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Item No. 15.1.3
Halifax Regional Council
January 23, 2024

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 29, 2023

SUBJECT: **Navigator Program | Multi-Year Funding**

ORIGIN

Letter dated September 29, 2023, from the Downtown Halifax Business Commission (DHBC), North End Business Association (NEBA), Spring Garden Area Business Association (SGABA) and Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission (DDBC) requesting \$345K per annum funding in support of the Navigator Program (see Attachment 1).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, S.N.S. 2008, c. 39 provides:

Section 7A The purposes of the Municipality are to...

- (b) provide services, facilities, and other things that, in the opinion of the Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the Municipality; and
- (c) develop and maintain safe and viable communities.

Section 79A

(1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4), the Municipality may only spend money for municipal purposes if

- (a) the expenditure is included in the Municipality's operating budget or capital budget or is otherwise authorized by the Municipality;
- (b) the expenditure is in respect of an emergency under the *Emergency Management Act*; or
- (c) the expenditure is legally required to be paid.

(2) The Municipality may expend money provided for in an operating budget or capital budget for a purpose other than that set out in the operating budget or capital budget for that fiscal year if the expenditure does not affect the total of the amounts estimated for the operating budget and the capital budget.

(3) The Municipality may authorize expenditures from its operating budget or transfer money from the operating budget to its capital budget if the total amount of such expenditures and transfers for the fiscal year does not exceed the total amount of estimated revenue from all sources in excess of the amount estimated for those sources in the operating budget for that fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council

1. Direct the CAO to provide, for the fiscal year 2024-2025, in support of the Navigator Street Outreach Program, a total of \$345,000 (\$115,000 each) to the Downtown Halifax Business Commission, the Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission, and the North End Business Association, contingent on the approval of the 2024/25 Operating Budget. Such financial contribution is to be made using the Municipality's standard Contribution Agreement which is to include the key terms and conditions identified in Attachment 2 to this report.

BACKGROUND

NSO Overview

The Navigator Street Outreach program (NSO) program helps people, who are precariously housed, homeless, and/or street-involved, access housing, education, employment, mental health supports, addictions treatment, social programs, and healthcare. NSO staff check in regularly with individuals who are sleeping-rough, panhandling, and/or carrying out daily living activities on the streets. Moreover, NSO staff also provide supplies including tents, sleeping bags, food, medications and other forms of humanitarian aid.

Municipal Funding Request

Downtown Halifax Business Commission, North End Business Association, and Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission have collectively requested an annual municipal contribution in the amount of three-hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$345,000) to be provided in the 2024/2025, 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 fiscal years. The urban core BIDs propose increasing the funding for the two current Navigators from \$70,000 to \$115,000 and funding a third Navigator position at an additional cost of \$115,000.¹

Historical and Current NSO Funding

Since 2011, the municipality has supported the outreach component of Halifax's homeless-serving system by funding the NSO program (see Attachment 4). Historically, Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) have contributed funds and have secured community donations. In 2021, Regional Council approved multi-year grants (2021-2023) to support NSO in the urban core.² HRM's funding commitment for BID-managed outreach expires on March 31, 2024.

DISCUSSION

HRM is acting to address homelessness in the municipality and has developed a long-term framework to guide the municipality's go-forward response. Funding for an additional outreach and navigation position is consistent with current and anticipated homelessness strategic direction. Likewise, augmenting homeless resources aligns with HRM's Public Safety Strategy (2023-2026) which identifies support for street-involved people as one of seven strategic priorities.³ Outreach workers provide services to homeless people, while

¹ Staff have been advised that Business Improvement District go-forward contributions (2024-2026) would remain consistent with previous contribution levels at \$90 per annum (collectively).

² See [Item No. 11.1.3](#) Halifax Regional Council February 23, 2021

³ See [Item No. 15.1.8](#) Halifax Regional Council March 7, 2023.

also helping to reduce the social and economic costs of homelessness on businesses, residents, local government, and homeless people themselves.

Navigator Role in Homeless-Serving System of Care

NSO works collaboratively with HRM's Homeless-Serving System of Care (HSSC) to connect clients – NSO both receives referrals from HSSC organizations and refers clients to HSSC organizations. NSO works in collaboration with its partners to co-create individualized approaches to working with and/or for homeless and street-involved individuals. NSO engages in work that touches on all three segments of Halifax's homeless-serving system (i.e., emergency shelter/crisis services; homelessness prevention; and housing stability). NSO activities are summarized in Table 1 (see Attachment 3).

Homeless Encampments

As of October 2023, the municipality had over thirty (30) different encampments, of which ten (10) are now designated sheltering locations.⁴ For the foreseeable future, there will continue to be a segment of the HRM's population that will have no option but to sleep rough in encampments.⁵ As outlined in a prior staff report,⁶ HRM's encampment strategy includes multiple components including prevention, identification, education, collaborative support,⁷ intensive case management, compliance, and enforcement.⁸ Some encampment-related services are provided by the municipality, others by the province, and many by community service providers.

While service providers do provide intensive case management (ICM), local capacity is limited and does not meet current demand. NSO plays a critical role in HRM's encampment strategy, by helping to meet unmet (and escalating) need for intensive case management.⁹ NSO staff advocate on behalf of clients for support, services and benefits and engage in active problem solving around each person's preferences and challenges. In addition, NSO staff provide ongoing support through the provision of day-to-day supplies.

As outlined in a previous report, homeless encampments create challenges for the surrounding community. Communities around encampments struggle with the garbage and waste that is produced when people are forced to live outside, the loss of parks and other community spaces, the impact of panhandling, and the increased level of community disruption that can come with encampments.¹⁰ NSO staff can play a key role in diffusing tension, addressing disruption, and acting as compassionate, informed intermediaries for the nearby residential and business communities.

Winter Shelters and Temporary Housing Pilots

As recently reported, the Province of Nova Scotia (PNS) has announced that it is purchasing one hundred (100) Pallet Shelters for deployment in HRM¹¹ The PNS also recently announced a fifty-two (52) unit tiny home pilot community.¹² The PNS has further committed to operating an emergency shelter for the 2023 –

⁴ See [Item No. 15.1.5](#) Halifax Regional Council October 17, 2023. See also Designated Outdoor Sheltering Locations [overview](#) and [site map](#).

⁵ In July 2023, 178 people were sleeping rough in municipal parks and on municipal property (more than double the November 2022 count) and encampment occupation is growing.

⁶ See [Item No 15.1.5](#) Halifax regional Council June 14, 2022.

⁷ HRM's encampment specific commitments include providing access to services such as toilets, potable water, garbage cans and collection, needle boxes, and some form of dry storage.

⁸ The role of municipal compliance officers is to ensure that people sleeping rough follow the bylaws and any conditions set as part of the permission to camp in parks.

⁹ In simple terms, ICM involves helping clients maintain their housing and achieving an optimum quality of life through developing plans, enhancing life skills, addressing health and mental health needs, engaging in meaningful activities, and building social and community relations. See [here](#) for an overview of the Intensive Case Management (ICM) model.

¹⁰ See [Item No. 15.1.5](#) Halifax Regional Council October 17, 2023.

¹¹ See the PNS news release [More Funding for Supportive Housing, Shelter Options](#) (October 11, 2023).

¹² See PNS news release [Tiny Home Community for People Experiencing Homelessness](#) (October 11, 2023). The pilot's 200 sq ft tiny homes will be laid out like a bachelor apartment and include a bathroom and porch.

2024 season. As outlined in a prior report, temporary housing work will generate many questions and create significant stress for encampment community members.¹³ In concert with municipal staff and service providers, NSO outreach workers will support the recruitment and placement of encampment residents into shelters and temporary housing.

NSO staff focus on connecting with individuals living in encampments and other outdoor areas to build trusting relationships. As such, NSO staff are well-positioned to play a key engagement role – particularly for encampment residents who may want to relocate to an emergency sheltering site or may need to vacate existing encampments (to allow temporary housing to be built). Alternative housing options must be sourced in consultation with encampment residents to adequately meet residents' needs.¹⁴ Meaningfully engaging residents in relocation decisions requires that they have decision-making power and influence over final outcomes.¹⁵

Moreover, when new temporary housing sites come on-line, staff anticipate that NSO staff will see an uptick in their caseload. This assumption is based on the municipality's experience with modular units. Although service providers provide on-site support for modular-units, NSO staff interface regularly with modular-unit residents when they interact with the surrounding business and residential communities.¹⁶ Staff expect that this dynamic will continue to play out in the context of the emergency shelter(s) and tiny home communities and pallet housing pilot projects. In addition, staff anticipate that NSO staff will play a role in facilitating meaningful consultation with communities that surround encampments, tiny home communities and pallet settlements.

Business Community Support

The escalating volume and visibility of homelessness within business districts is impacting businesses' health. HRM's suburban and urban businesses are noting increased criminal activity including shoplifting and vandalism.¹⁷ Businesses are also experiencing increasing homeless population use of commercial and industrial properties to shelter from the elements (i.e., storage bins, roof overhangs, plaza interiors, vestibules, etc.). Interpersonal conflicts (between homeless individuals, businesses, and customers) are necessitating outreach worker or police intervention more often. As the number of encampments grow and the concentration of homeless individuals increases, these and other issues are likely to persist, and may intensify.

Local businesses state that 'street disorder' (real or perceived) makes it difficult to attract and retain employees and to draw clients. HRM businesses are reporting a drop-off in foot traffic, which they attribute to visible homelessness.¹⁸ HRM business are also reporting high levels of employee turn-over. Perceived lack of safety has prompted businesses to spend more on security measures, lock public-facing doors, restrict access to washrooms, increase staffing coverage and invest in de-escalation training.¹⁹ Incremental costs, and declining revenues, come at a time when businesses are struggling to recover from wildfire, flood, and Covid-19 induced economic disruptions.

¹³ See [Item No. 15.1.5](#) Halifax Regional Council October 17, 2023.

¹⁴ This approach is consistent with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing's [National Protocol for Responding to Encampments in Canada](#).

¹⁵ Housing options should preserve the human dignity of residents and critically consider their safety and well-being. See [Trespassing on the Right to Housing](#) (2020).

¹⁶ For an overview of HRM's modular home project, see [Item No. 2](#) Halifax Regional Council April 12, 2022.

¹⁷ This is consistent with anecdotal reporting in other cities. See for example, City of Victoria staff report [Sheltering Impacts within the Downtown Victoria Business Association Boundary](#) (2020).

¹⁸ Studies have shown that a sense of insecurity can prompt people to adopt restrictive behaviours, such as avoiding certain places or not going out after a certain time. See [Canadians' perceptions of personal safety and crime](#).

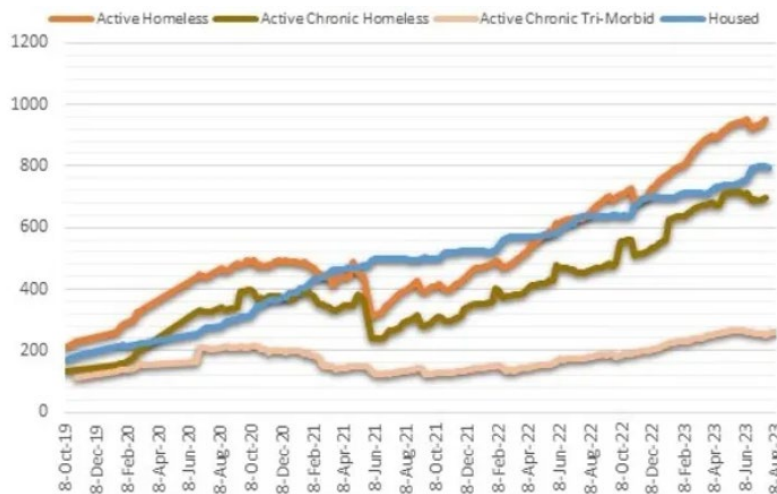
¹⁹ Businesses are doubling up on staff, especially during evening shifts. This is being done to ensure staff are not on-site alone.

Dedicated navigator outreach support for the urban core and main-street business areas can help business cope with the challenges tied to operating near on-street homeless populations and encampments. Among homeless outreach resources in HRM, BID-managed NSO staff are uniquely positioned to interface with the business community. They can access the connections and resources of their BID-employers to better help businesses respond to homelessness-related challenges. Historically, close ties to businesses have enabled NSO-delivered training and education sessions for businesses, including de-escalation techniques and naloxone training.

Rationale for Increasing number of NSO Staff

The NSO program continues to experience increased demands for service. As noted in staff’s October Homelessness Strategy Update, the number of people experiencing homelessness continues to grow dramatically.²⁰ Halifax’s By-Name List (BNL), which records people who are homeless and looking for stable housing, has been over 1,000 people since August 2023. This number does not capture all those experiencing homelessness as some individuals choose not to be added to the BNL or are unknown (due to couch surfing and/or living in vehicles).²¹ As the number of homeless individuals suburban and urban HRM, so too does the need for outreach worker support.

Figure 1: By-Name List Statistics for Homelessness and Housing Placements in HRM (2019-2023)



Source: [Affordable Housing Association of Nova Scotia \(AHANS\)](#)

Between 2019 and 2023, the number of individuals on HRM’s BNL has increased by a factor of five (5). In case management terms this represents a jump of 800+ additional individuals (beyond the previous baseline of ~200 individuals). Over this period, the complement of HRM-co-funded, BID-managed NSO staff has grow from one position to two positions. These positions are supplemented by two in-house (municipal) Coordinator of Housing and Homelessness positions (added in 2022 and 2023 respectively).²² The, arguably under-resourced, (prior) ratio of ratio of one (1) BID-managed NSO staff position to 200+

²⁰ See [Item No. 15.1.5](#) Halifax Regional Council October 17, 2023.

²¹ According to Statistics Canada, about 15% of those who are responsible for housing decisions within their household reported experienced hidden homelessness. See [A Portrait of Canadians who have been Homeless \(2022\)](#).

²² These outreach/navigation staff members have worked collaboratively with outreach workers and navigators employed by the libraries, the BIDs, and homeless-serving organizations. See [Item No. 15.1.6](#) Halifax Regional Council February 21, 2023.

homeless individuals is likely to worsen in the near-term. Staff, therefore, recommend that the number of urban core BID-managed NSO staff be increased to three (3).

Rationale for Increased Eviction Prevention Funding

For many HRM households, evictions are an ever-present threat and a root cause of homelessness. Evictions can have serious and long-term impacts especially for people with low-income and other vulnerable households.²³ Poverty and the lack of affordable housing are the primary structural factors leading to nonpayment of rent and eventual eviction.²⁴ Pensions, social assistance, and minimum wage have not kept up with inflation, leaving HRM's seniors, low-wage workers, and others vulnerable to eviction.²⁵

The average apartment vacancy rate in Halifax did not change in 2022, staying at the record low of 1%.²⁶ Of the available housing stock, very few are deeply affordable, effectively creating a zero-vacancy rate. Only 3% of HRM's rental options are affordable to households in the lowest 20% of income distribution. Vacancy rates between 0.6% and 0.8% for rental units affordable to low-income households, combined with higher levels of rental arrears correlates with a marked increase in the number of households experiencing homelessness.²⁷ Nova Scotia's temporary 2% rent cap (for existing leases) has failed to contain rental increases²⁸ and renovations are increasingly driving homelessness. Landlords evict tenants, make minor renovations, and then list apartments at a much higher rent.²⁹

Eviction prevention involves 'upstream' strategies to help keep people in their homes and prevent them from entering homelessness. NSO's crisis support, for people at imminent risk of eviction, includes landlord-tenant and tenant-tenant mediation, assisting with residential moves, payment of damages and/or payment of rental arrears. While prevention is a preferred strategy, current NSO budget limitations constrain how often, and to what extent, NSO staff can intervene.³⁰ Increasing the municipality's (per position) funding commitment would provide additional budget to allow NSO staff to cover eviction prevention costs.

Administrative Efficiency and Program Continuity

Since 2011 HRM has been an NSO program funder. While federal and municipal support has been both minimal and inconsistent, HRM's funding has been both consistent and substantive.³¹ Multi-year NSO program funding is desirable as it lessens the municipality's administrative burden.³² Multi-year funding also reduces uncertainty vis-à-vis the employment relationship between the BIDs (as employers) and the Navigators (as employees).³³ Staff, therefore, propose that the NSO continue to be included in the municipal budget as a standing request on a go-forward basis. NSO funding would be recommended by staff, and considered/approved by Regional Council, in the context of the annual Budget process.

²³ According to Statistics Canada, by almost all measures of current economic and financial well-being, those who have experienced homelessness, especially unsheltered homelessness, fare worse than those who have never experienced homelessness. See [A Portrait of Canadians who have been Homeless](#) (2022).

²⁴ See [Homeless Learning Hub – Eviction Prevention](#).

²⁵ The minimum wage in Nova Scotia is \$14.50/hour. For someone working full-time, their total pay before taxes and deductions is \$2050 – just \$50 more than the cost of an average one-bedroom apartment.

²⁶ See [CMHC Rental Market Report \(2023\)](#)

²⁷ See [CMHC Rental Market Report \(2023\)](#).

²⁸ Overall, same-sample average rent increased by 8.9%, despite Nova Scotia legislating a temporary 2% rent cap for existing leases in November 2020. See [CMHC Rental Market Report \(2023\)](#).

²⁹ Within the same structure, a two-bedroom unit occupied by a new tenant was on average 28% more expensive than one that did not turn over. See [CMHC Rental Market Report \(2023\)](#).

³⁰ NSO program eviction prevention expenditures account for roughly \$30K per year, or 12% of the overall (combined) existing \$250K budget.

³¹ See Attachment 4.

³² Legal Services and Regional Council related resources are consumed whenever a funding renewal is considered, and new Agreements are drafted/executed.

³³ This uncertainty (vis-à-vis employment tenure) is problematic given the required Navigator skill set and the importance of relationships to the position (client-Navigator-partner organizations). Turn-over of Navigators is detrimental to NSO program success.

Contribution Agreement

If Regional Council approves funding for fiscal 2024/2025, staff recommend that the financial contribution be made in accordance with the proposed Contribution Agreement key terms and conditions set out in Attachment 2.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed program costs for the Navigator Street Outreach Program is \$345,000, which includes funding for 3 Navigators and an increase in funding per Navigator. This would increase the overall funding for the program by \$205,000 over the original program (which only included 2 Navigators). The full program costs of \$345,000 have been accommodated in the proposed 2024/25 Operating Budget for Community Safety.

RISK CONSIDERATION

Upon a risk assessment, HRM staff deemed that there are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report. The risks considered rate low.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Staff conferred with the Downtown Halifax Business Commission (DHBC), North End Business Association (NEBA), Spring Garden Area Business Association (SGABA, Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission (DDBC), Sackville Business Association (SBA), Quinpool Business Association (QBA), Spryfield Business Commission (SBC), Main Street Dartmouth Business Commission (MSDBC) and Porters Lake Business Association (PLBA).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate environmental implications associated with this report.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Regional Council could choose to not to provide financial support toward the Navigator Street Outreach program.
2. Regional Council could provide a defined term contribution toward the Navigator Street Outreach program.
3. Regional Council could provide a grant or contribution to fund another group or homelessness-serving activity.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Joint Letter to Mayor and Council
Attachment 2	Proposed Grant/Contribution Agreement Key Terms & Conditions
Attachment 3	Navigator Street Outreach Activity Summary
Attachment 4	Navigator Program Funding Breakdown

Report Prepared by: Scott Sheffield, Government Relations, and External Affairs 902.490.3941

ATTACHMENT 1

Joint Letter to Mayor and Council (Circulated Electronically September 2023)

Cathie O'Toole
Chief Administrative Officer
Halifax Regional Municipality
PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5

September 29, 2023

Dear Ms. O'Toole,

We are writing, on behalf of the Halifax Urban BIDs, to request a renewal of the Halifax Regional Municipality funding commitment for the Business Improvement Districts' managed Navigator programs which are set to expire on March 31, 2024.

It's evident that homelessness and social issues are increasing in our communities. Our districts have significant populations of street involved, homeless or precariously housed individuals that sometimes have difficulties accessing necessary services. Our programs differ from HRM's own in-house Navigators in that they are street based enabling them to respond nimbly to unique situations. Our Navigator programs have experienced increased demands for service as more people face homelessness in our Municipality and like all programs have faced increased costs.

We are requesting that the Halifax Regional Municipality provide \$345,000 annually to the Business Improvement Districts' managed Navigator programs:

- Increasing the funding for each of the current Navigators from \$70,000 to \$115,000;
- Funding a third Navigator at an additional cost of \$115,000; and,
- A renewed three-year funding commitment

The Business Improvement Districts' managed Navigator programs offer the Halifax Regional Municipality a cost-effective measure to assist in furthering its mandate of fostering safe and viable communities with the support of the small business community contributing financially to the costs of the program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Rissesco, Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission
Paul MacKinnon, Downtown Halifax Business Commission
Tracy Jackson, North End Business Association
Sue Uteck, Spring Garden Area Business Association

ATTACHMENT 2

Proposed Grant/Contribution Agreement Key Terms & Conditions

- a) The initial term of the agreements shall be for a maximum of 12 months, commencing on the later date of the execution of the Agreement by the Municipal Clerk or Mayor, and continue in force until March 31st and the combined amount of the grants or contributions shall not exceed \$345,000.
- b) The agreements may be renewed for a period of 12 months, commencing on April 1st of the calendar year in which the initial term expires and may continue to be renewed for further renewal periods of twelve months.
- c) The grants or contributions shall be subject to Council approving, in the budget, the funds for the grants or contributions for the applicable fiscal year.
- d) The grants or contributions shall be used in support of providing Navigator Street Outreach programming and support for street-involved and homeless individuals in HRM.
- e) The Agreements shall require reporting which accounts for the expenditure of any grants or contributions received from the Municipality.

Attachment 3

**Navigator Street
 Outreach Activities**

Table 1: Key NSO activities¹

Category	Description
Transit	Facilitating access to public transit (may include assistance securing a low-income transit pass and/or providing transit tickets).
Eviction prevention	Helping to keep individuals/families housed, including crisis support for people at imminent risk of eviction (may include landlord-tenant mediation or payment of damages/rental arrears).
Housing acquisition	Interventions that help homeless individuals/families to rapidly access new/appropriate housing (may include payment of first/last month rent and/or damage deposits). ²
Relocation	Helping precariously housed individuals to move/relocate (may involve support to set up a new apartment and/or moving related expenses).
Employment	Supporting individuals entering/re-entering the workforce (may include providing necessary work tools and/or clothing, ³ payment for specialized training programs, ⁴ assistance setting up a bank account ⁵ or facilitating relocation for the purposes of securing employment.
Identification	Facilitating replacement or first-time acquisition of official/government identification (may include ID-clinics). ⁶
Health services	Interventions that help homeless individuals/families to access primary health care, addiction treatment and/or mental health services (may include attending appointments with clients ⁷ , transporting clients to health providers, paying for medication and/or encouraging clients to access on-street health services). ⁸
Cold weather supplies	Ensuring individuals/families that sleep-rough are appropriately protected against the environment (may include providing cold-weather clothing and/or sleeping bags).
Food	Supporting homeless and street-involved individuals who are food-insecure (may include direct provision of food and/or facilitating food-bank/food-kitchen access).

¹ Not all services are at a financial cost to NSO. NSO collaborates with local organizations that can either cover or defray applicable costs.

² NSO supports Halifax’s Coordinated Access System (CAS) and Housing First (HF). Both HF and CAS require effective outreach to ensure vulnerable individuals receive housing support. The trusting and mutually respectful relationships NSO staff develop are critical to ensuring that individuals who refuse to use, or are denied access to, Halifax’s shelter system, receive needed housing support.

³ Including interview-appropriate attire, steel-toed boots and anti-skid shoes.

⁴ Including WHIMS, food handling, traffic control and fall arrest courses.

⁵ Bank accounts are necessary to accommodate direct deposit of wages.

⁶ The NSO offers ID-clinics in collaboration with Service Nova Scotia, that provide individuals with new or replacement identification. Identification is critical to accessing income assistance and the lack of official identification can be a barrier to becoming employed and/or housed.

⁷ NSO staff will work with the individual (and other service providers) to set up and attend appointments to ensure that the user’s access to services is smooth and issue free.

⁸ NSO plays a key role in facilitating access to primary health care among street-involved individuals.

Community
education

Supporting members of the business/residential community vis-à-vis homelessness (may include clinics/workshops to address addictions and/or mental health among the homeless population).

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Attachment 4

**Navigator Program
 Funding Breakdown**

See Table 2 for a breakdown of annual Navigator Street Outreach program funding sources. Details regarding timing and amounts of community, municipal, provincial, and federal funding are provided below.

Table 2: Navigator Program Budget Contributions (2008-2023)

Period	Municipal	BIDs	Federal	Provincial	Deferred	Other	Total
2008-2009	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
2009-2010	\$0	\$22,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$22,000
2010-2011	\$0	\$29,340	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,340
2011-2012	\$14,670	\$38,642	\$0	\$0	\$10,767	\$10,000	\$74,079
2012-2013	\$25,000	\$43,001	\$20,056	\$0	\$8,058	\$5,000	\$101,115
2013-2014	\$27,000	\$47,000	\$56,644	\$0	\$6,396	\$21,663	\$158,703
2014-2015	\$29,000	\$49,000	\$58,443	\$0	\$3,167	\$1,381	\$140,991
2015-2016	\$12,210	\$26,729	\$0	\$0	-\$1,666	\$1,101	\$38,374
2016-2017	\$45,000	\$38,147	\$0	\$0	-\$12,727	\$245	\$70,664
2017-2018	\$45,000	\$50,601	\$0	\$0	\$10,401	\$0	\$106,002
2018-2019	\$70,000	\$60,505	\$0	\$50,000	\$938	\$2,331	\$183,774
2019-2020	\$155,000	\$56,965	\$0	\$0	\$4,876	\$2,405	\$129,245
2020-2021	\$120,000	\$34,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$154,000
2021-2024	\$420,000	\$270,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,000	\$250,000
Amount	\$962,880	\$775,930	\$135,143	\$50,000	\$30,209	\$73,126	\$1,938,286
Percent	41.5%	36.07%	10.33%	3.82%	2.31%	3.37%	100.00%

Urban Core | Baseline NSO Program

In July of 2015, Regional Council approved a one-time NSO contribution in the amount of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to be provided in the 2016/2017 fiscal year.⁹ Prior to 2016-2017, annual municipal funding for NSO had been provided through the municipality’s Business Improvement District (BID) Contribution Fund (\$34k in 2011/12; \$34k in 2012/13; \$37k in 2013/14 and \$39k in 2014/15).¹⁰ In October of 2017, Regional Council approved an annual grant of \$45,000 for the Navigator Street Outreach Program for fiscal years 2017/2018, 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 (subject to budget approval).¹¹

North End and Downtown Dartmouth | NSO Expansion

In fiscal 2018/2019, NEBA and DDBC secured \$50,000 in provincial funding¹² and \$25,000 in municipal

⁹ See [Item No. 11.3.1](#) Halifax Regional Council July 21, 201 and [Item No. 14.1.15](#) Halifax Regional Council September 6, 2016

¹⁰ Eligible BID Contribution Fund projects were formerly approved annually by the municipality’s Grants Committee. The Contribution Fund funding pool was set at \$107,000/year and was shared among the municipality’s eight BIDs on a proportional basis.

¹¹ See [Item No. 14.1.4](#) Halifax Regional Council October 17, 2017.

¹² In June of 2018, the Province approved a \$50,000 Building Vibrant Communities (BVC) grant by the Province in support of the NSOP pilot initiative. See [Grant Recipient List](#).

funding¹³ for an NSO pilot. Together with the business districts' combined contribution of \$15,000, these funds covered NSO operational costs for the period between December 22nd of 2018 and November 22nd of 2019. In October of 2019, Regional Council approved bridge funding in the amount of \$20,000 for fiscal year 2019/2020.¹⁴ This bridge funding was intended to ensure continuity of service to the street involved and homeless population (until March 2020) and permit consideration of the multi-year funding request in the context of the discussion and approval of the municipal operating and capital budget and tax rates for fiscal 2020/2021. In January of 2020, Regional Council approved \$60,000 in NSO expansion funding for fiscal 2020/2021.¹⁵ In February of 2021, Regional Council approved multi-year funding for fiscal 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 in the amount of \$140K per annum.¹⁶

¹³ See [Item No. 14.1.10](#). Halifax Regional Council July 31, 2018.

¹⁴ See [Item No. 15.2.1](#) Halifax Regional Council October 8, 2019

¹⁵ See [Item No. 15.1.7](#) Halifax Regional Council January 28, 2020.

¹⁶ See [Item No. 11.1.3](#) Halifax Regional Council February 23, 2021.