

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 2021-002-OP  
RESPECTING NET-ZERO CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MUNICIPAL FACILITIES WITHIN THE  
HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

**WHEREAS** the Council has authorized the direction contained in the HalifACT: Acting on Climate Together Plan;

**AND WHEREAS** the HalifACT Climate Action Plan has committed to developing, adopting, and applying a standard for net-zero new construction, with a target of net-zero construction by 2030;

**BE IT RESOLVED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER** of the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality under the authority of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, as follows:

**Short Title**

1. This Administrative Order may be cited as Administrative Order 2021-002-OP, the *Net-Zero Construction of New Municipal Facilities Administrative Order*.

**Interpretation**

2. In this Administrative Order,

(a) “Council” means the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality;

(b) “department” means the department assigned responsibility for corporate building design and construction by the Chief Administrative Officer;

(c) “municipal facility” means a building owned by the Halifax Regional Municipality that is heated or cooled;

(d) “net-zero” means that 100% of a building’s energy need is generated on-site or off-site through a renewable source;

(e) “net-zero ready” means reducing building energy consumption by 50% as compared to the 2017 National Energy Code for Buildings and maximizing on-site renewable generation, with the intention to purchase off-site renewables or carbon offsets as they become available to achieve net-zero; and

(f) “temporary structure” means a building that is not intended, by its construction, to be permanent, and includes mobile offices, emergency shelters and structures required to facilitate the construction of other buildings.

**Purpose**

3. The purpose of this Administrative Order is to consider the energy consumption of all new municipal facilities.

**Application**

- 4. This Administrative Order applies to all municipal facilities designed after the passing of this Administrative Order by Council.
- 5. For greater certainty, this Administrative Order does not apply to temporary structures.

**Roles and Responsibilities**

- 6. Department staff shall consider designing and constructing new municipal facilities to achieve net-zero.
- 7. Department staff may consider designing and constructing a new municipal facility to achieve net-zero ready, providing that department staff are satisfied that net-zero is infeasible due to one or more of the following:
  - (a) site limitations;
  - (b) operational needs; or
  - (c) the capital cost of such measures outweighing the operational and maintenance savings over the facility's useful life.
- 8. New municipal facilities that are designed to achieve net zero or to be net-zero ready shall include energy monitoring (circuit level for electrical) to verify that the energy target has been met.
- 9. Nothing in the Administrative Order requires Council to design and construct a municipal facility that achieves net-zero or is net zero ready.

Done and passed on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2021.

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Mayor Mike Savage

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Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk

I, Iain MacLean, 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 November 23, 2021.

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Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk

Notice of Motion:  
Approval:

November 9, 2021  
November 23, 2021