

## HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES

April 14, 2026

Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax

Present: Deputy Mayor Patty Cuttell  
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon  
Councillor David Hendsbee  
Councillor Becky Kent  
Councillor Trish Purdy  
Councillor Sam Austin  
Councillor Tony Mancini  
Councillor Laura White  
Councillor Virginia Hinch  
Councillor Shawn Cleary  
Councillor Kathryn Morse  
Councillor Janet Steele  
Councillor John Young  
Councillor Billy Gillis  
Councillor Jean St-Amand

Regrets: Mayor Andy Fillmore  
Councillor Nancy Hartling

Staff: Brad Anguish, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
John Traves, K.C., CD, Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer  
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants  
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant  
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant  
Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku, Legislative Assistant

***These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by Regional Council at a future meeting.***

***The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting. The agenda, reports, supporting documents information items circulated and video (if available) are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).***

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Deputy Mayor Cuttell called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

#### 1.1 SPECIAL PRESENTATION – POET LAUREATES – 3:00 P.M.

Anna Quon, Poet Laureate, presented an original poem titled "Poem to Council April 2026" to Council.

Asha Abdosh, 2025 Youth Poet Laureate outgoing, presented an original poem titled "Dear White People" to Council.

Daniel Park, 2026 Youth Poet Laureate incoming, presented original poems titled "Corners" and "To The Council" to Council.

**2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Councillors noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 3, 2026 Budget Committee and March 31, 2026 Regional Council**

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor Morse

**THAT the minutes of March 3, 2026 Budget Committee and March 31, 2026 Regional Council be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions:

- Item 22.1 - Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Information Report re: Contract Negotiations

As provided for in section 12 (5) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Steele requested that Information Item 21.2 – Memorandum from the Chief Administrative Officer dated April 7, 2026 re: Annual Public Safety Strategy Report be brought forward to a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor St. Amand, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Later in the meeting, as provided for in section 12 (5) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Steele requested that Information Item 22.1 – Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Information Report re: Contract Negotiations be brought forward to the April 28, 2026 Halifax Regional Council meeting.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

As provided for in section 41 (3) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*:

- Item 15.1.5 Downtown Halifax Vision 2030: Municipal Alignment Review was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Councillor White
- Item 15.4.1 Halifax Regional Event Strategy Report was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Councillor Mancini

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT Halifax Regional Council approve recommendations in the following items:**

- **13.1.1 – Fly-past Request - Halifax Wanderers Department of National Defence (DND) Appreciation Game;**
- **13.1.2 – Fly-Past Request – Canadian Armed Forces Maritime and Air Cooperation Ceremony;**
- **15.1.1 – First Reading Proposed By-law D-601, an Amendment to By-law D-600,**

**Respecting Development Charges for Dartmouth Cove;**

- **15.1.3 – First Reading Proposed By-law F-304, an Amendment to By-law F-300, A By-law Relating to Fees for the Provision of Taxation Information; and**
- **15.3.1 – HRTG-2025-02438: Request to Include 2636 Windsor Street, Halifax in the Registry of Heritage Properties for the Halifax Regional Municipality**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Hendsbee, Purdy, Hartling, Gillis

**6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

None

**7. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

None

**8. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION**

None

**9. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION**

None

**10. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - March 31, 2026**

**10.1 PLSTUDY-2026-00504: Inclusionary Zoning Market Analysis and Policy Options Update**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Staff report dated March 19, 2026
- Staff presentation dated April 14, 2026

Kasia Tota, Manager, Community Planning gave a presentation.

Tota and Aaron Murnaghan, Manager, Housing Accelerator Fund responded to questions of clarification from Halifax Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Acting Chief Administrative Officer:**

**1. Accept the findings of the Inclusionary Zoning Market Analysis and Policy Options Final Report;**

**2. Discontinue the process to amend the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy and all applicable secondary municipal planning strategies and land-use by-laws to create an Inclusionary Zoning Program for HRM as directed by Regional Council on May 9, 2023; and**

**3. Continue to consider the feasibility of Inclusionary Zoning as a possible future tool for supporting affordable housing in combination with incentive or bonus zoning when preparing future amendments for Council's consideration for both regional and community planning documents.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 1 against)**

In favour: Deputy Mayor Cuttell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, White, Cleary, Morse, Steele, Young, Gillis, St-Amand

Against: Councillor Hinch

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillor Hartling

**11. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS**

None

**12. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**13. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**13.1 Correspondence**

Correspondence was received and circulated for items: 13.1.1, 13.1.2 and 15.2.1.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

**13.1.1 Fly-past Request - Halifax Wanderers Department of National Defence (DND) Appreciation Game\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Correspondence from M.S.A Fortin

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT the Halifax Regional Municipality grant permission to the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) to fly assets in formation over the Wanderers Grounds, as per the enclosed diagram in the letter dated March 30, 2026, routed from north northeast to south southwest, flying over the Commons/Citadel Hill, originating from over the harbour and at a height of 500 feet above the highest obstacles on May 30, 2026, at 4:04 p.m. for the annual Department of National Defence (DND) Appreciation Game.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Hendsbee, Purdy, Hartling, Gillis

**13.1.2 Fly-Past Request – Canadian Armed Forces Maritime and Air Cooperation Ceremony\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Correspondence from Lt Cdr Charles Knight RN

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT Halifax Regional Council grant permission for a fly-past by Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft, in coordination with a naval asset, to be conducted over Halifax Harbour on May 16, 2026, as per the enclosed route/map, at an altitude of approximately 500 feet above the highest obstacles, at a time**

between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m, as part of an event to highlight ongoing cooperation between maritime and air elements of the Canadian Armed Forces.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Hendsbee, Purdy, Hartling, Gillis

**13.2 Petitions**

None

**14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

None

**15. REPORTS**

**15.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**15.1.1 First Reading Proposed By-law D-601, an Amendment to By-law D-600, Respecting Development Charges for Dartmouth Cove\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Staff report dated April 7, 2026

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-law D-601, an Amendment to By-law D-600, the Dartmouth Cove Development Charge By-law, as set out in Attachment B to the staff report dated April 7, 2026.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Hendsbee, Purdy, Hartling, Gillis

**15.1.2 Proposed Amendments to Administrative Order 18, Respecting Revenue Collections Policy - Revised Tax Sale Fees**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Staff report dated April 7, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

**THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 18, Respecting Revenue Collections Policy, as set out in Attachment A to the staff report dated April 7, 2026.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillor Hartling

**15.1.3 First Reading Proposed By-law F-304, an Amendment to By-law F-300, A By-law Relating to Fees for the Provision of Taxation Information\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Staff report dated April 7, 2026

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-law F-304, amending By-law F-300, A By-law Relation to Fees for the Provision of Taxation Information, as set out in Attachment A to the staff report dated April 7, 2026.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Hendsbee, Purdy, Hartling, Gillis

**15.1.4 Proposed Amendments to Administrative Order 2018-005-ADM, Respecting Construction Site Management - Temporary Pedestrian Paths Through Work Sites**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Staff report dated April 8, 2026

Anne Sherwood, Director Design & Asset Management and Ashley Blissett, Manger Development Engineering responded to questions of clarification from Halifax Regional Council regarding the criteria, process, compliance and requirements of sidewalk closure on construction site.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Steele

**THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 2018-005-ADM, the Administrative Order on Construction Site Management, as set out in Attachment 3 of the staff report dated April 8, 2026.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillor Hartling

**15.1.5 Downtown Halifax Vision 2030: Municipal Alignment Review\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Staff report dated April 8, 2026

Jake Whalen, Managing Director GREA and Scott Sheffield, Social Policy Strategist GREA responded to questions of clarification from Halifax Regional Council regarding the ongoing alignment review, funding and the neighborhood covered within downtown.

MOVED by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

**1. Receive this report as the municipal alignment assessment of the Downtown Halifax Business Commission's Downtown Halifax Vision 2030 framework; and**

**2. Endorse the implementation approach outlined in the staff report dated April 8, 2026, whereby HRM will:**

**a. continue to engage with Downtown Halifax Business Commission (DHBC) and advance alignment where feasible through existing Council-approved plans, budgets, and processes;**

**b. require separate business cases and explicit Council approval for any new operating or capital commitments; and**

**c. rely on DHBC to lead advocacy, coordination, and non-municipal implementation.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (12 in favour, 2 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Cuttell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Austin, Mancini, White, Hinch, Morse, Steele, Gillis, St-Amand

Against: Councillors Purdy, Young

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

## **15.2 TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE**

### **15.2.1 Integrated Mobility Plan Action Update**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Transportation Standing Committee report dated March 26, 2026 with attached staff report dated March 19, 2026
- Staff presentation dated April 14, 2026
- Correspondence from Ishraga Awad, Shelley Radford, and Kate MacLeod

Mike Connors, Manager Strategic Transportation Planning and Siobhan Witherbee, Project Manager Transportation Planning gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Halifax Regional Council.

Lucas Pitts, Executive Director Public Works responded to questions of clarification from Halifax Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Morse

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. adopt the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP) Action Update and direct the CAO that it be used to guide implementation of the IMP;**
- 2. direct staff to report annually on progress made on the IMP Action Plan to Regional Council through the Transportation Standing Committee; and,**
- 3. adopt Equity as the fifth pillar of the IMP, as set forth in the Discussion section of the staff report dated March 19, 2026, for project planning and evaluation purposes.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (12 in favour, 2 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Cuttell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Austin, Mancini, White, Hinch, Morse, Steele, Gillis, St-Amand

Against: Councillor Purdy, Young

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

## **15.3 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **15.3.1 HRTG-2025-02438: Request to Include 2636 Windsor Street, Halifax in the Registry of Heritage Properties for the Halifax Regional Municipality\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Heritage Advisory Committee report dated March 25, 2026 with attached staff report dated February 23, 2026

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT Halifax Regional Council set a date for a heritage hearing to consider the inclusion of 2636 Windsor Street, Halifax, in the Registry of Heritage Property for the Halifax Regional Municipality, as shown on Map 1 of the staff report dated February 23, 2026, as a municipal heritage property under the Heritage Property Act.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Hendsbee, Purdy, Hartling, Gillis

#### **15.4 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

##### **15.4.1 Halifax Regional Event Strategy Report\***

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Special Events Advisory Committee report dated April 8, 2026 with attached staff report dated February 24, 2026
- Staff presentation dated April 14, 2026

Ross Jefferson, President & Chief Executive Officer, Discover Halifax, Mark Teeple, Vice President, Festivals and Events, Discover Halifax and Billy Comer, Manager Events gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Halifax Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor White

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

**1. Endorse the Halifax Regional Event Strategy 2035, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 24, 2026.**

**2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to work in partnership with Discover Halifax and sector partners to implement the Halifax Regional Event Strategy 2035 through Annual Action Plans, using existing resources.**

**3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to align various municipal event-related policies, processes, and governance structures, where appropriate, with the Halifax Regional Event Strategy 2035.**

**4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to work with Discover Halifax to prepare and return to Council with:**

**a. staff presentation, proposed detailed policy, program, governance, and measurement instruments, as required, to support implementation of the Halifax Regional Event Strategy 2035; and**

**b. proposed amendments to Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV (Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants) to align, or replace, current event-funding programs so they are governed by, and consistent with, the Halifax Regional Event Strategy 2035.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

## **15.5 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

### **15.5.1 Councillor Mancini - Potential Housing Partnerships to Replace Aging Fire Stations**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Mancini

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

**THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report on**

**1. Potential housing partnership opportunities to facilitate replacement of aging urban fire stations including Fire Station 13 (King Street Dartmouth) and Fire Station 3 (West Street Halifax).**

**2. Planning options to secure land for future fire station needs and partnership options to reduce capital investment.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

Deputy Mayor Cuttell stepped down from the Chair and Councillor Mancini assumed the Chair.

### **15.5.2 Deputy Mayor Cuttell - Amendment to Require On-Site Construction Waste and Debris Management Plans**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Deputy Mayor Cuttell

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Steele

**THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a staff report regarding amendments to Administrative Order 2018-005-ADM to include provisions for litter management on construction sites.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

### **15.5.3 Deputy Mayor Cuttell - Review of Parkland Dedication Framework - REVISED**

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Deputy Mayor Cuttell, revised April 13, 2026

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Hinch

**THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a staff report that:**

**1. outlines the legislative context and practices for parkland dedications, including comparisons with other provinces;**

**2. identifies the status of undeveloped parkland within the municipality; and**

**3. identifies priorities and options for the development of parkland within the municipality.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

Deputy Mayor Cuttell resumed the Chair.

**16. MOTIONS**

**17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

**17.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes - March 3, 2026 Budget Committee and March 31, 2026 Regional Council**

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of March 3, 2026 Budget Committee and March 31, 2026 Regional Council be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**17.2 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Private and Confidential staff report dated April 8, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Hinch

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

**1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 8, 2026; and**

**2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 8, 2026 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

**17.3 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated April 7, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Young

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

**1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 7, 2026; and**

**2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 7, 2026 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

**17.4 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Private and Confidential staff report dated April 7, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

**1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 7, 2026; and**

**2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 7, 2026 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

**17.5 PROPERTY MATTER - Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before Halifax Regional Council:

- Private and Confidential report dated April 7, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

**1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 7, 2026; and**

**2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 7, 2026 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (13 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Cuttell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Austin, Mancini, White, Hinch, Morse, Steele, Young, Gillis, St-Amand

Against: Councillor Purdy

Not present: Mayor Fillmore, Councillors Cleary, Hartling

**18. ADDED ITEMS**

None

**19. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**19.1 Councillor Deagle Gammon**

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I propose to move amendments to Administrative Order 16, Respecting Fees for the Use of Solid Waste

Management Facilities, the purpose of which is to amend commercial tipping fees for solid waste management facilities and provide for annual Consumer Price Index Adjustments.

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

**21. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**21.1 Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk dated April 7, 2026 re: Requests for Presentation to Council - None**

**21.2 Memorandum from the Chief Administrative Officer dated April 7, 2026 re: Annual Public Safety Strategy Report**

**22. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) INFORMATION ITEMS**

**22.1 Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Information Report re: Contract Negotiations**

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Iain MacLean Municipal Clerk