



COUNCILLOR TIM OUTHIT

BEDFORD - WENTWORTH
DISTRICT 16 NEWSLETTER

DEAR BEDFORD-WENTWORTH RESIDENTS

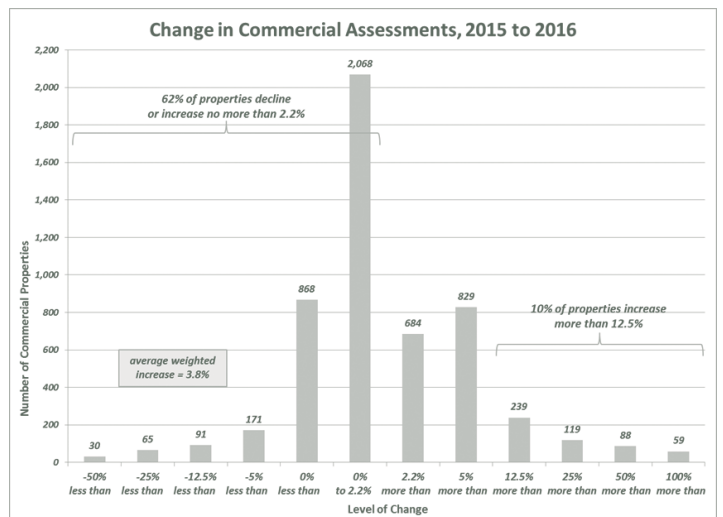
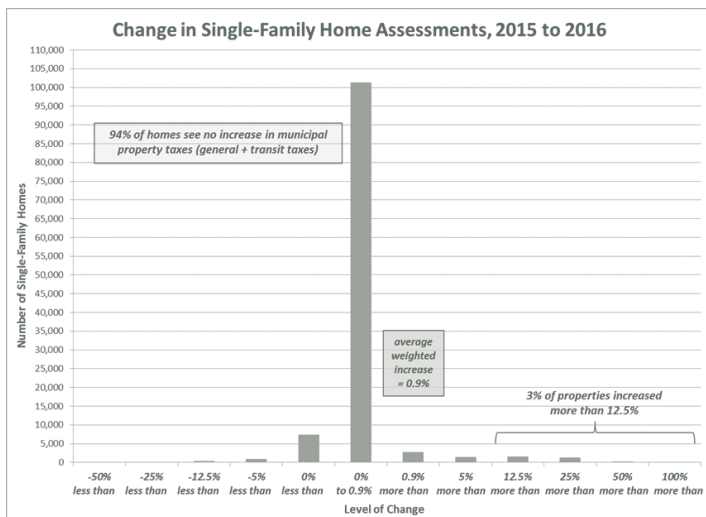


This past year was another busy, successful and productive year for our Municipality and our District. The objective of this newsletter is to update you on the budget, projects, planning, announcements, and services undertaken that will impact our Municipality and our community. I once again wish to thank Mayor Savage, my Council colleagues, Halifax Regional Police, Halifax Water, and many HRM staff for their tremendous support, cooperation and guidance. As usual, this newsletter will also include recognition for some of the many wonderful volunteers in our District, some policy and project announcements, and the popular Frequently Asked Questions section included in previous issues.

I was pleased to support a good news budget this year, as well as several initiatives to support healthy living, accessibility, transparency and access to data. There also continues to be great focus on safety improvements, improved snow removal, projects that help to rejuvenate our downtown, and a number of significant traffic and public transportation plans and scheduled enhancements.

The 2016-2017 HRM Budget saw a tax freeze for most residential taxpayers and also for many commercial taxpayers. The Municipality continues pay down its relatively small debt, when compared with many cities and provinces, and continues to contribute to its various reserves.

As always, I encourage you to contact me with your concerns, feedback, and ideas! Have a safe and wonderful summer and I hope to see you during Bedford Days events!



Graphs prepared by HRM Finance outlining % of residences and businesses not receiving a tax increase



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BEDFORD VOLUNTEER AWARDS WINNERS



Photo: Bedford Volunteers 2016

Congratulations to this year's 2016 award recipients: Dianne Nickerson, All Saints Anglican Church; Bernie & Wendy Levy, Bedford Baptist Church; Rose Randell-Meagher, Basinview Drive Community School; Fred Shulman, Bedford Business Association; Leanne Strathdee, Bedford Days Committee; Cathy Holman, Bedford Horticultural Society; Albert Tanguay, Bedford Lawn Bowls Club; Aline Bond, Bedford Leisure Club; Kent Nickerson, Bedford Lions Club; Jessica Andrus, Bedford Minor Basketball; Mike Baker, Bedford Minor Basketball; Jack Feltmate, Bedford Minor Baseball; Brad J. R. White, Bedford Sackville Minor Football; Elizabeth (Beth) Spratt, Bedford Players Community Theatre; Thomas (Mike) Prescott, Bedford Repair & Restoration Group; Ruby Barss-Brown, Bedford United Church; Michelle LeBlanc, Ecole Beaubassin; Warren Ervine, Fort Sackville Foundation; Wendy Tarrel, Girl Guides of Canada; Krista Vining, Kwebec Chapter No. 27 Order of the Eastern Star; Tom Kumanan, Meals on Wheels; Heather Carlin, Scouts Canada, 1st Bedford Group; Penny Campbell, Sunnyside Elementary School; Rachel Brouwer, Bedford Academy; John Henderson, Bedford Players Community Theatre and Paige Lane, Bedford United Church.

On behalf of Bedford residents, thank you and congratulations! I encourage residents to contact me or the Bedford Volunteer Awards Committee should you wish to nominate members of these groups, or from other groups not yet recognized, for next year's awards. HRM appreciates your commitment to improving our community.

DISTRICT CAPITAL FUND

Each Councillor receives an annual budget to use in their District to help fund community development and infrastructure projects. I have used my taxpayer funded budget to assist with projects such as playground improvements, main street beautification, banners, hanging flower baskets, lighting, painting, fencing, seasonal community decorations, path and trail maintenance and enhancements. Other projects included repairs to the Bedford Leisure Centre, Bedford Legion, and Scott Manor House plus assistance with your requests for sports and recreation equipment, signage, community gardens, crosswalk flags, and defibrillators for public buildings. Please contact me with your suggestions on how this fund can be used in our community.

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARD WINNERS FROM DISTRICT 16



Photos: Carol Toma, Victoria Christianson, Oratile Mogae, Shirin Mehrpooya,

On May 10, Regional Council hosted the 2016 HRM Citizenship Awards at City Hall. Grade 9 students were recognized for their dedication and commitment to improving life in both their school and community. Congratulations to Carol Toma, Bedford Academy; Victoria Christianson, Madeline Symonds Middle School; Oratile Mogae, Sandy Lake Academy and Shirin Mehrpooya, Rocky Lake Junior High School.

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TWO NEW FIRE STATIONS FOR DISTRICT 16

I am very pleased to report that Regional Council has approved the land purchase and subsequent construction of two new fire stations to serve our growing community. One will be located in Sunnyside and the other on Larry Uteck Blvd. The Sunnyside fire station will be both a career firefighter and volunteer firefighter combined facility. I am working on your behalf to see if some community meeting space can also be incorporated. The existing station will be available to be used as an expanded Regional Police facility for our growing district. I expect construction to begin in 2018.

THANK YOU & WELCOME HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE PERSONNEL

As some of you will already know, I am a huge supporter of, and grateful to, the men and women that serve and protect us. I regularly interact with those patrolling our community, and I pass along your concerns and thanks. Over the last year or so, we have seen the retirement or transfer of several HRP personnel that I have worked with closely in our community. I want to send our thanks and best wishes to Superintendent Cliff Falkenham, Community Response Officer, Patricia "Trish" Kennedy, and School Liaison Officer Michelle Everson. They were outstanding and are missed.

I am very pleased though to welcome on your behalf Inspector Julia Cecchetto, Community Response Officer Craig Smith, and School Liaison Officer Janna McCullough. I have been greatly impressed by their enthusiasm and very grateful for their terrific support of our community.

I would also like to recognize the HRP Traffic Division for their constant effort and responsiveness in our District. One of the most common complaints I receive is alleged speeding in our community as well as motorists failing to stop for crosswalks, crossing guards, and school buses. I do not want residents to receive tickets, but we must all watch our speed and watch for children. HRP has been extremely responsive to your concerns with speeding on the Dartmouth Road, Rocky Lake Drive, Basinview Drive, Moirs Mill Road, Hammonds Plains Road, Gary Martin Drive, Southgate Drive, Larry Uteck Blvd, and Starboard Drive, to name a few. This monitoring is ongoing. Please drive carefully!

DISTRICT 16 TO RECEIVE FIRST TRANSIT TERMINAL & PARK & RIDE

Regional Council has recently approved the purchase of land for our first transit terminal and park & ride facility. It will be located off Innovation Drive in West Bedford, between the former RIM building and CPA. This new terminal is scheduled to be built in 2018 and will include parking for over 400 commuters. The longer term vision is for a second facility in "Old Bedford" to support transit requirements.

WAVERLEY ROAD SCHOOL AND SCOTIA DRIVE

Working with area residents, my Council colleagues and HRM staff, I have been successful in getting the old Waverley School declared surplus and put up for sale and demolition. In response to requests from residents in the area, the playground and equipment located behind the school will be moved to a new pocket park location in front and to the left of the school. The remaining land will then be sold for residential development.

SPEAKING OF PLAYGROUNDS!



Dewolf Park playground

The playground in DeWolf Park received a complete rebuild last year and the response from parents, grandparents and kids has been great. The equipment is now up to code, and has improved visibility and accessibility, while maintaining its nautical theme. The upper playground in Ridgevale was also replaced, and there were repairs made to playgrounds in Oakmount, Peerless, The Ravines, Paper Mill, and off the Hammonds Plains Road. Additional equipment will be added again to the Oceanview/Nine Mile Drive playground, and planning and budgeting are underway to replace of the aging equipment in The Ravines and Bedford Hills playgrounds, within a couple of years. I also plan to work with residents in the Hemlock Ravines/Larry Uteck area to improve playground and green space in the area off Transom. A community garden is also possible, if desired by the residents in the area. Parents at Eaglewood School have begun fundraising for playground equipment, so I have earmarked some funds out of the District Capital Fund for this project.



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HAVE YOU VISITED BEDFORD'S BEST KEPT SECRET?

Submitted by the Fort Sackville Heritage Society

It was our former Lieutenant Governor, Edward Kinley, who commented that the Scott Manor House is indeed "Bedford's best kept secret". Bedford's oldest house reflects over 200 years of local history: home to over 5000 archival photographs, local artifacts and more! Come for the history, but stay and enjoy wonderful outdoor concerts: jazz, roots music, concert bands. Meet local artists exhibiting with wood, fibre art, ceramics and more. Better yet, purchase a one of a kind piece for your home! Join master gardeners to gain hands-on experience in planting outdoors planters, and to hear about the latest in garden design ideas. Let the interpretive panels be your guide as you walk through the grounds of the former Fort Sackville and take in the commanding views of Bedford Basin! Enjoy refreshments in our air-conditioned tearoom. Journalist, Michael Conway commented that our freshly-baked oatcakes, "could start their own drive-thru", and if you like raspberries, our organic berries are a treat! Scott Manor House is open for the season July and August, 10 - 4 pm daily. There is no better place to immerse yourself in Bedford's rich history!

GOODBYE TO GOTIME, HELLO TO DEPARTURES!



Halifax Transit has launched a new Departures Line that will provide more accurate departure times for our residents.



Route Number

As part of a significant \$43 million transit technology upgrade, the departure line real-time information is sourced from a new GPS-based vehicle location system. The GPS is currently installed on approximately 75% of our conventional buses, and will be fully operational by the summer.

Bus Stop Number



Passengers can call a single phone number - 902-480-8000 - and by entering the bus stop number (printed on each bus stop sign) you can hear which buses are departing, and at what time.



INTEGRATED MOBILITY PLAN UNDERWAY

This is an approach and plan that is greatly desired by many residents and Councillors. It is critical to future development in HRM, and to several large potential projects currently on hold in District 16. The following is an official overview:

Regional Council has directed staff to develop a strategic plan specifically aimed at increasing the modal split of sustainable forms of transportation (including bus, rail, ferry, and active), as per the Regional Plan which integrates both land use and transportation planning and includes comparative costing analysis of road and right of way infrastructure upgrades and widening as compared to other forms of transportation and report back to Regional Council by February 2017.

The Integrated Mobility Plan will help to direct our future investment in transportation demand management, transit and the active transportation and roadway network. The plan will also strive to identify the two-way inter-relationship between growth patterns and investment in mobility. The plan will examine a variety of scenarios and will test the ability of each to address the need to link people and communities with each other and with the goods, services and employment opportunities which they seek, in an environmentally sensitive, socially beneficial and fiscally responsible manner. A choice of interconnected travel modes can form a powerful tool for shaping future development.

For this to occur, new investments in infrastructure or services should be strategically planned in conjunction with land use and coordinated with all levels of government. The scope of the project will include factors that influence demand, sway mode choice, affect life cycle costs and contribute to the economy of the region. The plan will clearly state Council's priorities for investment and their relationship to growth patterns: regional centre, in-fill within the urban service boundary and extension of the urban service boundary.

While the focus will be on intra-regional mobility, regional infrastructure that facilitates inter-regional goods movement will also be in scope. Mobility components outside the jurisdiction of the Municipality (i.e. provincial highways and the harbour bridges) will be considered integral to the plan.

ADDITIONAL OCEANVIEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT COMING THIS SUMMER



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NEW TRAFFIC CALMING STRATEGY

In Nova Scotia municipal politicians and councils have no jurisdiction over the placement of crosswalks, stop signs, speed limits, and traffic lights. This decision making is assigned to independent traffic authorities. However, Regional Council recently approved a new Traffic Calming legislation, plan and process for HRM. Up until now, HRM Traffic Services has a program only for shortcutting, which includes measures such as speed-bumps. An example in District 16 is Shore Drive, where speed-bumps were installed many years ago to discourage short-cutting from the Dartmouth Road. HRM Traffic Services prepared the following overview:

Traffic calming is the combination of mainly physical measures that reduce the negative effects of motor vehicle use, alter driver behaviour, and improve conditions for non-motorized users. The HRM Traffic Calming Administrative Order identifies the process for requests to be assessed for the installation of traffic calming measures on residential streets.

The HRM Traffic Calming Administrative Order applies only to streets owned by the Municipality that meet the following conditions:

- Are within residential areas;
- Are classified as "local streets" or "minor collector streets";
- Are two-lane roads;
- Have a posted speed limit not greater than 50 kilometers per hour;
- Are not part of a transit route; and
- Are not part of a primary emergency response route.

If the above conditions are met, the review process could continue with data collection, internal stakeholder consultation, Traffic Authority approval, resident voting, project implementation ranking, and lastly installation. At any step of the review, the process could be terminated pending each result.

Examples of traffic calming measures that could potentially be considered for implementation include, but are not limited to: speed humps; raised intersections; raised crosswalks; curb extensions; traffic circles/mini roundabouts; on-street parking; raised median islands; etc. The posting of a reduced speed limit (below 50 km/h) would not be considered as part of this AO as there is typically no impact to driver behaviour through the simple posting of a reduced speed limit.

Residents of a street, or Councillors on behalf of a resident(s) who reside on a particular street, may initiate a request for a traffic calming assessment by contacting the Municipal Citizen Contact Centre at 311 or online at <https://apps.halifax.ca/311>. Please include details of your request including the street name and street limits to be assessed.

To report a speeding concern to the Halifax Regional Police, please call the non-emergency line at (902) 490-5020.

TRANSIT FIVE YEAR SERVICE PLAN COMPLETED AND PRESENTED TO REGIONAL COUNCIL

The results and recommendations of the plan were presented to Regional Council in March, 2016. Council made 23 proposed amendments to the plan, based on concerns received from residents. The plan recommends many changes and additions in our area, and the creation of several additional bus routes for District 16. These include the West Bedford transit terminal and Park & Ride, a new route in the Nottingham and Sunnyside area, and expanded express service for the Basinview area. The commuter rail option was, and will continue to be, evaluated in separate reports and plans.

On February 26, 2013, Regional Council initiated the development of a new five year strategic planning framework for Metro Transit (called Moving Forward Together: The Metro Transit Five Year Service Plan).

A multifaceted public and stakeholder engagement plan for the first round of consultation was developed and presented to the Transportation Standing Committee in July of 2013. The formal public and stakeholder engagement process began in August of 2013, and continued until October 15, 2013.

Based on the feedback received in consultation in January 2014, Regional Council endorsed a broadened scope for the Moving Forward Together Plan which included a redesign of the existing transit network. Regional Council also unanimously endorsed the four Moving Forward Principles, the foundation upon which the draft plan was developed.

The principles are:

1. Increase the proportion of resources allocated towards high ridership services.
2. Build a simplified transfer based system.
3. Invest in service quality and reliability
4. Give transit increased priority in the transportation network

The draft Moving Forward Together Plan, including the proposed future transit network, was released for public consultation in February 2015. The subsequent ten week engagement process was the most diverse and comprehensive consultation strategy ever undertaken by the municipality. The following describes the variety of opportunities for consultation provided to members of the public and stakeholder groups.

TRANSIT PLAN ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

MakeTransitBetter.ca: The primary means of gathering public feedback was through an online survey on MakeTransitBetter.ca. Resources on the website included an introductory video, an interactive map, and the proposed changes to the Halifax Transit network. This website allowed residents to access information on proposed routing and frequencies in order to understand the impact the proposed changes would have on their transit trips. The website resulted in over 50,000 unique website visitor and 15,370 survey responses.



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Pop-Up Engagement Events: These were hosted in high traffic locations throughout the transit service area to create awareness and encourage online participation. Transit staff were on hand to answer questions directly and people were encouraged to provide their feedback online at MakeTransitBetter.ca.

BEDFORD WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Below is an update from the Waterfront Development Corporation (WDCL), a provincial crown corporation and the owner/developer of a large portion of the infilled area of our waterfront.

MLA Kelly Regan and I meet with the WDCL periodically to share residents' ideas and concerns, and to receive updates on their proposed vision. As you will recall, work on the waterfront was stopped several years ago and there has been no additional dumping or infilling. There are no plans to expand the infilled area, or to dump anymore pyritic slate.

Public consultation on a revised proposed vision of the developer will be led in partnership with HRM, upon the completion of the Integrated Mobility Plan, in early 2017. The developer has responded favourably to calls from our community for any new proposal to include a significant free park, land for a public building such as terminal and / or library, and for protection for the island and ledges.

WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Submitted Waterfront Development

This spring, Waterfront Development is completing engineering work on the Bedford waterfront. This work is necessary to prepare a scope of work for a project to stabilize the outer edge of the site with large rock to protect against tidal and wave action, and to re-grade the site to even out the existing material on site. This project will ultimately contribute to the safety of the site and prepare it for future use. This project is planned to take place while we await outcomes from the HRM infrastructure capacity and transportation studies, which we support. As part of the overall project we will examine permanent solutions to improve the condition of the access road.

We will provide additional information and timelines of this short term work as they are firmed up.
bedford@wdcl.ca my-waterfront.ca

CROSSWALK FLAGS LAUNCHED IN DISTRICT 16

I was pleased to work with residents, community organizations, and Norm Collins from the Crosswalk Safety Society to install crosswalk flags in almost 20 locations in District 16. Please contact me if you have a suggested location. The flags are permitted by HRM Traffic Services only at marked crosswalks, and not at ones that have a Stop sign or Traffic Lights. Please contact me with suggested locations that meet these criteria.

COMMUTER RAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE & NEXT STEPS

Over the past year or so, a very successful Open House was held in Sunnyside Mall, a study has been completed which was received and accepted by Regional Council. The study showed that commuter rail is technically feasible using CN infrastructure that presently exists between the downtown VIA Station and Windsor Junction. It also demonstrated that the capital costs associated for launching a commuter rail service are not excessive when compared with other modes and other municipal services, infrastructure and projects.

However, both the study authors and Regional Council felt that the operating costs were higher than desired. As a result, I am working with HRM Planning and Transit staff, and a number of my Council colleagues, to find partnerships and other methods to reduce the operating costs and to increase the forecasted ridership. As indicated in the section on the Integrated Mobility Study, a study is now underway that will investigate the costs and options of all sustainable transportation modes and how to better transportation and transit with growth and development. A comparison with the real costs of road expansion and maintenance is also required.

The commuter rail vision is still alive and well, and has received tremendous public support! If it proves to be economically feasible, the goal will be to determine what we will do and when, and in conjunction with proposed development in our community.

A BANNER YEAR FOR THE BEDFORD HIGHWAY!

I was pleased to use District 16 capital funds to purchase and install new winter and summer banners this past year. The Remembrance banners were expanded to include those Bedford residents "killed while on duty" in addition to those "killed in action".



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DISTRICT 16 PAVING, PATCHING, & SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The following is a list of the projects completed in District 16 last year, and a list of the projects approved and funded for this construction season. I am pleased that the pavement, dips in the road, stonewalls, and sidewalk repairs on the Bedford Hwy in the Bedford Place Mall and Range Park area are being addressed this season.

Please note that the Doyle St paving project, and the Hammonds Plains Rd sidewalk project, have been designed, approved and funded but will not be completed this season. This delay is being done purposely to allow Halifax Water (Hammonds Plains Rd) and Heritage Gas (Doyle St) to complete their projects prior to HRM paving or building a new sidewalk.

I am very pleased that Peerless Subdivision will see two streets paved this season. The objective is to see two more streets paved in that community in 2017.

I am also working to see large projects undertaken in Eaglewood and on the Dartmouth Rd in 2017!

2015 Capital Projects

Street Recapitalization

First Avenue – Bedford Highway to Pine
Cadogan Street – First to Second
Cunningham Drive – First to Both Ends

Asphalt Overlay

Basinview Drive – Minshull to Horizon
Bedford Highway – Southgate to 100m N of Hammonds Plains
Hammonds Plains Road – Bedford Hwy to 50m E of Doyle

Micro Surfacing

Larry Uteck Blvd (N, S) – Bedford Hwy to Starboard
Larry Uteck Blvd – Starboard to 170m W

Gravel Road Paving

Emmerson Street – Rutledge to End

Planer Patching

Admiral Cove Drive – Eaglewood to Shore
Eaglewood Drive – Dartmouth to Golf Links
Hammonds Plains Road – Innovation to Smiths

Sidewalk Renewal

Bedford Hwy – Across from Civic 1272 to the End of Boardwalk (E side)

Guiderails

1077 to 1099 Shore Rd

Cracksealing

Bedford Highway – Dakin to Millview
Hammonds Plains Road – 50m E of Doyle to Brookshire
Hammonds Plains Road – Giles (W) to Civic 674

Hammonds Plains Road – Farmers Dairy to Larry Uteck
Hammonds Plains Road – Innovation to Smiths
Larry Uteck Blvd (N,S) – Bedford Hwy to Starboard
Larry Uteck Circle – Larry Uteck to Larry Uteck
Meadowbrook Drive – Sunrise Hill to Basinview
Meadowview Drive – Union to Cul De Sac
Nine Mile Drive – Traffic Circle to Ternan Gate
Rocky Lake Road – Trunk 1 @ Sunnyside to Duke
Starboard Drive – Larry Uteck to Temporary End

2016 Capital Projects

Street Recapitalization

Doyle Street – Hammonds Plains to Landsburg
Bedford Highway – Rocky Lake to Hwy 102
Lewis Drive – Hammonds Plains to Bernard
Bernard Street – Lewis to Olive

Asphalt Overlay

Larry Uteck Blvd – Bluewater to Hammonds Plains
Bedford Highway – Sullivan's Hill to Fourth

Micro Surfacing

Meadowbrook Drive – Bedford Hwy to Basinview
Starboard Drive – Larry Uteck (E) to Civic 317 (Shopping List)

Planer Patching

Starboard Drive – Larry Uteck (E) to Civic 317
Hammonds Plains Road – Giles (W) to Civic 674
Duke Street – Rocky Lake to Mann

Sidewalk Renewal

Bedford Highway – Oakmount to North Mall Entry (E Side)

New Sidewalk

Hammonds Plains Road – Brookshire to Smiths
Bedford Highway – Walkway @ Rocky Lake to Civic 1687

Retaining Walls

Bedford Highway – Rocky Lake to Civic 1687
Cliff Street
Bedford Highway – Oakmount to North Mall Entry

Cracksealing

Starboard Drive – Larry Uteck (E) to Civic 317
Hammonds Plains Road – Giles (W) to Civic 674
Basinview Drive – Hammonds Plains to Wimbledon
Bedford Highway – 200m S of Meadowbrook to Dartmouth
Capstone Crescent – Gary Martin (N) to Royal Fern
Gary Martin Drive – Castlestone to Capstone
Haystead Ridge – Ravines to Cul De Sac
Innovation Drive – Angus Morton to Gary Martin
Moirs Mill Road – Bedford Hwy to Civic 332
Nelson's Landing Blvd (N,S) – Bedford Hwy to Amin
Ridgevale Drive – Dartmouth Rd to Loops Itself
RoyalFern Way – Capstone to Cul De Sac
Ternan Gate – Nine Mile to William Borrett
William Borrett Terrace – Nine Mile to Cul De Sac
Wimbledon Road – Roy Archibald to Douglas
Duke Street – Rocky Lake to Mann



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NEW CHRISTMAS LIGHTS LIGHT UP SUNNYSIDE!



I was pleased to support the Bedford Business Association to have electrical service and Christmas lights added to the trees at the intersection of the Bedford Highway and Dartmouth Road. I received great feedback from residents, so they will be back next season.

And speaking of Christmas, thank you to the MacSween family of Bedford for donating the tree for DeWolf Park, and to Clayton Developments and Dexter Construction for its transportation and installation.

HOW TO CONTACT TIM

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Municipal Call Centre 311

The Municipal Call Centre is open 7 days a week 7:00 am to 11:00 pm except holidays, and is your fastest way to access information on a wide variety of municipal services and information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - FAQs:

Q - Did you support the 2016 / 17 Budget?

A - Yes, for the reasons listed in this newsletter.

Q - Did you support naming the donair as the official food of HRM?

A - No, rather I tried to have it recognized as "an official food", which would have allowed us to consider adding a couple more favourites in the future.

Q - Did you support the Irving Shipyard tax plan?

A - No, while I am a great supporter of the ship building program and of our business community, I felt that a better solution would have been to create an "industrial tax rate". This legislation could have then been considered for other large and unique businesses. I continue to strongly support the research into how HRM can launch tax rates and fairness for condo owners and for small business owners.

Q - What is the status of the Bedford Waterfront development plan?

A - Please see the separate article in this newsletter.

Q - What is the status of the proposed commuter rail service for our municipality?

A - Please see the separate article in this newsletter.

Q - When are we getting a new library?

A - A location and design consultation will begin this year. Construction is likely in 2018.

Q - What is going on with transit improvements and the need for a Park & Ride?

A - Please see the separate article in this newsletter.

Q - Did I support the councillor compensation recommendations brought forward by the volunteer panel?

A - Yes. I supported the concept of setting councillor compensation for a four year period, and also the localizing of the pay formula to reflect local salaries and current local economic conditions.

Q - Did I support HRM considering the proposed Deed Transfer Tax incentives to stimulate first time buyers entering home ownership?

A - Yes. I thought that this might help first-time buyers, plus jump-start the real estate market, and also help those seniors and empty-nesters trying to sell their existing home.