

Request for Halifax Regional Council's Consideration		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Included on Agenda</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Added Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor</b>
<b>Date of Council Meeting: May 7, 2024</b>		
<b>Subject: Municipal Architect for HRM</b>		
<b>Motion for Council to Consider:</b>  That Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report that explores the potential for establishing a position of a Municipal Architect funded through the Housing Accelerator Fund and other mechanisms to strengthen municipal capacity in urban design, placemaking, heritage protection, and affordable housing, and to further consider best practices in urban design as part of the HAF project approvals and the suburban planning process.		
<b>Reason:</b>  HRM is in a period of rapid growth with a boom in housing construction. A Municipal Architect could raise the bar for new buildings and help improve their fit with HRM's established neighbourhoods and heritage districts. A Municipal Architect could also help improve the fit of new buildings in suburban neighbourhoods outside the Centre Plan where updated zoning is 2-3 years away.  Potential benefits of hiring a City Architect (as Edmonton and other cities have done): better integration of public and private space as the city densifies; better integration of new buildings with HRM's transportation plans and future affordable housing needs; better sustainability standards to support HalifACT; better procurement processes for public buildings.		
<b>Outcome Sought:</b>  Identification of funding and mandate for the hiring of a Municipal Architect in HRM in 2024/25.		
<i>Councillor Kathryn Morse</i>	<i>District 10</i>	