



MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Planning Committee

FROM: Regional Planning

DATE: February 22, 2006

SUBJECT: **Regional Plan Draft #2 - Response to Public Input** (*Addendum to Response to Public Input, February 14, 2006 document*)

The following are two responses to submissions omitted from the Response to Public Input (Supplementary) document, dated February 14, 2006.

Residential Buffers for Airport

Issue/Concern

The Chamber of Commerce Air Transportation Subcommittee expressed concern residential development should be kept away from the Halifax International Airport.

Discussion

The proposed Business/Industrial Park Secondary Designation at Aerotech Park restricts residential development. The Halifax International Airport, and their proposed expansion areas, are specifically mentioned in draft Policy EC-11 establishing the sub-designation. The ongoing secondary planning process¹ for the airport will result in the implementation of appropriate land use controls around the Halifax International Airport, including the establishment of noise exposure forecasts (NEF).

Recommendation

No changes.

¹ (HRM Planning and Development: Case # 00617 and # 00655)

CCME Policy

Issue/Concern

The SWCSMH recommends “the use of CCME Policy on phosphorus enrichment (eutrophication) should be strictly enforced by HRM (Section 6 in SWCSMH Submission)

Discussion/Options

The cited document is the Canadian Guidance Framework for the Management of Phosphorus in Freshwater Systems (Environment Canada, 2004). As a national guideline, this approach is not “enforceable” except to the extent that HRM enshrines it in MPS or by-law. HRM has expressed the intention in the draft Regional Plan to manage development on a watershed basis in order to, among other things, stem the decline of lakes from the accelerated process of eutrophication. To examine where and how this long-term objective can be met, the draft plan expresses an intention to require water quality monitoring for lakes impacted by developments under a master plan or development agreement process. It also specifies that monitoring will be based on CCME water quality guidelines, and this would include the phosphorus guidance framework.

Recommendation

Adjust the plan to clarify that the CCME guidelines referred to in the plan, include the Canadian Guidance Framework for the Management of Phosphorus in Freshwater Systems (2004).