

Request for Council's Consideration

<input type="checkbox"/> Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	X	Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor
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Date of Council Meeting: May 31, 2016

Subject: Utilization of the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) to allow residents in the Harrietsfield area to access provincial funding in support of the installation of well water treatment equipment to mitigate the impacts of extraordinary levels of local contamination.

Motion for Council to Consider:

That Halifax Regional Council authorize staff to complete an application to the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) for funds to be used in support of a municipally-operated program to coordinate / facilitate property owner installation of well water treatment equipment to mitigate the impacts of extraordinary levels of local contamination currently being experienced on properties in the Harrietsfield area.

Reason: There are 12 properties in Harrietsfield near the intersection of Old Sambro Road and Whitehead Road that are currently experiencing extraordinary levels of well water contamination. Treatment equipment is available for property owners that can provide a viable potable water source from existing wells. Cost for this equipment is estimated in the range of \$10,000 per installation.

PCAP is a provincial program that provides cost shared funds for municipal infrastructure improvements. These funds may also be accessible to HRM to support the operation of a program to assist property owners with the installation of treatment equipment on non-municipal infrastructure (wells). In these circumstances, HRM could coordinate / facilitate a program to distribute PCAP funding to property owners for the installation of treatment equipment to a maximum of \$10,000 per installation on the 12 developed properties currently experiencing high levels of contamination. Eligibility for participation would be based on the severity of contamination as determined by the NS Department of Environment taking into account such detailed information as the nature of contaminant, level of contamination, the extent of negative impacts on the property and the efficacy of the proposed treatment infrastructure. HRM would be the coordinating / facilitating body for the program. However, in light of provincial responsibility for environmental issues, HRM would not be contributing municipal funds toward the procurement, installation or maintenance of any equipment.

The deadline for applications to PCAP was May 24th. Given that deadline, staff submitted a preliminary application to secure a place in the process in advance of the deadline. A Council motion in support of the proposal is now required to complete the application process. If Council chooses not to proceed, the application will be withdrawn.

Outcome Sought: Council support for HRM to coordinate / facilitate a program to distribute provincial funds to assist property owners to install well water treatment equipment to provide potable water to 12 properties impacted by extraordinary levels of contamination in the Harrietsfield area.

Councillor Stephen Adams

District 11