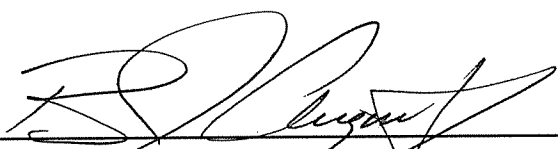




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**Halifax Regional Council
Committee of the Whole
January 25, 2005**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services

DATE: January 20, 2004

SUBJECT: Harbour Solutions Project - Quarterly Report

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

This report originates from the Council session of October 22, 2002.

BACKGROUND

A motion of Halifax Regional Council on October 22, 2002 requested staff to “continue to investigate other federal/provincial funding opportunities and report back to Regional Council once per quarter on these and other revenue sources which might be considered or available to offset the HRM portion of the Harbour Solutions Project and, to the extent that additional funds cannot be raised, Council from time to time shall raise the required funds through the Pollution Control Charge (not to exceed \$0.29) to build the complete project”.

On June 20, 2003, Halifax Regional Council refused to accept what it considered to be “fundamental changes” to the agreements signed in 2002 with HREP. As a result, negotiations with HREP terminated. HRM remained satisfied with the technical requirements for the project as contemplated by the HREP agreement and was committed to moving forward with the Project within the time lines set for start and completion, but under alternative arrangements.

Contracts with Dexter Construction for the Sewage Collection System (SCS) and with D & D Water Solutions for the Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) were signed in August 2003 and July 2004, respectively. Construction for the SCS and STP has started.

Contracts with SGE Acres Limited and Hatch Limited to design, build and commission a biosolids processing facility and with N-Viro Systems Canada to operate and maintain the biosolids facility were signed November 30, 2004.

Since the design and construction of the project are well underway, this is the first quarterly report covering all components of the project.

DISCUSSION

Attached is a copy of the Harbour Solutions Project's Quarterly Report to December 31, 2004 that provides comprehensive summaries of the various activities.

Construction of the Halifax Sewage Collection System (SCS) is well underway. All elements of the SCS are scheduled to be complete prior to October 2005 with the exception of the Duffus Street Pump Station modifications and some diversion piping which will be completed in 2006 to better coordinate with the completion of the Halifax STP.

The effective date for the Sewage Treatment Plants contract was July 7, 2004. Current activities, including engineering design, plans, manuals, permitting and excavation, are on schedule for completion of the Halifax STP by September 2006.

On November 30, 2004, HRM entered into contract with SGE Acres Limited and Hatch Limited to design, build and commission a Biosolids Processing Facility (BPF) at AeroTech Park to handle biosolids from the Harbour Solutions Project and existing HRM waste water treatment plants. HRM also signed a contract with N-Viro Systems Canada to operate and maintain the BPF for a five year period, beginning in 2006. The signing of these agreements completes the last of the three major components of the Harbour Solutions Project. Current activities include engineering design of the BPF. Staff is preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the trucking of dewatered biosolids to the biosolids processing plant and this RFP will be issued before fiscal year end.

In support of the Harbour Solutions Project and as a requirement of provincial legislation, HRM initiated a Source Control Program, now referred to as the Pollution Prevention (P2) Program. The initial phase of P2 activities within Halifax STP sewershed has been completed. Similar activities for the Dartmouth STP sewershed have started.

The Marketing, Design and Print Services section of Shared Services (now with the Corporate Communications Office) assumed responsibility for the Public Information and Involvement Program (PIIP) for the Harbour Solutions Project in the fall of 2003. The Harbour Solutions website has been redesigned to provide a "user friendly" up to date source of information on the Project. A detailed

communication plan was also developed and staff have been implementing that plan.

Summary

Staff is of the opinion that the overall progress of the Project is within the construction schedule of the contracts and that the overall projected capital, operating, and maintenance costs for the entire Harbour Solutions Project remain within budget.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

This year has seen the final piece of project financing come into place with debentures issued for \$110 million with Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation and \$20 million with Federation of Canadian Municipalities under the Green Municipal Investment Fund. Regarding expenditures, as of the end of the third quarter, the Harbour Solutions Project has spent \$67.22 million. The capital budget of \$332.7 million includes \$290.2 million for Guaranteed Maximum Price contracts and approximately \$42.5 million for items such as the Public Involvement and Information Program, Aggressive Pollution Prevention, water quality management, professional services, contract negotiation and management, administration, and inflation.

Inflation is the most significant financial risk of the project. While both the contracts for the SCS and the STPs have firm prices, they are subject to inflation adjustments, as determined by the Halifax Non-Residential Construction Index. When the SCS agreement was signed, annual inflation was estimated at 2.8%. An annual inflation rate of 6.5% was realized in the last quarter. The project's contingency fund can accommodate average annual inflation of 6.0% and it is anticipated that the rate will gradually decline to a more modest level. A continued rate of 6.5% would create a funding shortfall of \$2.9 million. Staff is monitoring inflation closely and will continue to update Council on the degree of risk exposure.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

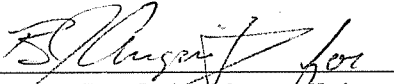
N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Halifax Harbour Solutions Project - Quarterly Report to Dec. 31, 2004

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by:


Ted Tam, P. Eng., Project Manager, Harbour Solutions Project

490-6130

Halifax Harbour Solutions Project
Quarterly Report to December 31, 2004

Introduction

The intent of this document is to provide Council and staff with a general overview of the Harbour Solutions Project Quarterly Report to December 31, 2004.

It is presented in six sections:

Section 1 - Sewage Collection System

Section 2 - Sewage Treatment Plants

Section 3 - Biosolids Processing Facility

Section 4 - Pollution Prevention Program

Section 5 - Financial Information

Section 6 - Public Involvement & Information Program

Section 1

Sewage Collection System (SCS)

The effective date for the SCS contract was October 10, 2003 and construction in Halifax is well underway. The required Plans and Manuals, such as QA/QC Plan, Environmental Management Plan, Health and Safety Plan have been completed and accepted by HRM. Areas of archaeological significance have been mapped and cleared for construction. There has been no major archaeological find that would significantly affect the scheduling of construction. The construction on the Mengoni Avenue site expansion has been completed and is being utilized for the disposal of contaminated soil.

Regulatory Approval.

Regulatory approvals are in place for the Halifax SCS, the Halifax STP outfall and the Dartmouth STP outfall.

Easements and Licenses.

Major agreements have been completed with DND, Halifax Port Authority, Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission, NS Department of Transportation & Public Works, and the Atlantic School of Theology. Minor agreements have been finalized with Provident, Superline Fuels and Dr. Stewart. An agreement with Halifax Shipyards is under negotiation. The CN land agreement is proceeding slowly, however, CN granted temporary access approval for construction and Dexter commenced construction activities (at their risk) on the CN lands.

Construction Activities. The following work has been completed or initiated at the following locations:

Tunnel

- Tunnel boring operations have been completed and pouring of the concrete liner is nearly complete. Grouting and cleanup is underway. Construction in the drop shafts and related vortex chambers has started.

Mainline Pipeline

In the north end of Halifax:

- Pipe placement and reinstatement has been completed from the Superline property through the CN Intermodal Yard and across DND property to the Halifax plant site.

In the sound end of Halifax:

- Pipe placement reinstatement has been completed from the entry to Point Pleasant Park along Francklyn Street to the east end of Pinehill Drive.
- A utility bridge (including the piping) has been installed adjacent to the Tower Road Bridge. The connections at either end will be completed early in 2005.
- Pipe placement and reinstatement have been completed along Southwood Drive then north on Young Avenue to Inglis Street and along Inglis to Barrington Street.

- A small section on Barrington from Inglis to Smith will be completed early in 2005.
- Pipe placement and reinstatement have been completed along Barrington, down Morris and along Hollis to the corner of Sackville Street.

Salter Street and Duke Street Drainage Area - Sewer Separation

- As per Council approval, this additional work will be completed on a block by block basis over 2005/2006 prior to completion of the Halifax Sewage Treatment Plant.

Combined Sewer Overflow Structures

- Excavation, civil works, and reinstatement completed at Maritime Museum structure.
- Excavation and civil work is complete at Sackville Street structure. Diversion piping work is underway to connect to the mainline in Hollis Street.
- Excavation completed at Upper Water Street structure and civil work completed to deck level.
- Excavation and civil work completed at the North Street structure.
- Excavation completed at the Young Street structure. Civil work to start in the spring.

Pumping Stations

- Excavation and civil work completed at the Atlantic School of Theology pump station. Masonry work is underway.
- Excavation work completed at Balmoral pump station and civil work is underway.

Outfalls

- Halifax Sewage Treatment Plant outfall mattress material was placed for the revised length of outfall with the 50:1 dilution diffuser ratio.
- The outfall has been floated, positioned and sunk on the mattress. During the sinking of the outfall and diffuser, the outfall pipe broke at the location of an access hatch and a diffuser port became unseated. Dexter is repairing at their expense.
- Dexter has begun to construct the rock mattress for the Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant outfall.

Material Handling

- Screening and sorting at Seaview temporary storage continued. The extension to the temporary storage area at Seaview was completed as per provincial environmental approval and leachable soil from the Halifax STP has been stockpiled and covered.
- Dexter Construction obtained provincial environmental approval for and constructed a contaminated soil cell at the Mengoni site. Dexter has hauled and placed approximately 17,300m³ of contaminated soil at this site.

Implementation Schedule

A major uncertainty that may impact the Implementation Schedule is that Dexter Construction has not yet been able to negotiate a suitable land agreement with CN. In Halifax, a portion of the collection system in the north end is on CN land adjacent to Barrington St. and in the south end, crosses the CN rail cut adjacent to the Tower Rd. Bridge. Further, in Dartmouth, a portion of the collection system will be located on CN land. Currently, in order to maintain the schedule, Dexter

has substantially completed the work (at their risk) on the CN land in Halifax.

The original schedule for the Halifax SCS required completion of all components by October 2005. To date, the mainline piping components are substantially complete and all other aspects are under construction, with the exception of the Pier A Pumping Station which is scheduled to begin this spring, and modifications to the Duffus Street Pumping Station which will start later in 2005. All elements of the Halifax SCS are scheduled to be complete prior to October 2005 with the exception of the Duffus Street Pump Station modifications and some diversion piping which will be completed in 2006 to better coordinate with the completion of the Halifax STP.

Section 2

Sewage Treatment Plants

The effective date for the Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) contract was July 7, 2004 and the project is well underway. The current activities are engineering design, plans, manuals and permitting for the Halifax STP. Excavation of the Halifax plant site is substantially complete. Civil works are beginning in January 2005.

D&D Water Solutions negotiated an engineering contract with AMEC after attempts to negotiate with Harbour Engineering were unsuccessful. After reviewing information and assurances provided by D&D Solutions, HRM accepted AMEC as a qualified subcontractor to provide design, planning and engineering services for the Sewage Treatment Plants.

The major Dexter and Degremont subcontractors have begun work. They are: AMEC, BLACK & McDONALD and POMERLEAU.

Plans and Manuals - The Environmental Management Plan and the Health and Safety Plan and Manual have been completed. The QA/QC Plan for the construction period is being prepared.

Permitting - NS Department of Environment and Labour (NSDEL) approval to construct has been obtained. Building permits for excavation work have also been obtained. The soil management plan, approved by NSDEL, is being implemented (i.e., the handling, storage and re-use or disposal of the leachable and non-leachable soil).

Engineering - The process design, civil guide drawings and mechanical general arrangement drawings are about 65% completed. Drawings for the excavation of the wet-well and Zones 1, 2, and 3 have been submitted to HRM for the 65% and the 100% submissions. Design briefs for the civil and structural design has also been submitted to HRM as well as the structural drawings for the wet-well. Design work has started on electrical services, lighting and grounding, and has commenced on process equipment specifications, acoustical design and air quality modelling.

Construction Activities - Excavation of the common material has been completed. Rock excavation is well under way in Zones 1, 2, and 3. It is anticipated that the excavation and rock excavation in these areas will be completed by the end of January 2005. The wet-well is excavated

to -4.0m and temporary and permanent rock anchor excavation has commenced.

Section 3

Biosolids Processing Facility

The Biosolids Processing Facility's design, build, commissioning and operating contracts were signed November 30, 2004, and the project is officially underway. The current activities are engineering design, plans, manuals and permitting.

Staff is preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the trucking of biosolids to the processing plant. This RFP will be issued before fiscal year end.

Section 4

Pollution Prevention Program

In support of the Harbour Solutions Project and as a requirement of provincial legislation, HRM initiated a Source Control Strategy, now referred to as the Pollution Prevention (P2) Program. This program has been designed and implemented to reduce the levels of organic and inorganic compounds, toxins and other matter currently entering the municipal stormwater and wastewater sewer systems, and ultimately, freshwater and marine environments including Halifax Harbour.

At the Regional Council meeting of July 17, 2001 (Item No. 9.1), Council approved the adoption of By-Law W-101 respecting the "Discharge of Wastewater into Public Sewers". This by-law regulates the discharge of specified substances that may comprise paints, inks, solvents and other hazardous, metal-rich and toxic products and wastes to the municipal sewer systems. The P2 program requires compliance with the Wastewater Discharge By-Law through planning, education, inspections and monitoring at the source of these discharges from all industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) locations within HRM. Additionally, educational information is provided through various mediums for the residential sector to allow direct participation by the public in the protection of our natural marine and freshwater resources. Staff have previously provided updates to Council on the status of this program. Since the last update provided to the Committee of the Whole in May 2004, activities that P2 staff have undertaken or completed include the following:

- Inspected 2,466 wastewater systems of ICI locations within the Halifax STP sewershed.
- Inspected 864 wastewater systems of ICI locations since May 2004.
- Responded to 27 reports of prohibited waste dumping into municipal storm sewers.
- Responded to 41 fuel oil incidents which had concerns of impact to HRM property.
- Responded to 5 major spill events in which impact to HRM property existed.

- Assisted in 6 HRM contaminated property impact incidents.
- Assisted in the response to 4 incidents in which other agencies such as the Provincial Department of the Environment and Labour, Environment Canada or the Department of Fisheries and Oceans were the lead response.
- Completed an intergovernmental pilot project for Metal Finishing Industries which involved HRM P2 staff, Environment Canada, DOE and the Eco-Efficiency Centre.
- Completed Summary Offence training of P2 staff in November 2004.

The initial phase of P2 activities within the Halifax STP sewershed has been completed. In the first months of 2005, P2 staff will focus on assisting an estimated 364 owned or leased HRM buildings and work locations to ensure that process wastewater from HRM operations is in compliance with our by-law.

A similar phase of by-law rollout including individual site inspections, business education, monitoring and inspections will then commence for the serviced area of the future Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant. It is anticipated that P2 activities for this sewershed will be completed in advance of the Sewage Treatment Plant commissioning.

P2 staff have produced and delivered a number of pollution prevention television advertisements, newspaper articles including regular use of HRM's Naturally Green newsletter, public presentations and industry seminars to educate and promote pollution prevention to ICI locations and to the general public. Educational information will be continued to be provided through related media opportunities to provide for public education and enhanced stewardship of our surface water resources.

In May 2004, staff sent letters to property owners of twenty-two non-municipal (private) outfalls asking that they take steps to decommission each outfall and connect to the municipal sewer system. To date, we have had replies from ten property owners, of those one has already connected, two others are in the process of connecting, and the remaining seven have indicated that they are prepared to work with HRM on this issue. Staff will contact each of the twelve properties that have not responded in early 2005.

Section 5

Financial Information

To date the Harbour Solutions Project has spent \$ 67.22 million. The capital budget of \$332.7 million, includes \$290.2 million for Guaranteed Maximum Price contracts and approximately \$42.5 million for items such as the Public Involvement & Information Program, Aggressive Pollution Prevention, contract negotiation and management, administration, water quality monitoring, professional services, and inflation. Annual overhead costs of \$471,000 associated

with the project office have been capitalized as part of the on-going project costs.

The primary funding mechanism for the Harbour Solutions Project remains the Environmental Protection Charge (EPC). In addition to the Project, this charge funds the operational, maintenance, and capital costs of the existing treatment plants, sewers, and pumping stations. In October 2002, Council endorsed the plan to construct three sewage treatment plants and approved in principle the financing for the Project. A maximum increase of \$0.29 to the EPC respecting the Project was approved. The proposed timing of the increases, totalling \$0.29, is displayed below. The current rate (2003/04) is highlighted and proposed rate increases are listed in the rows below, commencing in 2004/05. The first \$0.05 increase was implemented in October 2003, and staff will return to Council to obtain formal approval of the remaining increases totalling \$0.24.

On September 28, 2004, an information report was delivered to Council with an administrative separation of the reserve between the Harbour Solutions Project and existing infrastructure. This is shown below with the splitting of the EPC rate in 2003. Also shown in the table is the other component of the Pollution Control Charges, the Wastewater Management Levy, which funds the operation of HRM's sewer system, exclusive of the primary collection system.

Date	Total Pollution Control Rate	Environmental Protection Rate		Wastewater/ Stormwater Management	Increase
		Harbour Solutions	Existing Infrastructure		
2002/03	0.7828	0.3700	0.1804	0.2324	
2003/04	0.9290	0.4200	0.1804	0.3286	0.1462
2004/05	1.0290	0.4700	0.2304	0.3286	0.1000
2005/06	1.0790	0.5200	0.2304	0.3286	0.0500
2006/07	1.1290	0.5700	0.2304	0.3286	0.0500
2007/08	1.2190	0.6600	0.2304	0.3286	0.0900
Wastewater Component					\$0.0962
EPC - Harbour (2003/04 to 2007/08)					\$0.2900
EPC - Existing Infrastructure					\$0.0500
Total Increase					\$0.4362

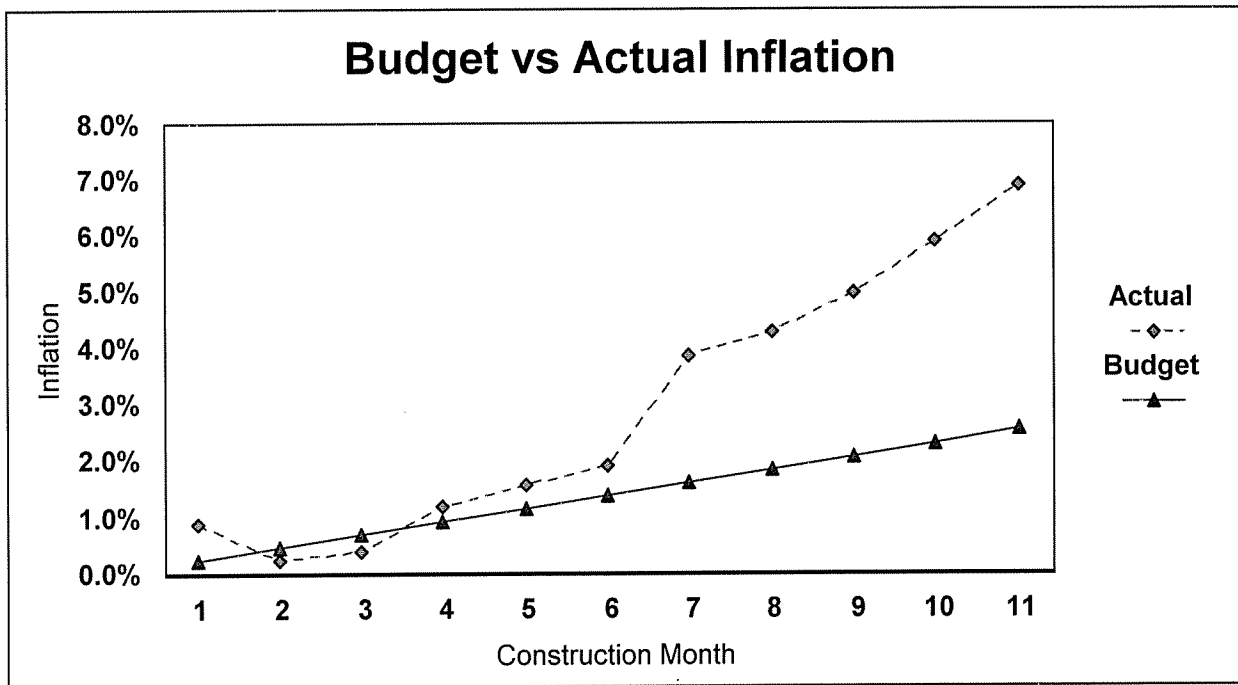
This quarter saw the final pieces of project financing come into place with debentures issued for \$110 million with Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation and \$20 million with Federation

of Canadian Municipalities under the Green Municipal Investment Fund.

Staff is of the opinion that the overall projected capital, operating, and maintenance costs for the entire Harbour Solutions Project remain within budget.

Risk Areas:

Inflation: This is the most significant financial risk of the project. The contracts for the SCS and the STPs are guaranteed maximum prices, plus an inflation adjustment based on the Halifax Non-Residential Construction Index. When the SCS contract was signed, annual inflation was



estimated at 2.8%. Actual experience in this past quarter has seen inflation hit 6.5%. Inflation over the past twenty years in the non-residential construction sector in HRM has shown itself to be cyclical, with a series of peaks and valleys. Over the past year, HRM has experienced a boom in non-residential construction as evidenced by the growth in this index. Staff is of the opinion that inflation will moderate but has taken a conservative approach by earmarking the Project's contingency funds to address this issue. The Project's contingency can support sustained inflation of up to 6.0%. A continued rate of 6.5% would create a funding shortfall of \$2.9 million. Through the first eleven months of construction, expected inflation was \$742,000. Inflation expenditures were actually \$1,111,000 over this period, a difference of \$369,000, which will be funded through the contingency. Staff will monitor inflation closely and provide quarterly updates to Council on the degree of risk exposure. The above graph charts the Project's inflation experience over the Halifax SCS construction period.

Cash flow: The balance in the EP Reserve that is attributable to the Harbour Solutions Project at April 1, 2004 was \$89 million. Since that time, HRM has received \$130 million for the debentures. The \$130 million is not reflected in the reserve as the funds have been reinvested to maximize interest earned until they are required to meet cash flow needs. The projected reserve balance at March 31, 2005, based on construction schedules, is \$60 million. The Project anticipates depleting the reserve at the end of the construction period in Spring 2008, after which balances will begin to build again to fund sewage treatment operations and future capital upgrades and eventual replacements.

Harbour Solutions Project
3rd Quarter 2004/05
(in millions of dollars)

	Month to Date	Year to Date	Project Total	Budget
Firm Price Contracts				
Sewage Collection System	6.56	30.69	40.16	112.3
Sewage Treatment Plants	4.87	7.73	7.73	136.9
Biosolids Processing Facility				12.5
Net HST				9.6
Community Liaison Committees	0.02	0.07	0.11	7.0
Land			4.74	4.8
Pre-Construction Contract			7.11	7.1
Total Firm Price Costs	11.45	38.49	59.85	290.2
Variable Costs				
Admin., Contract Mgmt., Communication	0.21	1.44	5.50	12.0
Contingency				18.2
Inflation	0.50	1.80	1.87	12.3
Total Variable Costs	0.71	3.24	7.37	42.5
Harbour Solutions Project Total Cost	12.16	41.73	67.22	332.7
Funding				
EP Reserve Levies	2.77	31.25	51.17	160.2
Long-term debt:				
N.S. Municipal Finance Corporation		110.20	110.20	110.2
Federation of Canadian Municipalities		20.00	20.00	20.0
Cost Sharing:				
Province*	2.00	2.00	4.00	10.0
Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund	3.14	3.20	6.20	30.0
Potential short-term debt				2.5
Total Funding	7.91	166.45	191.37	332.7

*The Province of Nova Scotia has committed \$30 million to the Project over a 15 year span. The \$10 million shown above in the table represents the portion that will be received during the construction period.

Section 6

Public Information and Involvement Program

The Marketing, Design and Print Services section of Shared Services (now with the Corporate Communications Office) assumed responsibility for the Public Information and Involvement Program for the Harbour Solutions Project in the fall of 2003.

Special Events

On February 26, 2004 a Public Information Session was held at Halifax Hall, Halifax City Hall. This session focused on the construction of 3 pumping stations, a pipe bridge and other road construction activities in the southend Halifax area.

In March of 2004, a press conference was held to announce an additional \$30,000,000 in funding from the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund, the Government of Canada. This event was well attended by local and national media. The Honourable Geoff Regan, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, accompanied by His Worship, Mayor Peter J. Kelly

On October 29, 2004, a briefing on the progress of the Harbour Solutions Project was held at the site of the tunnel for the Sewage Collection System on Barrington Street for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Geoff Regan and Minister of State (Infrastructure and Communities), John Godfrey. A media tour of the tunnel was held following the briefing.

In late November a signing ceremony was held in the Mayor's Office to finalize the contract with SGE Acres Limited and Hatch Limited to design, build and commission a biosolids processing facility at AeroTech Park to handle biosolids from the Harbour Solutions Project and existing HRM waste water treatment plants.

Community Liaison Committees (CLC)

The Halifax CLC and the Herring Cove CLC are meeting regularly to deal with the integration of the STP's into their communities. HRM staff liaise with and attend meetings when requested by the CLC's. The Halifax Group has been meeting with representatives from D&D Water Solutions Inc. to discuss the STP building itself and how it should look on the exterior. They have had three meetings and will continue the process in the new year. The Herring Cove CLC is involved with acquiring water and sewer for the community, as well as, working with architect, George Rogers, to look at the exterior design and landscaping of their STP.

In Dartmouth, plans are being made for a community information meeting to bring the residents up to date on the Project and to determine whether or not they would like to establish a new CLC. The

former Dartmouth CLC did a needs assessment in the community to see how best the Community Integration Fund should be spent. The result was that a trail would be built on the land next to the STP. At the present time, the staff of Real Property and Asset Management are working with the Harbourfront Trails Association to design the trail and determine how it will be maintained.

Communication Plan

PIIP staff developed a detailed communication plan for the Project and have been implementing that plan in the past year.

Presentations

Several presentations have been developed for conferences, workshops and community groups over the past year. These presentations have all been made available on compact disks as well. In the past few months we have delivered presentations to two school classes, a Girl Guide troop and the Home Show. We are continually updating Harbour Solutions display units for use at home shows and other events. We are working with Clean Nova Scotia to develop improved materials to use with schools that are geared toward that age group.

Harbour Solutions Website

The Harbour Solutions website has been redesigned to provide a “user friendly” up to date source of information on the Project. PIIP staff continue to maintain the site for Harbour Solutions. The site has been moved into the new template for the HRM website.

Construction Communications

A PIIP staff member attends the Harbour Solutions construction meetings weekly to liaise with Dexter and D&D, as well as, other HRM departments to stay informed about construction that could impact the public, and ensure communications are developed to address these impacts. Weekly construction updates are emailed to stakeholders and posted on the website, along with notices of impending construction and their impacts. Newspaper ads are developed for construction that may impact on traffic in the downtown. Presently, the PIIP staff are looking at a communication plan for the construction that will take place in the Downtown in mid 2005. Staff want to ensure that the businesses and residents in Downtown Halifax are informed about when and why construction is taking place on their street. Much of this construction is due to the need for new infrastructure and by simultaneously doing this work with Harbour Solutions is a way to minimize disruptions to the Downtown. PIIP staff will be working with the Capital District Task Force to implement a communications program.

Signage

We have liaised with the federal and provincial governments to design and produce signage for the sites of the three Sewage Treatment Plants.

Correspondence

Several letters have been drafted for Mayor Kelly and the Harbour Solutions Office staff to address concerns from citizens regarding the Project. Letters are also drafted for the CLC’s and other levels of government.