

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020-002-GOV  
SOCIAL POLICY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**BE IT RESOLVED, as an Administrative Order of the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality, as follows:**

**Short Title**

1. This Administrative Order may be cited as Administrative Order Number 2020-002-GOV, the *Social Policy*.

**Purposes**

2. The purposes of this Administrative Order are to:

- (a) provide a clearly defined, consistent and collaborative approach to social policy;
- (b) endorse Social Policy Areas of Focus;
- (c) provide a foundation for a more integrated, coordinated, and sustainable approach for social policy in HRM;
- (d) clarify the roles of HRM, in conjunction with other stakeholders, in addressing social policy issues; and
- (e) increase internal capacity to understand and influence social policy.

**Interpretation**

3. In this Administrative Order,

- (a) “CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer of HRM;
- (b) “Council” means Halifax Regional Council;
- (c) “HRM” means Halifax Regional Municipality;
- (d) “Social Policy Working Group” means the working group established by the CAO pursuant to section 7 of this Administrative Order;
- (e) “Social Policy Areas of Focus” means the social policy focus areas endorsed by Council and set out in section 6 of this Administrative Order;
- (f) “Social Policy Goals” means the social policy goals endorsed by Council and set out in section 5 of this Administrative Order.
- (g) “Social Policy Vision” means the social policy vision endorsed by Regional Council and set out in section 4 of this Administrative Order.

## **Vision**

4. Council hereby endorses the following Social Policy Vision:

*“HRM is a safe, healthy, and welcoming community where everyone is able to participate fully in their community.”*

## **Goals**

5. Council hereby endorses the following Social Policy Goals:

- (a) Strengthen community health and wellbeing;
  - (i) HRM citizens and visitors are safe where they live, learn, work, and play;
  - (ii) HRM builds resiliency by providing leadership in energy management, sustainability and environmental risk management both as an organization and in the community;
  - (iii) HRM shall be an active partner in supporting community wellbeing programs, such as food security initiatives;
- (b) Enhance equity and inclusion;
  - (i) HRM is a leader in building an accessible community where everyone can participate fully in life;
  - (ii) HRM is a leader in fostering partnerships that provide access to a full range of quality, affordable housing options in safe and vibrant neighborhoods;
  - (iii) HRM is a diverse and inclusive community that supports everybody;
- (c) Build on social assets and community capacity;
  - (i) HRM citizens have access to facilities and natural assets that enable a range of choices for structured and unstructured leisure and recreation activities;
  - (ii) HRM communities, families, youth and seniors have access to social infrastructure that enables them to participate fully in their community; and
  - (iii) HRM will implement an integrated mobility strategy that supports growth, development and the transportation of goods and people of all ages and abilities, using all modes including walking, cycling, transit, and motor vehicles, consistent with the Regional Plan.

### **Areas of Focus:**

6. Council hereby endorses the following Social Policy Areas of Focus for the Municipality:

- (a) Connected communities and mobility;
- (b) Food security; and
- (c) Housing.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

7. The CAO shall:

(a) establish a Social Policy Working Group, consisting of representatives of HRM Business Units;

(b) appoint a member of senior management to sponsor and oversee the work of the Social Policy Working Group; and

(c) seek opportunities to engage and partner with external stakeholders on initiatives addressing the Social Policy Areas of Focus.

8. The Social Policy Working Group shall meet at least quarterly to:

(a) discuss the implementation and advancement of the Social Policy Vision and Social Policy Goals;

(b) maintain an inventory of ongoing and completed projects related to the advancement of Social Policy Areas of Focus;

(c) discuss opportunities to collaborate with other levels of government, First Nations, community partners and other key stakeholders; and

(d) develop and guide the implementation of social policy tools and resources for HRM staff.

### **Reporting/Monitoring**

9. The CAO (or designate) shall report to Council at least annually on the progress of the Social Policy Working Group, the achievement of the Social Policy Goals, and the advancement of the Social Policy Areas of Focus.

Done and passed this 12th day of May, 2020.

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Mayor Mike Savage

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Sherryll Murphy, Acting Municipal Clerk

I, Sherryll Murphy, Acting Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above noted Administrative Order was passed at a meeting of Halifax Regional Council held on May 12, 2020.

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Sherryll Murphy, Acting Municipal Clerk

Notice of Motion:  
Approved:

April 28, 2020  
May 12, 2020