



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE
DISTRICT 10 ONLINE NEWS
 HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

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RESTORING THE SHORELINE

A new management plan for Kearney Lake could become a model for other lakes in HRM. The plan proposes improving water quality in the lake by restoring native vegetation along the shoreline next to Kearney Lake Road. The plan also proposes installing floating rafts of plants selected for their ability to remove pollution, an innovative solution being tried in other cities. The main type of pollution in Kearney Lake is phosphorus. If phosphorus levels continue to

go up, Kearney Lake is likely to get algae blooms so prevention is key.

Sources of phosphorus can be hard to identify. They include runoff from construction sites, roads and lawns, especially artificially fertilized lawns. By planting grasses and shrubs along Kearney Lake’s rocky shoreline, some of the phosphorus runoff from the road will be absorbed and reduced. Phosphorus already in the lake can be removed by installing “floating treatment wetlands”, rafts of special plants that absorb the phosphorus through their roots and store it in their leaves.



HRM’s new water specialist wrote the Kearney Lake report in response to a motion I introduced about a year ago. The report includes recommendations for



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engaging communities in lake and watershed planning across HRM. The report was approved by council on August 23 and by next year Kearney Lake will become an important testing ground for improving water quality and lake management across the municipality. For a deeper dive, [here's a link to the Kearney Lake report.](#)

OTTAWA COMMITS TO BLUE MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS PARK

There was an [exciting announcement at the Maskwa Aquatic Club in August.](#) The federal and provincial Ministers of Environment chose the Kearney Lake canoe club (which borders Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes) as the location to commit to protecting the area as Nova Scotia's first National Urban Wilderness Park. There is still a long way to go to make the Blue Mountain Urban Wilderness Park a reality, but the announcement was an important milestone. The Ministers also committed to protecting more of Nova Scotia's old growth forests, coastal areas, and ecological corridors for wildlife. **Congratulations** to the Friends of Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes, Ecology Action Centre, Nova Scotia Nature Trust, CPAWS and all those who have been working so hard for so many years to get to this point.

COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING WITH NEW HRP COMMANDER + MAINLAND TRAIL BIKE PATROL

I met recently with Mo Chediac, the new West Divisional Commander and Staff Sergeant in charge of the Public Safety Unit. Staff Sergeant Chediac has served with Halifax Regional Police for 21 years and was a patrol officer for many of those years in West

Division (Bedford to Sambro Loop), so he's very familiar with Fairview, Clayton Park and Rockingham. He has a wide range of policing experience with a focus on traffic safety, having managed the Traffic Services Unit and crosswalk programs, and has worked on the provincial and municipal traffic policy teams. Recently, [Staff Sgt Chediac was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal](#) in recognition of his service to Nova Scotia. In his spare time Staff Sergeant Chediac is the Provincial Director for Special Olympics Canada (Law Enforcement Torch Run).

In his new role Staff Sergeant, Chediac will meet with community stakeholders, do planning related to crime prevention and coordinate the work of HRP's Community Response Officers. During our meeting at City Hall, we discussed a whole range of district issues from fireworks to speeding to improving security on the Mainland Trail (where there was a stabbing in July).

In August, HRP started bike patrols on the Mainland Trail. Community Response Officer Constable Jenna Clarke says she'll be on the trail as her schedule and other duties permit. I'm very much looking forward to working with Staff Sergeant Chediac and Constable Clarke.





210 WILLETT: FIRST NOISE-FREE WEEKEND

Early in August, Lindsay Construction agreed to reduce the hours of blasting and rock moving at 210 Willett in response to noise complaints from residents. Lindsay sent me a letter committing to no construction on Sundays as well as no construction every second Saturday until Sept 30th. Plans may change in October, but the company is hoping to make these late summer weekends better for residents by voluntarily reducing their work hours.

Recently, Regional Council recently passed bylaw amendments to require noisy construction work to stop earlier (8:00 p.m. instead of at 9:30 p.m. on weekdays).

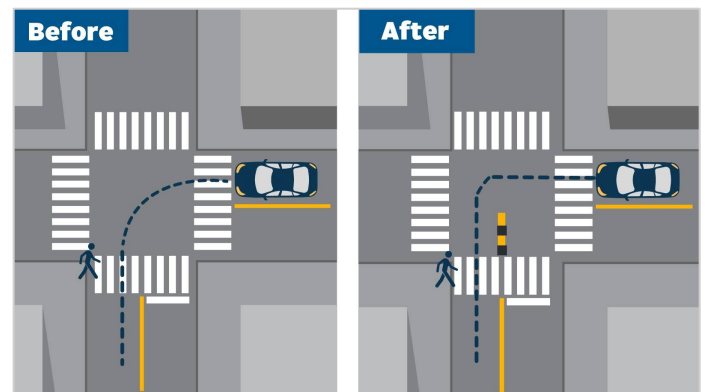
TRAFFIC CALMING – CHANGES TO HOW STREETS ARE ASSESSED

A new Traffic Calming Administrative Order (AO) was approved by Regional Council to better balance emphasis on all road users when considering which streets should receive traffic calming features.

In the past, vehicle speed was the primacy factor for ranking streets in order of implementation. The new policy provides increased emphasis on mode share, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and collision history. All streets have been re-ranked under the new policy. [Check out the new ranking list](#). You can also read the [Administrative Order](#) for even more details.

INTRODUCING LEFT-TURN TRAFFIC CALMING

Left-turning traffic calming is intended to slow vehicle speeds and tighten the turn radius of vehicles when turning left, temporary speed bumps will be installed as an extension of the centreline.



This fall, HRM will be introducing left-turn traffic calming in six intersections across the city, starting as a **pilot project**. These intersections include: Lacewood Drive and Dunbrack Street; Lacewood Drive and Parkland Drive; Joseph Howe Drive and Dutch Village Road; Main Street and Major Street; South Park Street and Spring Garden Road; Cobequid Road and Glendale Drive. If you're driving, approach the intersection as usual and wait until the crosswalk is clear and there is a gap in traffic before turning left. Drive around the speed bumps and complete the turn. [Learn more about how we're improving road safety across the municipality](#).







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GRASS CUTTING & FIELD MAINTENANCE

HRM's Parks staff has created brand new webpages to outline service standards and information on grass cutting and sports field maintenance across the municipality. You can check out either webpage to learn about these items and access frequently asked questions!

 **GRASS CUTTING:** HRM staff cut the grass at 2,500 individual sites across the region and maintain over 75 million cumulative square meters of grass each year from May to October. [Find information on our grass cutting program here.](#)

 **SPORTS FIELDS:** Did you know that the municipality maintains over 300 sports fields and ball diamonds every year? [Find information on maintenance standards for a sports field or ball diamond in your community.](#)

REC FALL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Fall 2022 HRM REC registration has begun for dryland activities, aquatics and skating. Don't miss out - [Learn more and sign up here.](#) Please note that registration times for activities at the Canada Games Centre, Cole Harbour Place, Zatzman Sportsplex and St. Margarets Centre take place at different dates and times. Please visit their websites directly for this information.

INTRODUCING THE YOUTH WORX PROGRAM


Get 24 weeks of paid work experience, training, and skill building with Youth Worx! The Youth Worx Program (formally called Youth Live) provides youth who face barriers to employment with training and mentorship in a supportive environment. Participants gain hands-on work experience and improve their skills through job readiness workshops while earning an income. Apply by

September 26 for our October 2022 program. Applicants must be between 16-24 years of age. [Learn more here.](#)



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BUS OPERATOR RECRUITMENT

Halifax Transit is still looking for more drivers!  Do you enjoy interacting with the public, work that's always changing, and making a difference? Are you looking for meaningful work with full-time hours, pension and benefits? Consider becoming an operator with Halifax Transit. [Learn more and apply today.](#)

LET'S CONNECT

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