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Item No. 12.2.1
Community Planning & Economic Development
November 15, 2018

TO: Chair and Members of Community Planning and Economic Development

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY: _____
For Iona Stoddard, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee

DATE: October 1, 2018

SUBJECT: **Blasting By-law B-600 Review**

ORIGIN

Motion from the September 26, 2018 meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee, Item 9.1.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM By-law No. H-200 - Heritage Property By-law

4. The [Heritage Advisory] Committee shall, within the time limits prescribed by Council or the [Heritage Property] Act, advise the Region respecting:

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- (d) the preparation, amendment, revision or repeal of a conservation plan and conservation by-law;
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- (g) building or other regulations that affect the attainment of the intent and purpose of the Act;
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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report reviewing Blasting By-law B-600 to examine the impact of blasting on heritage properties, as well as identifying and incorporating adequate measures to mitigate damage to heritage properties caused by blasting.

BACKGROUND

Based on a request from Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee arising out of the May 23, 2018 meeting of the Committee, the Heritage Advisory Committee received a staff presentation from Infrastructure Planning staff on Blasting By-law B-600 at their September 26, 2018 meeting.

DISCUSSION

The staff presentation outlined the background and processes under Blasting By-law B-600. Following the presentation, staff and Committee Members further discussed the By-law as it relates to heritage properties, with Members wishing to address concerns that the By-law does not adequately protect heritage properties from the potential harm caused by blasting. The Committee noted several areas of concern relating to the By-law. These included; that the blasting threshold limits are excessive, that the mandatory insurance coverage under the By-law is insufficient for heritage properties, and that the public consultation and input process for blasting is insufficient.

The Committee additionally requested that staff consider a ban on blasting in Heritage Conservation Districts.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any financial implications would be identified in a future staff report.

RISK CONSIDERATION

None identified.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Heritage Advisory Committee meetings are open to public attendance. The agenda, reports, and minutes of the Committee are posted online at Halifax.ca.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

ALTERNATIVES

The Committee did not provide alternatives.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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