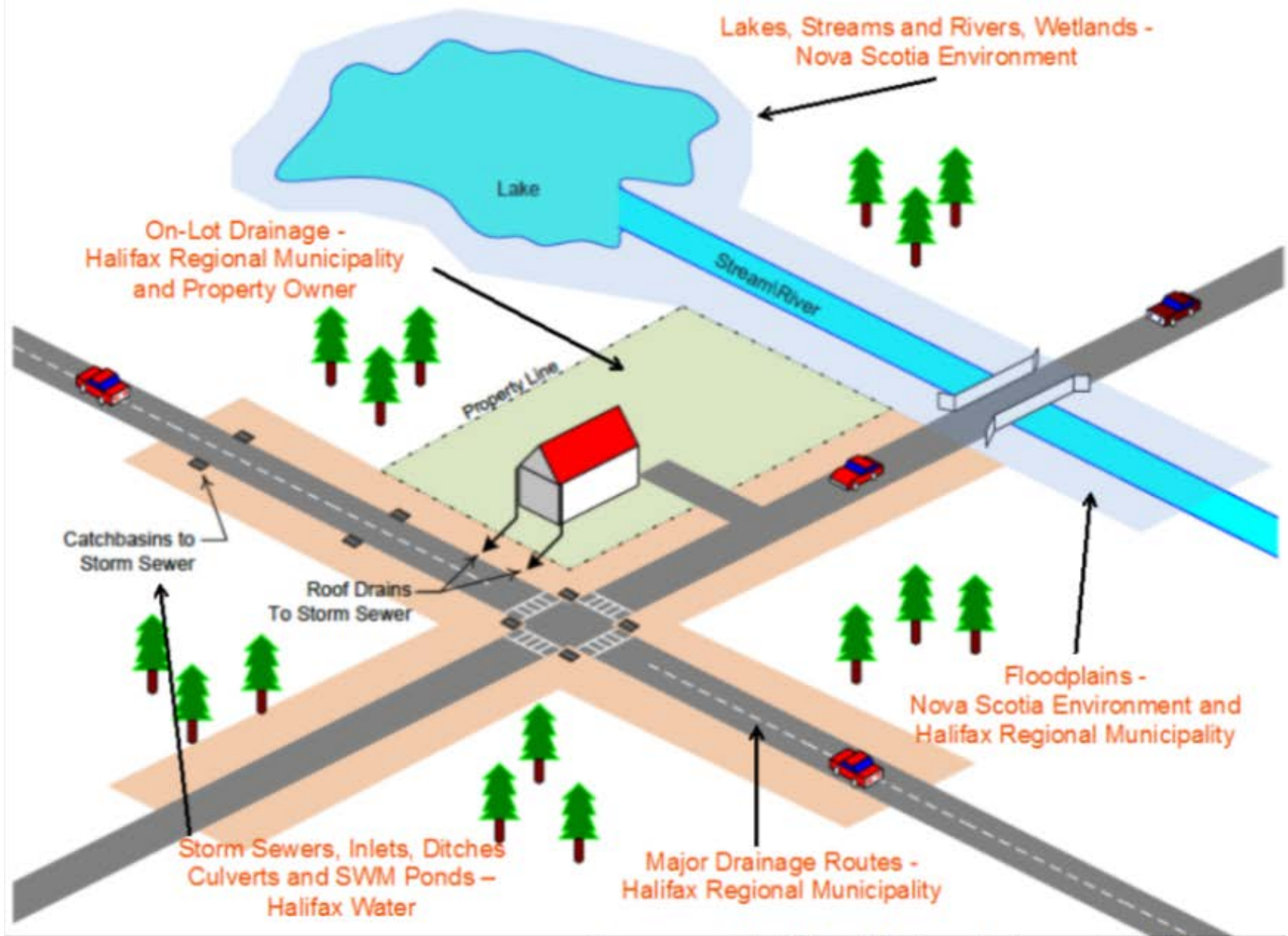
Environment and Sustainability  
Standing Committee

December 7, 2017









Source: Halifax Water Integrated Resource Plan

# Stormwater Impacts

- Flooding of private property and street
- Sewer backups
- More stormwater in wastewater system, higher treatment costs
- Pollutants in runoff
- Eutrophication of lakes
- Degradation of water bodies

# Stormwater Responsibilities

## Province of Nova Scotia

- Regulatory authority
- Owner of watercourses and some wetlands

## Halifax Water

- Owner of pipes and ditches
- Governed by Utility and Review Board

## Halifax Regional Municipality

- Manage overland flow from development and municipal lands

## Private Property Owner

- Maintain private infrastructure and site generated flow

# Policy Direction

Initiated by Regional Council February 2013

- Working with Halifax Water, develop policies to guide joint operations and governance for stormwater management
- Meet legislative requirements and community expectations

Regional Plan Policies relating to Stormwater Management, Water Quality, and Watershed Based Planning



# Proposed Policy Objectives

- Prevent loss of life, property damage from major storms
- Safe and convenient use of streets and other land areas before, during, and after storm events
- Mitigate long-term impacts of development downstream
- *Efficient work management processes, clear responsibilities between the Municipality and HRWC*

# Proposed Policy Framework

- Capital investment strategy for stormwater infrastructure
- Ownership and maintenance of stormwater systems
- Land development practices
- Drainage on existing properties

# Capital Investment Strategy

Flood Risk Assessment nearing completion

Funded by National Disaster Mitigation Program, HRM, and Halifax Water

## Next steps

Identify and estimate cost of mitigation measures

Prioritize and program actions with Council

# Ownership and Maintenance of Stormwater Systems

Work Management Guidelines developed

Special Technical Committee with emphasis on operations

## Next Steps

Continue implementation of Asset Management Programs

Integrate Customer Service Support systems

# Land Development Practices

Lot Grading By-law amended

NSUARB Stormwater Rate Hearing Concluded

- Direction from the Board regarding joint standards that consider quality

New House Construction - Flood Resilient Design Guidelines

Next Steps

Stormwater Management By-law, Joint Standards with Halifax Water, and Green Infrastructure / Community Design standards

# Emerging Issues

- Wetlands
- Combined Sewers
- Flood Resilient Design Standards

# Recommendation

That the **Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee** recommend that **Halifax Regional Council** endorse the framework contained in the Discussion section titled “Policy Framework” of this report as a basis for a joint stormwater management policy with Halifax Regional Water Commission, to ensure that efforts relating to stormwater management are aligned.