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**Item No. 8.1(ii)**  
**Community Planning & Economic Development**  
**November 15, 2018**  
**January 17, 2019**

**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:

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

**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.

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