



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 15.9.1

Request for Council's Consideration		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor
Date of Council Meeting: December 13, 2022		
Subject: Navigator Program Expansion		
Motion for Council to Consider: That Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report on the potential expansion of the Street Navigator Program as requested by the Downtown Dartmouth, Downtown Halifax, North End, Spring Garden Road, and Quinpool Road Business Improvement Districts with a potential additional cost to HRM of \$100,000. The report should be provided to Council in time for consideration in the 2023/2024 budget		
Reason: The Navigator program is a program delivered by the Business Improvement Districts to assist street-involved residents. With surging numbers of unhoused people on our streets the existing Navigators have been stretched thin. The BIDs are requesting additional funding to provide for an additional navigator, resulting in a dedicated navigator for the Dartmouth side and a dedicated navigator for North End Halifax (currently one navigator covers both areas).		
Outcome Sought: Staff Recommendation Report		
<i>Deputy Mayor Sam Austin</i>	<i>District 5</i>	

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Halifax Urban BIDs regarding the Navigator Programs. Currently, the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) supports, the Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission (DDBC) Downtown & the North End Business Association (NEBA) with a shared Dartmouth/ North End Navigator Street Outreach Program (NSOP) and the Downtown Halifax Business Commission & Spring Garden Road Business Association with a shared Downtown Halifax/SGR Navigator Street Outreach Program.

The Navigator program has demonstrated results in our four districts and similar programs that exist in cities across North America. HRM currently supports each program annually with \$70,000 per year for a total contribution of \$140,000. The remaining budget for the program comes from the Business Improvement Districts.

The Navigator programs have experienced increased demands for service as more people face homelessness in our Municipality. Our districts have significant populations of street involved, homeless or precariously housed individuals that sometimes have difficulties accessing necessary services. The outreach program has also facilitated training and education for the business community to assist in resolving potential issues in a positive manner with street involved individuals.

We are writing to request HRM support for an additional Navigator to serve Downtown Dartmouth and Northend Dartmouth enabling the two existing Navigators to focus on individuals needing assistance on the Peninsula. The cost to HRM for the additional Navigator would be \$100,000, each of the BID would continue to contribute \$15,000 to the programs. We would also like your support for offering Navigators to other BIDs as the need arises.

Halifax Regional Municipality's financial support for the proposal will make it sustainable.
Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Rissesco, MBA, LPM
(He/Him)
Chief Executive Officer
Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission
Pu'namoqwati'jk – Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
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