

Community Area Rate Business Plan & Budget for 2025-26

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| Name of Association or Society: | |
| Registry of Joint Stock Companies ID#: | |
| Mailing Address of Association or Society: | |

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|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Primary Signing Authority | Secondary Signing Authority |
| Name & Title: | | |
| Phone number & Email: | | |

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|--|--|
| Business Plan & Budget approved at Annual General Meeting held on: | |
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Mission, Description of Services Provided, Accomplishments from Prior Year (include who the services are provided to and the purpose of the area rate)

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What Goals Does Your Organization Plan to Accomplish in the fiscal year?

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Area Rate Information

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| Amount of Area Rate: | |
| Will the amount of the Area Rate change this fiscal year? | |
| If yes, have the majority of homeowners at the AGM voted to approve the change? | |
| Area subject to Area Rate: | |
| Do you anticipate a surplus or a deficit at the end of this fiscal year and how much? | |
| Does the association have active status with the NS Registry of Joint Stocks? | |
| Is the association proposing any new capital projects in the fiscal year? | |

Requirements for release of annual funds – In order for annual funding to be released an Association must provide HRM staff with a finalized business plan & budget document which has been approved through majority vote at an AGM or special meeting, a copy of the meeting minutes where the business plan & budget were approved, and a copy of the prior year financial statements. The association must have an active status with the Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks and a signed contribution agreement between HRM and the association must also be in place.

Acceptable use of funds – (for a complete list please review clause 33 of [AO 2019-005-ADM](#))

- community events; accessories including signage, picnic tables, benches, and garbage cans; and community beautification and clean-up
- maintenance of recreation infrastructure
- recreation and leisure costs, including programming and equipment
- establishment and maintenance of seasonal recreation infrastructure
- operation of small, local community centres
- grants to non-profit organizations (subject to the rules and regulations as stated in section 33 (1) (h) of [AO 2019-005-ADM](#))
- construction or enhancement of
 - local recreational infrastructure on municipal land including parks, trails, sport fields, play lawns, playgrounds, landscaping, paths and trails, and related accessories
 - Consider the potential maintenance costs of these items
 - sidewalks outside of the Urban Area as established by Council

General information – If the association requests an increase to the area rate amount or a change to the catchment area to take effect the following fiscal year, it must be communicated clearly in writing to HRM staff by October of the current year at the latest.

- All owners of property subject to the rate shall be eligible for membership in the community organization
- All members of the community organization shall be entitled to vote
- Meetings of the community organization that relate to the rate shall be open to any member of the public

HRM Contact: Arearateinfo@halifax.ca

Link to Administrative Order: [Administrative Order 2019-005-ADM, Respecting the Establishment and Use of Community Area Rates in the Halifax Regional Municipality | Halifax.ca](#)

Itemized Budget for Fiscal Year

| Description of Revenue Source | Amount (\$) |
|--|-------------|
| Area Rate Revenue to be collected from Property Tax bills: | |
| Surplus or (deficit) carried forward from prior fiscal year: | |
| Total Revenues (must equal total expenditures + capital): | \$ |

| Description of Planned Operating Expenditures | Amount (\$) |
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| Total Operating Expenses (operating + capital must equal total revenues): | \$ |

| Description of New or Existing Planned Capital/Infrastructure Projects | Amount (\$) |
|---|-------------|
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| Total Capital/Infrastructure Exp. (operating + capital must equal total revenues): | \$ |

Capital Project Information – the inclusion of a newly proposed capital project on this business plan, and its acceptance by HRM does **not** constitute immediate approval of the project. Business plans are not approved by Council. The approval for a proposed capital project will only happen once the following conditions have been met:

- A needs and suitability assessment is fully completed by Parks & Recreation or the appropriate business unit
- A maintenance plan has been considered in collaboration with the appropriate business unit
- Council has approved the project in the Municipality's capital budget

Parks & Recreation must receive a new capital project proposal by late Spring at the latest, in order to have the required time to evaluate it before September when the capital budget proposal is prepared for the following fiscal year. It is recommended that a dollar figure not be assigned to a newly proposed capital project in the business plan until such time as it has been included in the capital budget; as the assessment may span multiple fiscal years and the project may end up being rejected.