

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 14.6.4

Request for Council's Consideration			
X Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	Added Item (Submitted Clerk's Offic Monday)	to Municipal	□ Request from the Floor
Date of Council Meeting: July 18, 2017			
Subject: Alderney Ferry Schedule Post-Big Lift			
Motion for Council to Consider:			
That Regional Council request a staff report on adjusting the schedule for the Alderney Ferry as detailed in Attachment C of the "17/18 Multi-year Budget Options for Consideration REVISED" that was before Council on February 15, 2017.			
Reason: To help mitigate the impact of the MacDonald Bridge redecking project (Big Lift), HRM has provided more frequent ferry service on the Alderney route on weekday evenings and extended hours on Sundays. Since the start of the Big Lift and the new service, ferry ridership has increased by nearly 50%. Council approved in the 2017/2018 budget a continuation of extended ferry service to see what impact the conclusion of the Big Lift will have on ridership.			
The Alderney Ferry currently operates on a 15 minute schedule from 7:00 am – 9:00 am and from 1:00 pm - 11:30 pm. During midday, from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, the ferry operates on 30 minute frequency.			
During budget submissions, Transit presented Council with an alternative scheduling option for consideration that would see the Alderney ferry shift to all-day 15 minute service until 8:30 pm while still retaining the popular Sunday service. The bulk of the increase in ferry ridership has been in the early evenings and on Sundays and there is steady existing demand for the service during the day. Adjusting the schedule could retain the peak hours in the Big Lift's expanded service while also addressing a long-standing requests for an unbroken daytime 15 minute schedule. There would be no additional impact on HRM's 17/18 budget.			
Outcome Sought: Staff recommendation report			
Councillor Sam Austin		District 05	