

Re: Item No. 15.1.9

**HALIFAX**

# **Expansion of Affordable Housing Grant Program**

Regional Council  
September 28, 2021

# Affordable Housing AO

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- On September 30, 2020 Regional Council approved Administrative Order 2020-008-ADM, Respecting Grants for Affordable Housing
- The grant provides funding for the development or renovation of non-profit affordable residential units
- The program was originally created as a means to allocate cash-in-lieu for affordable housing collected through the incentive or bonus zoning program
  - funds collected through the incentive or bonus zoning program must be allocated within the Regional Centre

# 2021/22 Affordable Housing Grant Program

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- As part of HRM's 2021/22 budget approval, \$200,000 of the cash-in-lieu collected for affordable housing, was allocated to this year's Affordable Housing Grant program
- Staff are recommending that the CAO be authorized to administer this additional \$200,000 for projects anywhere within the Municipality using the same eligibility criteria, application process, and approval process as set out in the Affordable Housing AO.
- This will result in the allocation of a total of \$400,000
  - \$200,000 must be allocated within the Regional Centre
  - \$200,000 can be allocated anywhere within the Municipality

# 2021/22 Affordable Housing Grant Program

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## Next Steps

- The Affordable Housing Grant Program is currently accepting applications
  - Deadline of December 1, 2021
- Staff will prioritize applications based on the project's ability to start construction within the next year in addition to other criteria outlined in the Affordable Housing AO.
- Staff hope to award funding in early 2022

# Recommendation

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1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$200,000.00 from the 2021/22 operating budget for Planning and Development to affordable housing projects throughout the municipality; and
2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or delegate, to administer grants to affordable housing projects throughout the municipality from the funds allocated in recommendation #1 using the eligibility criteria, application process, approval process, and conditions of payment and approval set out in Administrative Order 2020-008-ADM, Respecting Grants for Affordable Housing, including the authority to approve grants, determine the amount of such grants, and approve and execute contribution agreements for such grants.

**Thank You**

**HALIFAX**