

## Item No. 2

Halifax Regional Council  
December 13, 2022

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Original Signed by 

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Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** November 28, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Legislative Update – 2022 Fall Sitting

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### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

2022 fall sitting of the Provincial Legislature.

#### LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The relevant statutes for each legislative request are outlined in the discussion section of this report or in the attached legislative request tracking sheet (Attachment A).

#### BACKGROUND

Halifax Regional Municipality was created by, and gets its authority from, the Province of Nova Scotia. As a result, when the Municipality seeks to take an action outside the scope of its delegated authority, it must request that the province grant such authority through new legislation, legislative amendments, or by requesting that the province undertake an action on the Municipality's behalf.

Regional Council has a number of outstanding legislative requests with the province, with the oldest dating to 2008. Council's legislative requests are tracked by Government Relations and External Affairs (GRE), who work with staff across the organization to coordinate efforts to advance these requests. Following sittings of the Provincial Legislature, Council is provided with a report which outlines relevant legislative changes with potential impacts on the Municipality, as well as updates on the status of outstanding requests.

The 2022 Fall Sitting of the Legislature commenced on October 13, 2022 and concluded on November 9, 2022. During the fall sitting, twenty-one (21) government bills were passed, nine (9) of which have relevant implications or direct impacts on HRM. These include:

1. Bill No. 204 – Amendments to *Municipal Government Act* and *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* (Marketing levy);
2. Bill No. 225 – Amendments to *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* (Authority to nullify by-laws);
3. Bill No. 222 - *Housing Supply and Services Act* (Provincial housing amalgamation);

4. Bill No. 223 - *Municipal Finance Corporation Dissolution Act*;
5. Bill No. 214 - *Invest Nova Scotia Act* (Provincial economic development amalgamation);
6. Bill No. 215 - Amendments to *Invest Nova Scotia Board Act* (Provincial economic development amalgamation);
7. Bill No. 216 - *Build Nova Scotia Act* (Provincial economic development amalgamation);
8. Bill No. 211 – Amendments to *Builders' Lien Act* (Prompt payment adjudication); and
9. Bill No. 203 – Amendments to *Labour Standards Code* (Unpaid Leave for End of pregnancy).

An overview of these legislative changes is provided in the Discussion section below. The legislative overviews provided are not exhaustive but convey salient aspects of the new and/or amended legislation.

Prior to the 2022 fall sitting, HRM had thirteen (13) active legislative requests submitted to the province for consideration. Two (2) of these requests were addressed, either in whole or in part, by legislation approved during the fall sitting. Both of these requests relate to the *Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act*, which were addressed by Bill 204, discussed further below. An updated legislative tracking sheet is included with this report (Attachment A).

## **DISCUSSION**

1. Bill No. 204 – Amendments to the *Municipal Government Act* and *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* (Marketing Levy)

Bill 204 introduces amendments to the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* (HRM Charter) and the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA), which concern the ability of municipalities to charge a marketing levy on the purchase price of hotel and other accommodations for the purposes of supporting local tourism activities. The changes in Bill 204 are intended to make a consistent legislative authority for municipal marketing levies across the province. The amendments also respond to two key legislative requests from Council: (1) the ability to apply the levy to accommodations consisting of 20 rooms or less, and (2) increasing the cap on the levy.

Prior to Bill 204, HRM's authority to impose a marketing levy came under the *Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act* (HRMMLA). The HRMMLA enabled HRM to implement a 2 per cent levy on accommodations consisting of 20 rooms or more; a limitation which excluded most short-term rentals. HRM's current marketing levy by-law ([By-Law H-400](#)) reflects these requirements. Money collected under the levy is divided, with 60 per cent going to fund the activities of Discover Halifax and the remaining 40 per cent going to HRM's Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve.

Bill 204 repeals the HRMMLA, with many of the provisions being moved into the HRM Charter and MGA. Unlike the HRMMLA, the new HRM Charter provisions enable the levy to be applied to all rental accommodations that are required to register under the *Tourist Accommodations Registration Act* (TARA). This includes accommodations consisting of under 20 rooms; a change which addresses an outstanding legislative request from Council dating from 2020. Recently proclaimed TARA amendments<sup>1</sup> additionally remove the exemption for accommodations operating in a primary residence so that all short-term rentals with a fixed-roof are now required to register under TARA.

The new HRM Charter provisions additionally raise the maximum levy cap from 2 per cent to 3 per cent of the purchase price of an accommodation. This partially addresses another legislative request from Council dating from 2021, which sought to have the cap removed. While the amendments in Bill 204 fall short of this, the new 3 per cent cap aligns with HRM's recently endorsed [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) with the Hotel Association of Nova Scotia (HANS). Under the MOU, the parties agreed to an updated

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<sup>1</sup> 2022 amendments to the *Tourist Accommodations Registration Act*:  
<https://nslegislature.ca/sites/default/files/legc/PDFs/annual%20statutes/2022%20Spring/c029.pdf>

tourism funding framework under which the levy would be raised to 3 per cent (pending the necessary legislative changes from the province), with HRM agreeing to provide matching funding.

With these HRM Charter amendments, staff will be initiating the process to amend By-Law H-400 in accordance with the MOU and prior Council direction. Bill 204 provides that existing by-laws are preserved until the earlier of when they are replaced or one (1) year elapses.

Link to Bill No. 204: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-204>

## 2. Bill No. 225 – Amendments to the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* (Authority to Nullify By-laws)

Bill 225 introduces amendments to the HRM Charter that enable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to nullify HRM by-laws, or part of a by-law, where the Minister determines that it is appropriate to facilitate housing development. Specifically, the new provisions will enable the province to nullify a HRM by-law where the Minister:

- determines that the by-law would impact housing or development;
- determines that it is in the public interest of the province to nullify the by-law; and
- so orders within six (6) months from the date the by-law or part of the by-law is enacted.

The by-law is of no force or effect as of the date of the Minister's order. A Minister's order under the provision must be provided to Regional Council in writing. Council is then required to publish notice of the Minister's order in a newspaper circulating in the Municipality. A by-law nullified pursuant to the new provisions may not be re-enacted by the Municipality within one (1) year following the date of the Minister's order, unless approval from the Minister is obtained.

Bill 225 further states that the new provisions do not trigger the provincial requirement under section 382 of the HRM Charter to consult with the Municipality regarding HRM Charter amendments. HRM was not consulted on Bill 225 and only received notice of the proposed amendments on the evening prior to the Bill being introduced to the Legislature.

An amendment to Bill 225 was introduced by the Minister during the legislative process to respond to concerns raised by the African Nova Scotian Decade for People of African Descent Coalition, among other community stakeholders. The amendment added the following requirement for exercising the new Ministerial authority under the HRM Charter:

(2) Where a by-law or part of a by-law exclusively impacts marginalized community ties, including African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq communities, the Minister shall conduct consultations with representatives of the impacted communities to ensure the protection of the communities before making an order under subsection (1) respecting that by-law or part of a by-law.

In introducing Bill 225, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing noted that the new provincial authority was primarily aimed at preventing recent amendments to HRM's noise by-law ([By-law N-200](#)). These amendments (By-law N-207) would see weekday construction hours end at 8 p.m. rather than 9:30 p.m., subject to exceptions. However, the authority granted to the Minister under Bill 225 is much broader in scope, with the potential to impact other by-laws recently amended or enacted by Council. Staff continue to assess potential impacts of the new HRM Charter provisions.

Link to Bill No. 225: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-225>

3. Bill No. 222 - Housing Supply and Services Act (Nova Scotia Provincial Housing Agency)

Bill 222, the *Housing and Supply Services Act*, will amalgamate the five (5) regional housing authorities to create a new Crown Corporation called the Nova Scotia Provincial Housing Agency. The new Agency will be responsible for the administration and maintenance of public housing across the province. The existing housing authority boards will be dissolved and a new advisory board for the Agency will be appointed. The Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing (DMAH) will provide oversight for the new Agency, while all non-public housing programs will be transferred from Housing Nova Scotia to DMAH.

The new legislation will be effective on December 1, 2022, except for the transfer of assets and liabilities, and the repeal of the *Housing Nova Scotia Act*. DMAH staff anticipate that the Agency will be operational by the end of 2022. The creation of an arm's length independent provincial housing entity was a key recommendation from the [2021 report from the Nova Scotia Affordable Housing Commission](#).

HRM is currently required to make mandatory contributions to cover the operating deficit of the Metropolitan Regional Housing Authority. DMAH staff have noted that existing financial agreements with the current housing authorities will not change as a result of the amalgamation. Staff continue to engage with the province to clarify and assess potential impacts on HRM.

Link to Bill No. 222: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-222>

4. Bill No. 223 - Municipal Finance Corporation Dissolution Act

Bill 223, the *Municipal Finance Corporation Dissolution Act*, dissolves the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC), transitioning much of its function to the Department of Finance and Treasury Board. The primary mandate of the MFC was to provide capital financing as well as financial management assistance to municipalities in Nova Scotia. When providing municipalities with debt financing, the MFC required approvals from both a municipality's Council as well as the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing as a prerequisite for issuing debentures.

The Bill will amend the *Finance Act* to provide the Minister of Finance and Treasury Board with the authority to issue debentures to municipalities and municipal enterprises through a Municipal Fund; assuming the primary function of the MFC.

Bill 223 additionally introduces amendments to both the HRM Charter and the MGA that duplicate provisions in the *Municipal Finance Corporation Act*, which will be repealed. These provisions relate to restrictions on the issuing of bonds, debentures and securities, as well as the default of payment by municipalities, among other housekeeping amendments.

HRM regularly receives debt financing by debenture through the MFC as part of the capital budget process. Staff do not anticipate that the changes resulting from Bill 223 will adversely impact HRM, as the changes are primarily administrative in nature.

Link to Bill No. 223: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-223>

5. Bills No. 214 - Invest Nova Scotia Act, No. 215 - Amendments to the Invest Nova Scotia Board Act, and No. 216 - Build Nova Scotia Act (Provincial Economic Development Amalgamation)

Collectively, Bills 214 (*Invest Nova Scotia Act*), 215 (*Amendments to Invest Nova Scotia Board Act*), and 216 (*Build Nova Scotia Act*) will formalize a [previously announced](#) reorganization and amalgamation of five (5) provincial economic development and infrastructure organizations to become two (2) new Crown Corporations: Invest Nova Scotia and Build Nova Scotia. The reorganization involves Develop Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Lands, Nova Scotia Business Inc., Innovacorp and the Invest Nova Scotia Fund.

The new Invest Nova Scotia will consolidate the work of Nova Scotia Business Inc. and Innovacorp. Its mandate will cover a range of services aimed at supporting businesses, such as business development and attracting new investment. The Invest Nova Scotia Fund will be renamed the “Community Economic Development Fund” and will be managed by the Department of Economic Development. Oversight of Invest Nova Scotia will be vested in the Minister of Economic Development with the support of an advisory board.

Build Nova Scotia will consolidate the work of Develop Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Lands. Its mandate will focus on the province’s strategic infrastructure, including healthcare redevelopment, high-speed Internet and environmental remediation. Oversight of Build Nova Scotia will be vested in the Minister of Public Works, with the support of an advisory board.

Both organizations will be operational by December 1, 2022.

HRM and the Halifax Partnership regularly engage with provincial economic development entities as part of the ongoing work in advancing Halifax’s Inclusive Economic Strategy 2022-2027. Staff do not anticipate substantial impacts on HRM resulting from the provincial reorganization at this time. While the changes are largely administrative in nature, they remove arm’s-length governance boards for the amalgamated organizations, replacing them with Ministerial oversight with support from advisory boards.

Link to Bill No. 214: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/assembly-64-session-1/bill-214>

Link to Bill No. 215: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/assembly-64-session-1/bill-215>

Link to Bill No. 216: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/assembly-64-session-1/bill-216>

#### 6. Bill No. 211 – Amendments to the *Builders’ Lien Act* (Prompt Payment Adjudication)

Bill 211 introduces amendments to the *Builders’ Lien Act*, which applies to most municipal land, with the exception of a public street or highway. The Bill seeks to facilitate swifter payments for materials and services rendered in the construction industry by creating another avenue to resolve specific contract disputes in lieu of court. The changes enable the province to appoint an external body to adjudicate disputes between developers, contractors, subcontractors and suppliers. The amendments define the scope of disputes that can be referred to adjudication, which include those relating to the value of services or materials provided under a contract and disputes related to payment.

The changes in Bill 211 build upon previous amendments to the *Builders’ Lien Act* approved in 2019<sup>2</sup>, which introduced a prompt payment scheme to the Act. The prompt payment provisions are geared towards avoiding undue delay in payments to contractors and subcontractors. The 2019 amendments are yet to be proclaimed. Bill 211 adds to the prompt payment provisions by further clarifying the adjudication process, as outlined above.

The amendments in Bill 211 will take effect on proclamation and once supporting regulations are developed to establish timelines and other specifics for the new adjudicative process. The province has noted that it will consult with stakeholders, including municipalities and sectors that manage infrastructure, on the development of the supporting regulations.

Link to Bill No. 211: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-211>

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<sup>2</sup> 2019 amendments to the *Builders’ Lien Act*: [https://nslegislature.ca/legc/bills/63rd\\_2nd/3rd\\_read/b119.htm](https://nslegislature.ca/legc/bills/63rd_2nd/3rd_read/b119.htm)

7. Bill No. 203 – Amendments to the *Labour Standards Code* (Unpaid Leave for End of Pregnancy)

Bill 203 introduces amendments to the NS *Labour Standards Code*, which will provide a protected unpaid leave of absence for employees who experience a pregnancy that “ends other than as a result of a live birth”. The new provisions will provide employees with access to:

- an unpaid leave of up to five (5) consecutive working days for a pregnancy which does not result in a live birth, or
- an unpaid leave of up to sixteen (16) weeks if their pregnancy ends after the 19<sup>th</sup> week.

An employee would be eligible for an unpaid leave of up to five (5) consecutive working days when:

- their pregnancy ends;
- their spouse or partner’s pregnancy ends;
- their former spouse or partner’s pregnancy ends if they would have been the biological parent;
- they would have become a parent of a child, born as a result of the pregnancy, under a surrogacy agreement; or
- they would have become a parent of a child, born as a result of the pregnancy, by means of an intended adoption pursuant to the laws of the province.

The amendments will come into effect on January 1, 2023.

Link to Bill No. 203: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-203>

**Additional Highlights from 2022 Fall Sitting**

Other notable highlights from the 2022 fall sitting are outlined below. Refer to the links for greater detail.

- [Bill No. 198](#) (Amendments to *Emergency Management Act* and *Emergency 911 Act*) – Introduces requirements for local telecom companies to take greater precautions to provide continued phone and communications service, including to 911, during an emergency event.
- [Bill No. 206](#) (Amendments to *Underground Hydrocarbons Storage Act*) - Expands the scope of the Act to pave the way for the production, storage of compressed air energy and use of hydrogen as a clean energy source in the province.
- [Bill No. 207](#) (Amendments to *Electricity Act*) - Expands the scope of the Act to pave the way for the production and use of hydrogen as a clean energy source in the province.
- [Bill No. 208](#) (Amendments to *Environment Act*) – Enables the province to create an output-based carbon pollution pricing system for industry emitters in the province and removes the cap-and-trade program.
- [Bill No. 210](#) (Amendments to *Regulations Act*) – Enables electronic filing of regulations and use of digital signatures on documents filed with the Registrar of Regulations. Notice of laws, proclamations and other information published in the digital Royal Gazette will be considered official.
- [Bill No. 212](#) (Amendments to *Public Utilities Act*) – Imposes restrictions on power rate increases relating to Nova Scotia Power’s general rate application currently before the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for the period 2022-2024, as well as other measures to control utility profits.
- [Bill No. 228](#) (Amendments to *Public Utilities Act*) – Introduces amendments to strengthen the role and mandate of Efficiency Nova Scotia in supporting provincial clean energy goals.

Staff continue to meet regularly with the DMAH and other provincial departments to review and discuss Council's outstanding legislative requests, as well as engage in formal and informal consultations to help advance requests where possible.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications related to the content of this report.

**RISK CONSIDERATION**

N/A.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

No community engagement was required or undertaken in the development of this report.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – Halifax Regional Council Legislative Request Tracking Sheet - November 2022

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

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Report Approved by: Paul Johnston, Managing Director, GREA 902.240.2759

## Halifax Regional Council Legislative Requests [Last updated November 2022]

### Active Requests

Particulars of Request	
1.	<p><b><u>Crosswalk Penalties - Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></b></p> <p>Request for the Province to consider increasing non-monetary penalties for crosswalk violations.</p> <p><b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">March 10, 2015</a> – Item 11.5.3</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Heritage Conservation District Development Moratorium – Heritage Property Act</u></b></p> <p>Request that the Province amend the <i>Heritage Property Act</i> and Heritage Conservation Districts regulations, where appropriate, to authorize the Council to adopt a by-law that would suspend specific types of development, for a period not exceeding one (1) year, within the boundaries of an area that Council has identified as part of a background study to establish a Heritage Conservation District.</p> <p><b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">February 23, 2016</a> – Item 9.1.2</p>
3.	<p><b><u>Sanctions for Code of Conduct Breaches – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></b></p> <p><i>*May be enabled via regulations under development following <a href="#">Bill No. 50</a>.</i></p> <p>Request that the Province initiate legislative changes to the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> allowing for the ability to censure Members of Council by remitting remuneration for violations to AO 52, Code of Conduct for Municipal Officials.</p> <p><b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">September 20, 2016</a> – Item 14.4.1</p>
4.	<p><b><u>Parking Fines - Summary Offence Ticket Regulations</u></b></p> <p>Request that the Province amend the Summary Offence Ticket Regulations to increase parking fines for “other” parking types only; not inclusive parking meter violations, as outlined in Option 1, Attachment D (Appendix A) of the <a href="#">staff report dated February 10, 2017</a>, with the following amendment:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The requested increase to the fine amounts be amended so:</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(a) all Category A (parking) offences are increased from \$25.00 to \$50.00 (rather than \$45.00 as</p>



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	<p>recommended by Committee of the Whole);                  (b) all Category B (parking) offences are increased from \$50.00 to \$100.00; and                  (c) all Category C (parking) offences are increased from \$100.00 to \$200.00 rather than \$150.00.</p>
5.	<p><b><u>Dooring – Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></b>  <i>*May be addressed under new TSA Regulations.</i></p> <p>Request that the Province amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to prohibit people from opening their vehicle doors until it is reasonably safe to do so.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>Green Network Plan – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></b></p> <p>Request that the Province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i>, as set out in Actions 18 and 61 of the Halifax Green Network Plan, to:</p> <p>(a) enable the Municipality to acquire sensitive environmental lands (e.g. riparian areas, wetlands, steep slopes, etc.) as an environmental reserve through the land development and subdivision process, in addition to existing parkland dedication provisions; and</p> <p>(b) enable a greater range of legislative abilities, such as the ability to enact parkland dedication requirements based on density to address development that does not include the subdivision of land.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>Lobbyist Registry – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter/Lobbyist Registration Act</u></b></p> <p>Request staff engage with the Province regarding the possibility of an amendment to the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to expand the provincial <i>Lobbyist Registration Act</i> to include regulation of lobbying conducted at the local government level.</p>

**Halifax Regional Council Legislative Requests**  
*[Last updated November 2022]*

	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">October 2, 2018</a> – Item 14.3.2
<b>8.</b>	<b><u>Transportation Network Company Fees - Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></b> Request that the Province amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to enable the Municipality to charge Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) per-trip fees. This will enable the Municipality to generate additional revenues as part of the forthcoming regulation of TNCs like Uber and Lyft.
	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">January 14, 2020</a> – Item 15.3.1
<b>9.</b>	<b><u>Construction Mitigation Fund – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></b> Request that the Province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to enable HRM to establish a construction mitigation fund to assist with marketing and promotions for business impacted by lengthy construction projects, as well as to provide direct compensation to private sector businesses in those cases where reasonable parking and access cannot be maintained.
	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">February 25, 2020</a> – Item 15.1.7
<b>10.</b>	<b><u>Short-Term Rental Market Levy – Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act</u></b> <i>*Addressed during 2022 fall sitting by <a href="#">Bill No. 204</a>.</i> Request that the Province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act</i> to enable the Municipality to apply the marketing levy to operations consisting of less than 20 rooms or rental units.
	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">September 22, 2020</a> – Item 11.1.20
<b>11.</b>	<b><u>Halifax Water Fees for Non-profit Affordable Housing – Public Utilities Act</u></b> Request that the Province amend the <i>Public Utilities Act</i> to allow Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to give Halifax Water the ability to waive their fees for non-profit affordable housing.
	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">November 10, 2020</a> – Item 11.1.1

**Halifax Regional Council Legislative Requests**  
*[Last updated November 2022]*

12.	<p><b><u>Removal of Market Levy Cap – Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act</u></b>  <i>*Partially addressed during 2022 fall sitting by <a href="#">Bill No. 204</a>.</i></p> <p>Request that the Province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act</i> to remove the cap on the marketing levy.</p>
	<p><b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">February 23, 2021</a> – Item 11.2.1</p>
13.	<p><b><u>Photo Enforcement Radar – Traffic Safety Act</u></b></p> <p>That the CAO develop a program of photo enforcement in anticipation of the eventual proclamation of the <i>Traffic Safety Act</i> and in accordance with the recommendations set out in the January 2022 consulting report prepared by Stewart Solutions Inc., which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request that staff engage with the Province to establish the necessary framework, including legislation, to enable a successful photo enforcement program under the <i>Traffic Safety Act</i>.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">March 1, 2022</a> – Item 15.1.1</p>

**Inactive Requests**

Particulars of Request	
1.	<p><b><u>Heritage Registration Sunset Clause - Heritage Property Act</u></b></p> <p>Requesting sunset clause of 90 days for impact clerical errors have on heritage registration.</p>
	<p><b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">April 22, 2008</a> – Item 12.3</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Permanent Resident Municipal Voting Rights – Municipal Elections Act</u></b></p> <p>Include permanent residents as qualified electors to vote in municipal and school board elections in the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> and the <i>Municipal Elections Act</i>.</p>

**Halifax Regional Council Legislative Requests**  
*[Last updated November 2022]*

	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">December 2, 2014</a> – Item 11.1.4
<b>3.</b>	<p><b><u>Commercial Tax Options – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></b></p> <p>*Partially addressed during 2016 fall sitting by <a href="#">Bill 52</a>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Request that the Province make changes to legislation governing the assessment process so that (a) the annual valuation is averaged over a three-year period, or (b) the full assessment roll is updated every 3-4 years as is the current policy in Saskatchewan and Ontario.</li> <li>2) Request amendments to the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> that would provide Council with greater legislative authority in setting taxes and charges respecting the general tax rate and area rates for both residential and commercial properties.</li> <li>3) Request to work with Service Nova Scotia and the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) to change the commercial tax assessment so it is based on 3 past years of assessment rather than one year. This would increase predictability in annual commercial tax bills by evening out increases.</li> </ol>
	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">November 10, 2015</a> – Item 4
<b>4.</b>	<p><b><u>Traffic Control Persons for Special Events – Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></b></p> <p>Request that the Government of Nova Scotia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amend the Nova Scotia <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to permit Traffic Control Persons to direct the movement of traffic for special events;</li> <li>• Modify the Province’s training and accreditation processes to reflect special events-related roles for Traffic Control Persons and Temporary Workplace Signers; and ‘</li> <li>• Revise the Province’s TC Manual to include standards, principles and guidelines applicable to special events-related traffic control scenarios.</li> </ul>
	<b>Date of Request:</b> <a href="#">April 25, 2017</a> – Item 14.3.1
<b>5.</b>	<p><b><u>Speed Limits in Residential Areas – Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></b></p> <p>Request that the Province of Nova Scotia reduce the speed limit in residential districts identified in section 101(2) of the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to forty kilometres per hour (40 km/h).</p>

**Halifax Regional Council Legislative Requests**  
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	Date of Request: <a href="#">April 11, 2017</a> – Item 14.4.1