

COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI

HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST DISTRICT 6 NEWSLETTER



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SPRING/SUMMER 2021



DEAR RESIDENT,

To say we've had challenges over the past year since my last newsletter would be an understatement. With the third wave of COVID to contend with, I must say that our city and province has done an amazing job of working with,

and for you, to keep you safe and informed. I would like to thank all of our essential workers for your selfless act of service to your community. Your presence in this trying time continues to be reassuring and comforting to all of us. I would also like to thank everyone for your cooperation, patience, and understanding as public health officials and elected representatives worked together to implement the best possible solutions to protect the public.

I encourage you to follow the advice your health care provider when it comes to your decisions around testing/vaccination. With phased guidelines now being implemented by the province, we can now get out and enjoy our parks, trails, and outdoor amenities.

You will also see many improvements to our streets and roads, and park infrastructure happening this summer and into the fall. I would also like to encourage you to buy local and help support jobs and businesses in our community. Have a fun, and safe summer!

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2021 VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Every year during National Volunteer Week, HRM honours our community volunteers. This year, the recipient for District 6 was **Dee Vipond**. Congratulations Dee, and thank you for contributing your time, talent, and energy to help build an amazing community!

COVID-19 UPDATES

As we experience more recoveries of COVID-19 in Nova Scotia, regular testing remains important. Testing is an important aspect of our province's reopening plan, to limit community spread by catching new cases early on.

Dr. Strang has said that he is hopeful we may move through the vaccine rollout more quickly than anticipated. Stay tuned to the province's COVID-19 news briefings to learn when you may be able to receive your second vaccine, if you have not already received it. As we move ahead with reopenings, we must remember that getting two vaccine doses is critical for maximum virus protection - particularly against variants.

NS COVID-19 case data, testing and vaccines is available at: www.novascotia.ca/coronavirus/data/

Nova's Scotia's five-phase reopening plan: www.novascotia.ca/reopening-plan/

Businesses and other organizations can find information to help them safely reopen and operate at: www.novascotia.ca/reopening-nova-scotia

Government of Canada COVID-19 information: www.canada.ca/coronavirus or 1-833-784-4397 (toll-free)

HALIFAX



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POLICING IN HRM

At the April 6th Regional Council meeting, Council passed my motion for a staff report to review HRM's unique shared policing model. HRM is the only municipality in Canada with two police forces. The question is, does the shared policing model provide HRM with the best results, and if not, what are our alternatives? One of the major concerns that I would like to see considered in the review is how much local control we really have over the RCMP.

The RCMP are different than Halifax Regional Police; they provide policing via a contract with the Province. This means HRM doesn't have direct control over RCMP. With so much changing in the world of policing, and HRM potentially embarking on some significant reforms in how we do things over the next few years, one of the key questions is, can a nationally controlled Ottawa police force be an effective partner? Can the RCMP adapt or does HRM have to choose between reforming policing and having the RCMP? This report will take time to come back to Council, as it will be written in conjunction with other reports on policing.

PAY FREEZE FOR COUNCILLORS

For the second year in a row, Council has voted to freeze our salaries. It's never easy for Council to discuss our pay. There is no other job where you have to publicly justify your worth! To try and get ourselves out of that awkward conversation and make salaries something that aren't set by Council directly, HRM has adopted a pay formula. The current formula was adopted in 2017 and is based on the average weekly wage in Nova Scotia as reported by Statistics Canada each October. The idea is to tie Council's salaries to what people in Nova Scotia are making. I agree with this approach.

CHELSIE PROBERT REFLECTION AREA

To honour the memory of Chelsie Probert, municipal staff and Nova Scotia Power joined together to clean up Farrell Park and improve the safety of the park and pathway. The municipality also installed a reflection area, which includes a circular cement pad, a garden, and benches. There is also a beautiful poem for Chelsie, written by a local youth, Kayley Dixon, that is permanently set on a stone. The funding for this project came from my District 6 Capital Funds. I would like to thank everyone involved in this project, and for their hard work in creating this beautiful reflection area in Chelsie's memory.

CITIZENSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year, the Halifax Regional Municipality's Citizenship Award is presented to outstanding Grade 9 students in our municipality. Schools choose their award recipient based on leadership qualities, service in the school and community, and academic performance.

I would like to acknowledge District 6's own **Matayah Weeks-Williams** from Ellenvale Jr. High, and **Heidi Grace Lockyer-LeClair** from Dartmouth High School. Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!

MOBILE FOOD MARKET FOR DARTMOUTH NORTH

The Mobile Food Market and Dartmouth East Rotary Club are working together to provide service to residents of Dartmouth North. The vision of the program is to offer home delivery of healthy food at an affordable rate to our residents, who face the some of the highest rates of food insecurity. I was happy to help with this initiative for food security with a donation of \$3000 from my District 6 Capital Funds. This will secure a total of 3 months' worth of supplies for the program.

OUTDOOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT FOR CYRIL SMITH PARK AND SHUBIE PARK

This summer, new outdoor exercise equipment will be installed in the Cyril Smith Park and Shubie Park. The exercise equipment is a single unit piece that has over 16 exercises available. This includes a chin up bar, high pulley station, and other functions to provide upper and lower body workouts.

LOW INCOME TRANSIT PASS PROGRAM

2021/22 applications are now open for the Low-Income Transit Pass program. If you qualify, you'll save 50% off your monthly pass. To find out if you qualify and how to apply for the pass, visit www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/affordable-access-program/about-affordable-access-program or call 311.

GREEN BIN/RECYCLING COLLECTION

Weekly green cart collection of organic waste is returning for July, August, and September 2021. However, blue bag recyclable collection will occur once every two weeks. Both changes come into effect on July 2, 2021.



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PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: 95 CALEDONIA ROAD

On May 6th, Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council approved the rezoning of 95 Caledonia Road from C-1 (Local Business) to C-2 (General Business). This change will allow consideration for a 5-storey building with approximately 59 units and commercial use on the ground floor i.e. café, bakery, etc.

The developer has applied for CHMC funding which would support some affordable housing. The next step in this application is to come back to Community Council to discuss a Development Agreement.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT MONTEBELLO AND WAVERLEY ROAD

The applicant wishes to build a six-story apartment building at the intersection of Waverley Road and Montebello Drive. The major aspects of the proposal are as follows:

- 46 residential units including townhouse style units with entrances on Montebello Drive
- 3,270 square feet of potential ground floor commercial space with frontage on Waverley Road.
- 39 underground parking spaces with garage access off Montebello Drive
- 1,950 square feet of amenity space at penthouse

There was a public information meeting on June 1st and 2nd. The next step in the process is to work with the applicant to revise the application. Staff will then draft a staff report with a recommendation to the Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council.

DISTRICT 6 – 2021/22 PLANNED CAPITAL WORK

Complete Street Paving

Brigadoon Ave – Main to Mount Edward (Integrated Traffic Calming)
Langley Ave – Valleyfield to End
Mount Edward Rd – Woodlawn to Bellevista (Carryover)
Skeena Lane – Valleyfield to Skeena

Asphalt Overlay

Akerley Blvd – Burnside to John Savage

Retaining Walls

Mount Edward Rd – Wall for new sidewalk (Carryover)

Micro Surfacing

Burnside Dr – Commodore to Akerley
Wright Ave – Windmill to MacDonald
Wright Ave – Burnside to 100m past Williams

Sidewalk Renewal

Princess Margaret Blvd – Limits to be determined

New Sidewalk

Mount Edward Rd – Woodlawn to John Cross (Carryover)

Planer Patching

Caledonia Rd – Dumbarton to Breeze
Main St – Gordon to Caledonia
Windmill Rd – Dawson to Wyse

Proposed Crack Sealing

Akerley Blvd – Windmill to Joseph Zatzman
Breeze Dr – Waverley to Montabello
Burnside Dr – Commodore to Akerley (Micro Prep)
Caledonia Rd – Main to Dumbarton
Castleton Cres – Breeze to Civic 22
Castleton Crt – Breeze to Cul De Sac
Clarence St – Lahey to Albro Lake
Commodore Dr – Eileen Stubbs to Hwy 118
Ethel Crt – John Brenton to End
Forest Crt – Gertrude to End
Gourok Ave – Montrose to Culrain
Jackson Rd – Leaman to Victoria
Lahey Rd – Farrell to Clarence
Lawson Ave – Athorpe to Valleyfield
Leaman Dr – Albro Lake to Crystal
Lockes Rd – Waverley to End
Saratoga Dr – Lexington to Walnut Hall
Tacoma Dr – Gordon to Main
Valleyfield Rd – Woodlawn to Tacoma
Wilkinson Ave – 400m N Cutler to End
Woodlawn Rd – Main to Mount Edward
Wright Ave – Windmill to MacDonald (Micro Prep)
Wright Ave – Burnside to 100m past Williams (Micro Prep)

SHANNON PARK UPDATE

Canada Lands has now submitted a development agreement application that envisions the creation of 26 new city blocks, commercial and park space, and housing for up to 7,000 new residents. The application is now in the public consultation phase.

You can provide your input by contacting the municipal planner by email at macdoude@halifax.ca, or phone at 902-240-7085, or you can visit our website for the Shape Your City survey at: www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/planning-applications.



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RAINBOW CROSSWALKS

I was happy to support the painting of 3 rainbow crosswalks from the District 6 capital funds. The new locations for the rainbow crosswalks are across Main Street at the intersection of Hartlen Street, Highfield Park Drive across from the fire station, and across Waverley Road at Montebello Drive.

WATER MONITORING PROGRAM

With a desire to better monitor lake water quality, I tabled a motion for a staff report to consider reinstating the former lake monitoring and sampling program. Since water quality monitoring is an essential component to successful management of water resources, my goal in reinstating this program for our lakes was to ensure water quality and proper monitoring to establish benchmarks and catch potential issues early. At the June 3rd Environment and Sustainability Committee meeting, the Committee recommended that Council direct the CAO to adopt and implement a detailed water quality monitoring program, with the aim to test 73 lakes in the municipality. This is good news for our Dartmouth lakes and the residents who enjoy them. The monitoring would be done twice a year by community groups and volunteers, with the data and test results being organized by HRM and made available to the public. Infrastructure setup would start this year, with water testing to begin next year.

DON BAYER OFF-LEASH AREA

As a dog owner I agree with other dog owners that we need more 'Off-Leash Dog Parks' in the municipality. We now have a strategy that identifies building more off-leash areas. Our first new off leash dog park was scheduled to start in 2020 at Don Bayer Field in Burnside near Leon's. Unfortunately, this was delayed due to COVID-19. This summer, the design work will be completed and then construction is planned for the spring of 2022. The design is to include fenced in off-leash areas for large dogs and another area for smaller dogs, and on-leash trails. The Shubie Park off-leash area has become congested. It has turned into a regional off leash park and that was never the intention of that park. Hopefully the Don Bayer Off-Leash area will help to reduce the volume at Shubie Park. I believe after Don Bayer there will be a location in Eastern Passage.

TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECTS

We have a very ambitious traffic calming program planned for this year, and I wanted share with you a summary of the work planned in our district for this construction season:

- Brigadoon Ave. from Main St. to Mount Edward Rd. (Bump Outs at cross streets)
- Helene Ave. from Strath Ln. to Main St. (Speed Tables)
- Raymoor Dr. from Strath Ln. to Main St. (Speed Tables)
- Carver St. from Day Ave. to Portland St. (Speed Tables)
- Guysborough Ave. from Main St. to Spikenard St. (Speed Tables, currently under review by Halifax Fire)
- Belle Vista Dr. from Waltdale Dr. to Spring Ave. (2 Speed Humps in the school zones)

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY - MONTEBELLO AND WAVERLEY

The installation of a Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) at the corner of Montebello Drive and Waverley Road has been approved. An LPI is a timing option used for pedestrian signals that turns the "walk" signal on before the adjacent vehicle signal, giving a five second "head start" to pedestrians. This head start gives pedestrians an advantage over turning vehicles at intersections and can help improve driver yielding behaviour as pedestrians are better able to establish their presence within the crosswalk.

ILLEGAL DUMPING AND LITTER ABATEMENT

On April 6th, Regional Council gave Second Reading to my motion: Proposed By-law S-612, an Amendment to By-law S-600, Solid Waste Resource Collection and Disposal By-law – Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement and adopted By-Law S-612, which includes fines from \$500 to \$10,000.

The goals of the amendments are to:

- Place the municipality in a leadership role to address an issue of concern for residents and businesses;
- Reduce the burden on victims by holding more offenders accountable to remedy/clean-up; and
- Heighten the profile of enforcement activities to deter future violations/activity.

This motion establishes new rules around illegal dumping, new fines, and dedicated personnel to follow up on complaints.



Delivery Note:

Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.