



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 15.6.1

Request for Council's Consideration		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor
Date of Council Meeting: August 19, 2025		
Subject: Request for egress options for consideration in the 2026/2027 capital budget process, and open conversations with provincial partners to develop a framework to determine responsibility for provincial and private roads within HRM, and explore opportunities for federal funding.		
<p>Motion for Council to Consider: THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the CAO to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. provide emergency egress options for Council consideration as part of the 2026/2027 capital budget process based on early findings from the Region-wide Subdivision Egress Review Study, if critical subdivisions can be clearly identified or if low-effort egress solutions can be achieved;2. initiate conversations with provincial partners to identify roles and financial responsibilities for emergency egress for subdivisions within HRM on provincial roads, or on private-to-provincial roads; and,3. explore opportunities for federal funding to assist with costs for emergency egress solutions. <p>Reason: The Region-wide Subdivision Egress Review Study is not expected to be fully complete until after 2026/2027 budget deliberations. Given the continued wildfire threats experienced by HRM, including the wildfires at Ostrea Lake and Head of St. Margaret's just this year, regional council should consider expediting emergency egress solutions based on early findings from that report in the 2026/2027 capital budget as a matter of public safety.</p> <p>Many communities at risk due to lack of emergency egress are in subdivisions on provincially owned roads, or on private roads connected to provincial roads. Open dialogue with provincial partners will be needed to determine a clear understanding of responsibility for maintenance and costs to effectively establish a multi-year implementation strategy that prioritizes subdivisions for remediation.</p> <p>Lastly, HRM should continue to explore funding options from other levels of government, including federal sources.</p> <p>Outcome Sought: Options for consideration as part of the 2026/2027 capital budget process based on early findings of the Region-wide Subdivision Egress Review Study, with provincial alignment on cost sharing and maintenance.</p>		
Councillor Nancy Hartling		District 13