



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 15.4.2
Halifax Regional Council
December 13, 2022

TO: Mayor Savage Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed
Councillor Patty Cuttell, Chair, Community Planning & Economic
Development Standing Committee

DATE: November 29, 2022

SUBJECT: **Halifax Public Gardens Proposal**

ORIGIN

November 17, 2022 meeting of Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee, Item 10.3.2.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Legislative Authority is outlined in the attached supplemental staff report dated November 14, 2022.

Administrative Order One, Respecting the Procedures of Council, Schedule 3 Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee Terms of Reference:

1. (1) The purpose of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee is to recommend to the Council directions to support Community and Economic life “making HRM the most livable community in which to live, work and play”.

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Engage with other tenants, stakeholders and the public to obtain feedback on the project as presented at the November 17, 2022 Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee presentation from the Board of the Halifax Public Gardens Foundation; and
2. Prepare a staff report assessing the proposal for incorporation into further development of the Wanderer’s Block within the context of the 2022 Halifax Common Master Plan as approved in

RECOMMENDATION CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

principle, and identifying possible funding sources, and exploring governance models for the Public Gardens as a whole.

BACKGROUND

Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee received a presentation from Robert Pace, Chair of the Board of Public Gardens Foundation at the November 17, 2022 meeting to consider a proposal for a public greenhouse.

For further information refer to the attached presentation circulated at the November 17, 2022 meeting.

DISCUSSION

Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee considered the presentation dated November 17, 2022 and approved the recommendation to Halifax Regional Council as outlined in this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications will be further explored in a future staff report.

RISK CONSIDERATION

Risk consideration will be further explored in a future staff report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Meetings of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee are open to public attendance and members of the public are invited to address the Standing Committee for up to five (5) minutes during the Public Participation portion of the meeting. Meetings are live webcast on Halifax.ca. The agenda, reports, video, and minutes of the Standing Committee are posted on Halifax.ca.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Environmental implications will be further explored in a future staff report.

ALTERNATIVES

Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee did not provide alternatives.

Alternatives will be further explored in a future staff report.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Presentation circulated at the November 17, 2022 meeting

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office 902.292.3962

Attachment 1

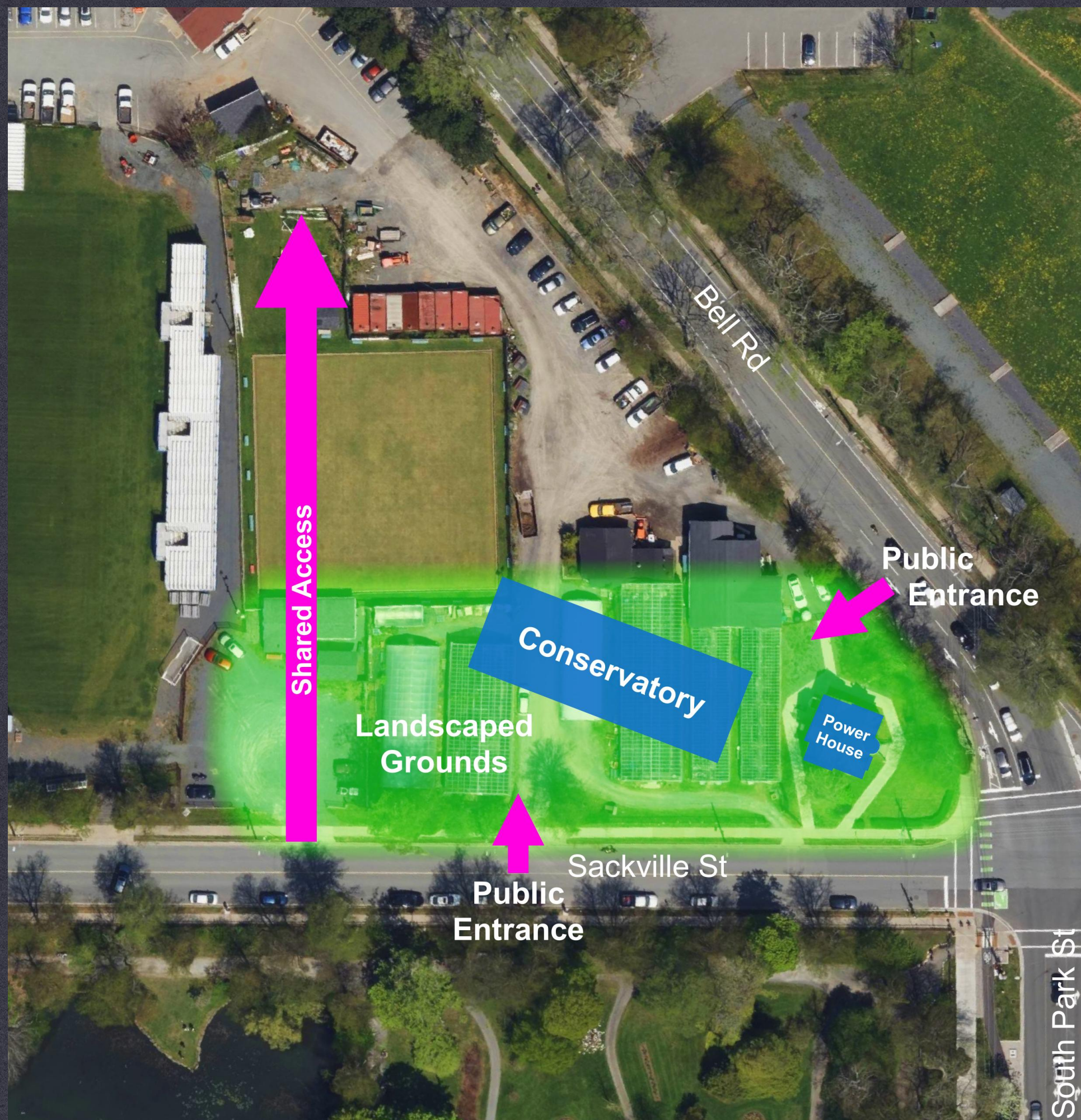
PROPOSAL

HALIFAX PUBLIC GARDENS

Introduction

- * my involvement with the gardens
- * current challenges
 - * utilizing gardens' potential
 - * increasing hrm population
 - * wanderers block/halifax common
 - * cost of improvements





PROJECT

PROPOSAL PUBLIC CONSERVATORY

DATE

SPRING 2024 COMPLETION

OWNER

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Opportunities

- * 12,000 sq ft victorian era public greenhouse
- * 11,000 sq ft underground maintenance facility
- * public visitation
 - * pleasure and respite
 - * public classes/education
 - * winter garden
 - * public gardens interpretation program
- * horticultural students
- * hospital - recovering patients and families



Financials

- * anticipated \$8m investment
- * investment from
 - * government of canada
 - * province of nova scotia
 - * private fundraising
 - * hrm

Policy and Governance

- * halifax common master plan (2022)
 - * goal of making wanderers block more public
 - * council directed staff to find a solution
 - * public gardens conservancy partnership is a great starting place for changes to this public land

SEEKING

- **COUNCIL SUPPORT TO ADVANCE THIS IDEA**
- **COMMITMENT FOR \$2.5M FROM HRM**
- **SET UP WORKING COMMITTEE**
- **SET UP 30 DAY GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP**





THANK YOU