# Land-lease Communities

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#### What is a Land-lease Community?

The term "land-lease community" describes the type of housing arrangement where the resident owns their home but leases the land on which their home is situated.



### **Existing Regulations**

#### **Municipal**

- Halifax County Mobile Home Park By-law (1986)
- City of Dartmouth Mobile Home Park By-law (1989)
- City of Halifax Mobile Home Park Ordinance (1970)
- 21 Land use by-laws and Municipal Planning Strategies

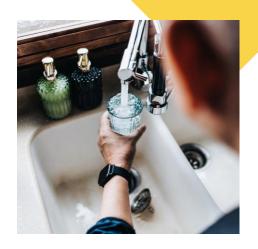
#### **Provincial**

- Residential Tenancies Act
- Environment Act

# **Components of a Land-lease Community**









**Recreation Space** 

**Streets** 

Water & Sewer

**Resident Services** 

### **Issues with by-laws**

- Current HRM mobile home park by-laws are out of date:
  - Does not represent present-day municipal and provincial approval standards.
  - Uncertainties on who is responsible for what services within a mobile home park
  - Has created difficulties for issuing Construction and/or Operating Permits for mobile home parks.
- Currently working to modernize our mobile home park by-laws into a new land-lease community by-law that address these issues.



### **Two-part by-law**

#### **Permitting**

- Applies to construction a new Land-lease community
- Requirements for infrastructure and servicing
- Applies to the installation of a manufactured home within a land-lease community
- Land use requirements (setbacks, separation distance, accessory buildings, etc.)

#### **Licensing**

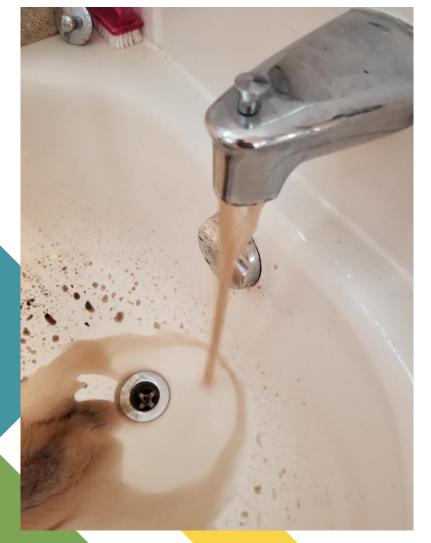
- Land-lease Community Operators are a business
- Licensing requirements apply to the operator of a land-lease community (landlord) not the residents (tenants)
- Operators must prove they are providing the minimum level of services required by the by-law
- Must prove infrastructure is safe and adequate

### Why is licensing important?





### Why is licensing important?







### Why is licensing important?







### Why are construction standards important?



#### **Public Engagement**

- 384 survey responses

#### Top issues:

- Water Quality
- Street maintenance
- Drainage
- Relationship between tenant/landlord



### **Water Testing Requirements**

#### **Existing Regulations**

- No water testing if connected to municipal water
- No infrastructure maintenance program required
- Resident has to complain, provide evidence like a water test

#### **Proposed Regulations**

- All water systems will require testing, regardless of the source
- Operators are required to notify residents of the results of water testing
- Where there are problems with tests or frequent infrastructure failures, Municipality can request a report from a P. Eng attesting to the state of the infrastructure and outlining required repairs to correct any issues.

### Miscellaneous Requirements

#### **Existing Regulations**

- Drive-by inspection once per year by DO
- No assessment of underground infrastructure
- Required maximum 25 km/hr speed limit signs to be posted

#### **Proposed Regulations**

- Certified Playground Inspector must inspect playground once per year
- Drainage systems must be maintained to ensure stormwater drains away from manufactured home spaces.
- At the Municipality's discretion, we can request a P.
  Eng report of underground infrastructure
- Dropped speed limit requirements (no authority to set or enforce under MGA/Halifax Charter)

### **New construction Standards**

#### **Existing Regulations**

- Water, sewer and stormwater must be designed by a
  P. Eng, but no standard to be met
- 5-7% space set aside for recreation space

#### **Proposed Regulations**

- Streets must be paved and minimum 40' wide.
- Water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure must be built to the Municipal Design Guidelines
- 10% of developable area must be set aside for recreation space.
- Fire protection infrastructure, based on the recommendation of Halifax Fire and Emergency

### **Project Timeline**

#### March-April 2022

**Issuing Operating Licenses** 

Compliance work

Identifying issues

#### January – May 2023

Stakeholder Consultation

Drafting new by-laws

November 2022 – February 2023

**Public Consultation** 

#### **June 2023**

First Reading of new by-law at Regional Council



## Thank you

Questions?

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