

COUNCILLOR WAYE MASON DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER Winter 2016



Credit: Brice Ferre Studio

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Lots of great things happening this winter! Several major plans are coming forward - the **Centre Plan** enters the home stretch in March, which is also when the **Moving Forward Transit** plan will be presented to Council. The **Integrated Mobility plan** and the **Green Network plan** will have public engagement processes this spring and summer.

Taken together, these plans will shape what our neighbourhoods are like for the next couple of decades. I cannot overstate how important it is to be involved in these discussions, please read the info in this newsletter and get involved!

The newsletter also has articles on our ongoing work with **JEM**, a new way to find out about **development applications**, and of course the return of **Participatory Budgeting for 2016!**

In other news, **Regional Council voted to enhance the new Le Marchant St Thomas school gym** to a junior high sized gym of 6300 square feet, making it the second largest school gym on the peninsula, over double the size of the current gym! This is a much needed facility in our community.

I have recently updated my website, with my calendar, expenses, and links to all of the major projects I am working on (community associations, JEM, parks). Please have a look at <http://wayemason.ca>

Take care,

ENEWS SIGNUP

In addition to this paper newsletter, I have been sending regular email updates approximately once a month for the last three years. This is the best way to keep up-to-date on what is happening in our District and in the Halifax area. Please visit wayemason.ca/mailling-list and enter your information. You will receive an email to confirm subscription, you must click on the link supplied. You can unsubscribe at anytime and email addresses will not be shared.

If you are aware of a community event or announcement and would like it included, please forward the information to my Coordinator Melody Campbell at melody.campbell@halifax.ca so I can include it in a future update.



PLEASE RECYCLE - Due to Canada Post delivery routes, some residents who do not live in District 7 may receive this newsletter. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion. To find out who your councillor is, please visit: eservices.halifax.ca/districtLookup/ or call **311**.

CONTACT US

311 - HRM CITIZEN CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue, the contact centre is open daily from 7 am - 11 pm except Christmas & New Year's Day.

CALL MY OFFICE

Contact my Council Constituency Coordinator Melody Campbell by email at melody.campbell@halifax.ca or by calling 902.490.2012

CONTACT ME

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STAY CONNECTED

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wayemason.ca
halifax.ca

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wayemason.ca/mailling-list/

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Police/Fire Emergency	911
Police non-emergency	902.490.5020
Fire (non-emergency)	902.490.5530
Halifax Water Emergency	902.490.6940
Councillor Support Office	902.490.4050

HALIFAX



GREEN NETWORK PLAN

The Halifax Green Network Plan is being developed for the long-term conservation and use of a region-wide network of open space and park resources for ecological, socio-cultural and economic benefit. Public meetings will be held to present key findings from Phase 1 and draft planning directions for public input. All residents and groups are encouraged to attend March 31st 6-9pm Atlantica Hotel on Robie, or one of the other meetings around HRM. Further information can be found at www.halifax.ca/halifaxgreennetwork

INTEGRATED MOBILITY PLAN

Regional Council has given staff direction to develop a strategic plan specifically aimed at increasing the modal split of sustainable forms of transportation. The plan is to integrate both land use and transportation planning and include comparative costing analysis of road and right of way infrastructure upgrades as compared to other forms of transportation. The process, timeline, and scope of the plan are still under development, but it is anticipated that the plan will take about a year to complete, and will include an opportunity for public engagement. More details will be provided as they become available.

NEW TRANSIT PLAN

COMING IN MARCH

Revisions to the **Moving Forward Together Plan** are nearing completion. These revisions are based on the public consultation which took place from February to April 2015. The final plan will be brought to the Transportation Standing Committee in March 2016.



BE PREPARED: JOIN THE JEM

We continue to work on establishing a formal Joint Emergency Management (JEM) team. This is a community-based volunteer organization that works with HRM's EMO. This is great way for involved citizens to educate friends, family and neighbours in preparedness for emergencies.

JEM's motto is "neighbours helping neighbours". During emergencies, residents in affected communities need to be prepared to help themselves and to assist others. Come join us! More info at <http://wayemason.ca/jem>

Upcoming meeting schedule – Halifax Central Library, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 30th – Creative Lab Room

Wednesday, April 27th – Creative Lab Room

Wednesday, May 25th – Creative Lab Room



The Mayor, Councillors Outhit & Whitman & I met Minister Sohi and MPs Fisher and Filmore to talk about infrastructure funding.



Delivering a proclamation on behalf of the Mayor, while under close observation by the Mayor. No, not awkward at all!



The Mayor, Councillor Watts and I presented a plaque to Janet Kitz and family celebrating her work commemorating the Halifax Explosion.



Participatory budget cheque presented to Chris and Pat from Peninsula Urban Gardens Society.



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING 2016/17

BUILDING A GREAT COMMUNITY - ONE IDEA AT A TIME

Once again, I invite District 7 residents' input on how to spend \$54,833 in the community. The funds will be allocated using a Participatory Budgeting model whereby residents are invited to submit community project ideas and qualifying submissions are then voted on by the community.

The benefits of this process are that it encourages great ideas to come forward from local groups, builds community support and collaboration, and gives local residents a direct say in how they want the District 7 capital funds spent.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IDEA SWAP

Monday, April 4, 2016 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Lindsay Children's Room, Halifax Central Library
Everyone is welcome to discuss priorities and ideas on how to improve District 7. Find out more about submitting a project.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Midnight | Monday, May 2, 2016
Email to melody.campbell@halifax.ca or by mail to Melody Campbell, Council Support Office, PO Box 1749 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

COMMUNITY VOTE

Wednesday, June 1, 2016 | 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Lindsay Children's Room, Halifax Central Library
District 7 residents of all ages are invited to vote on their favourite projects in person. Winners will be announced that night.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT [HTTP://WAYEMASON.CA/PB](http://WAYEMASON.CA/PB)



THE CENTRE PLAN: GET ENGAGED!

The Centre Plan is a plan for the urban core (Halifax Peninsula and Dartmouth within the Circumferential Highway) for the next 10-20 years. Changes in our neighbourhoods, business districts,

parks and streets are inevitable as the municipality grows. How this change happens is something we can both influence and plan for.

Some questions we must answer are: How would you like to see in your neighbourhood as it grows and changes? What would make living in the urban core more attractive and a realistic option for individuals and/or families? How do we make the urban core a vibrant, diverse, healthy, economically and environmentally sustainable place that is easy to move around in, resilient, and respectful of our heritage? And of course, did we miss anything?

The next stage is set to start in March, and the plan should be completed late Fall. It is very important that we participate in the process and understand the proposed changes because we will have to live with it for decades!

Please sign up for the updates, read the background documents (on topics such as housing affordability, new planning tools, & effective public participation), and participate in the online discussions at <http://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/> and sign up for my district email that has notices of the public meetings at <http://wayemason.ca/ mailing-list>.



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The Chocolate Lake Centre offers Stay Active Stay Fit 55+ on Monday afternoons. By no means is this the only program for Seniors, many of our Adult Programs are suited for seniors needs; these programs include but not limited to, badminton, indoor walking, outdoor and Nordic walking, yoga and tai chi. Check out our adult recreation programs catalogue at <http://www.halifax.ca/rec/ProgramsandActivities> or pick up a copy of the catalog at your local recreation centre.

The Needham Pool offers programs which may be of interest to seniors; water exercise and aquafit to name a couple. You can reach the Needham Pool by calling 902.490.4633.

SENIORS' RECREATION IN HALIFAX

As we all know, physical activity is important to all of us. As we get into our senior years, exercise can play an integral part in mobility and good health.

HRM Recreation programs are available for those wishing to live active lifestyles.

HRM offers a seniors' discount of 25% on adult programs for those 55+.

The Centennial Pool offers Aquacize which is attended by many seniors in our community. The pool is fully accessible and has a hydraulic chair lift for those with accessibility issues. The pool offers shallow and deep end Aquacize. To receive further information on the Centennial Pool activities and programs, please call 902-490-7219 or check out their website at <http://www.centennialpool.ca>

INTERACTIVE MAP OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS



The planning applications webpage has been recently updated as part of ongoing improvements to the Planning & Development department to now include a mapping feature.

This interactive map allows users to see the location of planning applications within your community, with direct links provided to additional application information, opportunities for engagement, and staff contact details for which to provide feedback.

The map will be updated each month to show new applications, and is an excellent example of the modern approach to community engagement that will continue to be rolled out over the coming months.

A link to the map can be found on the active planning applications website at: <http://www.halifax.ca/planning/Applications/index.php>