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**Item No. 06**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**September 06, 2016**

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Original Signed by Director  
Bob Bjerke, Chief Planner and Director, Planning and Development

**DATE:** August 16, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Status of Dangerous or Unsightly Orders

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### **INFORMATION REPORT**

#### **ORIGIN**

The "*Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Amendment (2011) Act*". Amendment to the *Halifax Regional Charter* requires the Administrator to report to Council on the status of dangerous or unsightly property Orders including any remedial progress.

#### **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* 189, 2008, c.39, section 355 (3)

#### **BACKGROUND**

Staff submitted a report dated February 24, 2016 to Regional Council reporting on the status of dangerous or unsightly property Orders issued July 1 – December 31, 2015. Section 355 (3) states, "*The Administrator shall at least twice per year table a public report to the Council describing the status of dangerous or unsightly property orders including remedial progress made regarding properties for which orders were issued pursuant to this Part. 2008, c. 39, s. 355; 2011, c. 4, s. 3.*"

This report will provide an update on Orders issued January 1 – June 30, 2016.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Orders to Remedy are generally addressed in one of three ways:

- Compliance by a property owner,
- Appeal by a property owner, or
- Remedy by HRM.

If a property owner appeals an Order, the case is heard by the Appeals Standing Committee. The Committee will determine if the appeal is granted or denied. If the appeal is granted, there will be no remedy required and the case is closed.

There are circumstances where an Order is issued and the remedial progress is pending re-inspection. Re-inspections include deferral by Appeals Standing Committee on an appeal, inclement weather or a change in condition at the property. Orders for unsightly violations are issued for no less than 7 days and can be 60 days or greater depending on the scope of work required to bring the property into compliance. This report is inclusive of January 1 – June 30, 2016. There are 86 re-inspections that will be carried forward for the coming months.

The below table provides the status of Orders issued from January 1 – June 30, 2016.

<b>Remedial Progress of Orders</b>	
Number of Orders	514
Owner compliance achieved by Order	353
Remedy complete by HRM	69
Pending re-inspection	86
Pending Appeal	5
Appeal(s) granted by Appeals Standing Committee	1

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Compliance Officers make every effort to speak directly to the property owner(s) regarding any Order issued for violations at their property. Orders are also posted on the property and a copy is sent through registered mail to the property owner. Property owners have the option to appeal the Order within 7 days of it being posted. The appeal is heard in a public meeting by the Appeals Standing Committee.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments.

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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