

★ Item 9.1

# Park Lighting Strategy

Youth Advisory Committee

June 15, 2023

Parks & Recreation

Policy & Planning

HALIFAX

# Origin

June 8, 2021 motion of Halifax Regional Council (Item Number 11.7.1) MOVED by Councillor Austin; seconded by Councillor Mancini; THAT Halifax Regional Council request a staff report on developing a park lighting strategy. The strategy should consider the need for policy changes around park usage, conditions/criteria in which lighting is needed, and a capital program for park upgrades.

# Origin

On August 23, 2022, staff recommended: that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a staff report and park lighting strategy to guide the design and implementation of walkway, facility, and decorative/placemaking lighting, pursuant to the scope of work as outlined within this report.

# Background

- More than 900 parks within the municipality within urban, suburban, and rural settings.
- Parks are used for recreation, but also operate as social spaces and main travel routes.
- Regional Council has raised several issues, including unsafe and anti-social behaviour, prioritizing parks, how Parks Bylaw 600 can reflect the use of park spaces after dark.
- Currently there is no formal process to consider lighting or where it may occur in parks.

# Park Lighting Situations



Pathways in Parks



Park Facilities



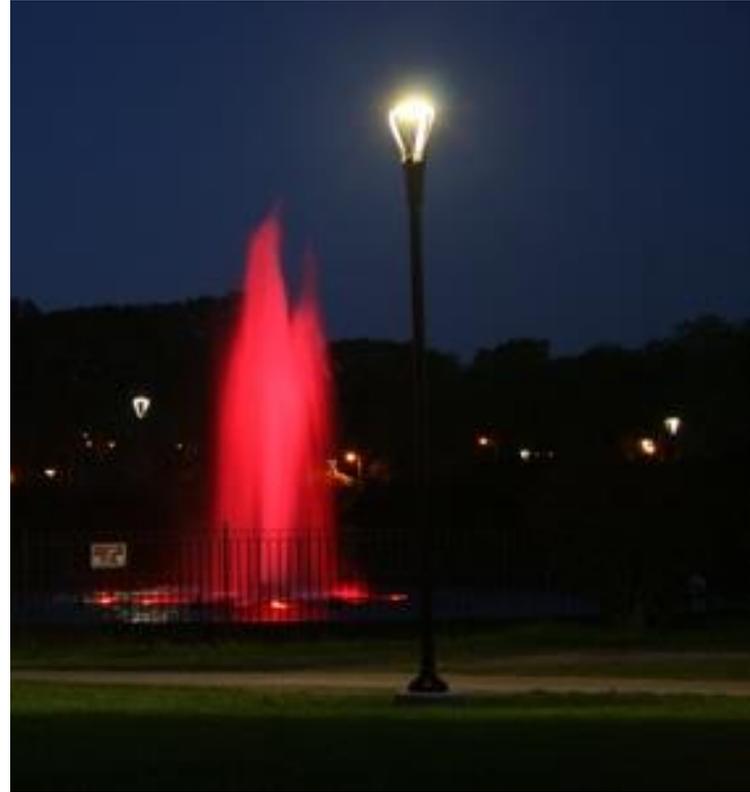
Placemaking/  
Decorative

# Project Contributors

Internal	External
Parks & Recreation	Business Improvement Districts
Diversity & Inclusion	Build Nova Scotia
Public Safety Office	HRCE
Active Transportation	RCMP, HRP
Facility Design and Construction	Public
Environment & Climate Change	

# Tentative Agenda

- Informal discussion to explore how lighting can influence the look, feel, and experience of park spaces after dark.



# Potential questions:

1. Is safety something that you consider when using a park space after dark? Does lighting contribute to your feelings of safety?
2. When you think about park lighting, how should it look and feel?
3. Are there things you want to do at night, but can't because of a lack of lighting, or poor lighting?
4. Are there specific lighting situations/examples that you consider to be good or bad?
5. How should parks be prioritized for lighting? For example, how do we place importance on one park over another?

# Next Steps

- A Shape Your City engagement program is underway.
  - [shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/park-lighting-strategy](https://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/park-lighting-strategy)
- Continue to meet with stakeholders.
- Possible changes to Parks By-law P-600, respecting nighttime use will be assessed.
- Presentation to Regional Council in early 2024.
- Contact me with any questions:  
[cushins@halifax.ca](mailto:cushins@halifax.ca)

