

Date: December 5th, 2024

Halifax Regional Planning

5251 Duke St

Halifax, NS

B3J 3S1

Attention: Telina Debly

RE: Fall River Subdivision Water Main Extension

Dear Telina,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to advocate for the extension of water service boundaries to a new land development in Fall River (PIDs 40521841 and 00507046, lots accessed from George Jackson Rd. and Hunts Brook Rd.). The development in question proposes potentially 20 building lots that would be serviced by this water main. The development connects to the existing road network through High Road but would be serviced with water through an easement where the existing lot fronts Fall River Road.

As you are likely aware, our community is facing a pressing housing shortage, and it has become increasingly evident that action is needed to address this issue promptly. In the case of this development, access to water is a matter of importance, as it has been a well-documented issue that this area has difficulty achieving sufficient groundwater yields (see attached report from the main extension). Therefore, to ensure that housing can be built quickly, efficiently, and to an acceptable quality I recommend that the water main be allowed to extend into this proposed development.

From the perspective of the Halifax Water, in 2018 the water main was extended through Fall River Road from Windsor Junction to Highway 2 to provide access to potable water to the residents in the area. This main was sized with the knowledge that Fall River was a planned growth node for Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), and it was expected that in addition to the existing residents who would have access to the water main, there would be future expansion to the system to accommodate the growing municipality. According to Halifax Water, due to this sizing for the future growth, the water main has seen less use than was expected. This increased the time in which water remained stagnant in the water main and has caused water quality issues. Increasing the demand on this water main with the proposed development could increase the turnover rate of water in the main and prevent the need for Halifax Water to intervene by flushing the water main to maintain water quality standards.

Furthermore, extending the water main through the proposed development to High Road allows the possibility for HRM, and Halifax Water to continue extending the main to the existing residents on High Road, if desired. A centralized water supply system offers numerous benefits to these existing residents, including improved public health outcomes, environmental sustainability, and economic development opportunities.

In closing, I appreciate your attention to this matter and hope that you strongly consider allowing the extension of the water service boundary to the Fall River development. By prioritizing the extension of water service boundaries, we can demonstrate our commitment to meeting the needs of our residents and fostering a vibrant and resilient community.

Thank you,

DesignPoint Engineering & Surveying Ltd.

Original Signed

Neil Fougere, P.Eng
Principal, Senior Civil Engineer

JTB/jtb