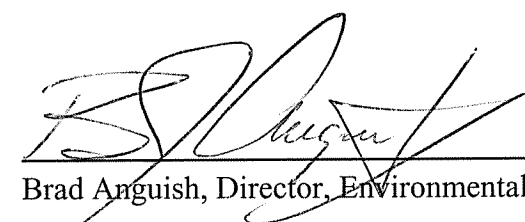




PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Halifax Regional Council**  
**December 6, 2005**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services

**DATE:** November 1, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Harbour Solutions Project - Quarterly Report ( 1 July to 30 September 2005)

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

This report originates from the Council session of October 22, 2002 when staff was directed to submit quarterly reports for the duration of the project.

**BACKGROUND**

HRM has entered into four contracts to date for the implementation of the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, namely:

- an infrastructure development agreement for the construction of the three Wastewater Collection Systems on October 15, 2003 with Dexter Construction
- a development agreement for the construction of three advanced primary Wastewater Treatment Plants on June 15, 2004 with D&D Water Solutions, Inc.; and
- a development agreement for the construction of a Biosolids Processing Facility on November 30, 2004 with SGE Acres Limited, and
- an operating and maintenance agreement for the Biosolids Processing Facility on November 30, 2004, with N-Viro Systems Canada Inc.

## **DISCUSSION**

### *Halifax*

The majority of the collection system work not dependent on the operation of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant has been completed.

The Halifax Community Liaison Committee has selected and accepted the exterior finish of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant and is now concentrating on its efforts on determining how the Community Integration Fund will be used.

Construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant continues; however further unforeseen geological conditions at the tunnel and wet well interface area were encountered. Although all the required excavation and blasting work has been completed and no further delay is expected, these unforeseen geological conditions have impacted the construction schedule further and the expected completion date is now April 24, 2007, instead of the previously estimated date of January 30, 2007. HSP staff are satisfied that this delay is solely related to unforeseen geological conditions and that the contractor has mitigated this delay to the maximum extent possible.

### *Dartmouth*

Most of the regulatory approvals are in place for the Dartmouth Wastewater Collection System and mainline piping from Ferguson to Wallace Streets and the flow diversion chamber in the Cuisack St. area have started. The pipe license with CNR remains outstanding, however, good progress is being made by Dexter. The pipe license with the Department of National Defence has been completed.

Design activity is well under way for the Dartmouth Wastewater Treatment Plant and the access driveway to the Plant has been completed. The Plant site work began in June with infilling activity and dynamic compaction has been completed. It is anticipated that concrete form work will begin December 2005.

Completion of the Dartmouth Wastewater Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant is expected by March and August 2007, respectively.

### *Herring Cove*

The detail design of the Herring Cove Wastewater Collection System is just getting under way. The contractor has started the clearing of trees along the driveway alignment to the treatment Plant site. Completion of the Herring Cove Wastewater Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant is expected by March and June of 2008, respectively.

In addition to the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, HRM is in the process of installing water and sewer services in the Herring Cove area. Phase 1A of the project is currently under construction with Phase 1B beginning next Spring and Phase 2 shortly thereafter. Once completed, the majority

of the residents in Herring Cove will have access to central water and sewer.

### *Biosolids Processing Facility*

The Biosolids Processing Facility construction is progressing well and expected to be ready to process biosolids when the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant starts to operate. The Request for proposals regarding trucking of the dewatered biosolids to the processing facility will close on October 12, 2005 and staff anticipate bringing a contract recommendation to Regional Council January, 2006.

### *Summary*

The overall Harbour Solutions Project remains on schedule and within budget; however, the completion milestone for the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant has moved from its original date of September 6, 2006 to April 24, 2007

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

All of the Project financing was finalized in 2004/05. Debentures were issued for \$110 million with Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation and \$20 million with Federation of Canadian Municipalities under the Green Municipal Investment Fund. On January 25, 2005, Council approved the schedule of remaining Environmental Protection Charge increases to the water bill. An increase of \$0.05 was effective October 1, 2005 and the next increase of \$0.05 will be effective October 1, 2006. Regarding expenditures, the Harbour Solutions Project has spent \$12.32 million in the first two quarters of 05/06 and a total of \$88.32 million to September 30, 2005. Projections to meet the capital budget of \$332.7 million are still on target.

Inflation remains the most significant financial risk of the project. History of the Halifax Non-Residential Construction Index over the past twenty years shows average annual inflation of just over 2%. Staff conservatively estimated annual inflation at 2.8% for budget purposes while fiscal year 2004/05 brought inflation of 7.87%. In the first quarter of 2005/06, annual inflation decreased to 6.3%, with a further decrease to 4.15% in the second quarter. Staff have revised the estimate to 6% per year over the life of the contract and has committed a substantial portion of the \$18.2 million contingency to address this issue.

## **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**

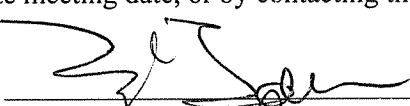
N/A

**ATTACHMENTS**

Halifax Harbour Solutions Project - Quarterly Report- ( 1 July to 30 September 2005) (Attachment 1)

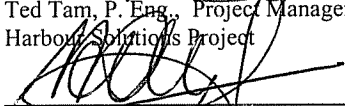
A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by :

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

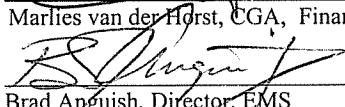
490-6130

Financial Review by :

  
Marlies van der Horst, CGA, Financial Consultant

490-4446

Report Approved by:

  
Brad Anguish, Director, EMS

490-4825

**Halifax Harbour Solutions Project**  
**Quarterly Report to - (1 July to 30 September 2005)**

**Introduction**

The intent of this document is to provide Council and staff with a general overview of the Harbour Solutions Project Quarterly Report from 1 July to 30 September 2005.

It is presented in sections:

Section 1 - Wastewater Collection Systems

Section 2 - Wastewater Treatment Plants

Section 3 - Biosolids Processing Facility

Section 4 - Pollution Prevention Program

Section 5 - Water Quality Sampling Program

Section 6 - Financial Information

Section 7 - Public Involvement & Information Program

## Section 1

### **Wastewater Collection System**

Currently the main emphases of collection system construction are the completion of the work in Halifax and the ramping-up of the work program in Dartmouth.

#### *Halifax Wastewater Collection System*

The Halifax work is now concentrated on the completion of the remaining sections of the mainline pipe runs and the mechanical and electrical work remaining at the pump stations and diversion chambers. It is anticipated that all work not dependent on the operation of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant, will be completed this fall. The only exception to this forecast is the completion of the Pier A Pump Station and diversion chamber, which will occur in January 2006.

The repairs to the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant outfall have been satisfactorily completed and Dexter is now completing the installation.

The Duke and Salter sewershed separation work is proceeding on schedule. The contractor has implemented applicable measures to mitigate traffic disruption and has implemented several schedule sequence changes to accommodate seasonal businesses.

As per plan, the diversion piping work, necessary to connect the new collection system to the Plant, will be completed next year. This work will be coordinated with the commissioning of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant.

#### *Dartmouth Wastewater Collection System*

In the south end of Dartmouth, work on the Wastewater Treatment Plant access driveway is well underway and the Cuisack Street diversion chamber has been started. In the north end, shoreline infilling has been mostly completed from Ferguson Road to Wallace Street and mainline collection piping in this area is being laid. In central Dartmouth, infilling has commenced in Dartmouth Cove.

The majority of regulatory approvals are in place, including the Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA) approval for the proposed 50:1 outfall and diffuser at the Dartmouth Wastewater Treatment Plant. In addition, the NWPA approval process for the Lyle Street outfall is well advanced.

Real estate acquisition is proceeding reasonably well. Of particular note, CNR has approved the design for the collection piping on most of the route along its right-of-way in Dartmouth and has given Dexter its approval to proceed with the work from Ferguson Road to Jamieson Street, and from Dartmouth Cove to the Dartmouth Wastewater Treatment Plant. The license agreement with the Department of National Defence in Dartmouth remains outstanding, however, good progress is being made and an agreement is expected soon.

Significant portions of the Dartmouth Trail network in the proximity of the Plant access driveway have been approved by HRM Council and will be funded by the Dartmouth Community Integration Fund. The design and construction activities have commenced and will be completed by next year.

Activities during the next quarter include the following:

- Ramping-up construction as crews are released from the work program in Halifax.
- Continuing to finalize design and real estate acquisition activities to meet the construction schedule.

## **Section 2**

### **Wastewater Treatment Plants**

#### *Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant*

*Civil, Architectural, Structural*

Significant construction progress has been made during the last quarter. Concrete form work is progressing according to schedule.

As Council is aware, staff received a request from D&D Water Solutions to extend the Date Certain to January 30, 2007, due to Unforeseen Geotechnical Conditions. Staff have received all documentation necessary to complete its review and concur with the request. Staff will be preparing an amendment to the contract. Since the cut-off date for this report, staff received another request to extend the date certain to April 24, 2007 due to unforeseen geological conditions, as outlined in the Council Report attached.

The Halifax Community Liaison Committee has selected and accepted the exterior finish of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Plant and is now concentrating on its efforts on determining how the Community Integration Fund will be used.

#### *Dartmouth Wastewater Treatment Plant*

*Civil, Architectural, Structural*

D&D Water Solutions has received an excavation permit from Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour. Design activity is well underway and continues. Site work began in June with infilling activity. Site preparation design is complete and the method of construction for the site preparation work (dynamic compaction) has been determined. Upon HRM review, dynamic compaction will commence shortly. It is anticipated that concrete form works will start in November.

The community meeting process to seek input for the exterior finish of the Dartmouth Plant from residents will begin soon.

### Section 3

#### **Biosolids Processing Facility**

Construction work started on site in early August 2005. Grubbing has been completed and the major portion of the general grading is complete, and footings are in place. The Request for Proposal packages for the processing equipment has been issued and quotation for major process units have been received by the contractor and are being analysed. A request for Proposals regarding trucking of the dewatered biosolids to the processing facility closed on October 12, 2005 and staff anticipate bringing a contract recommendation to Regional Council in January 2006.

### 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 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 previously provided updates to Council on the status of this program. Since the last update provided to Regional Council at its meeting of *June 21, 2005*, activities that P2 staff have undertaken or completed include the following:

- Staff have completed inspections of HRM 364 owned buildings and workplaces for compliance with HRM's By-Law W-101. Detailed reports regarding environmental issues and impacts for HRM properties will be provided to respective Business Units for consideration and appropriate actions.
- Staff have completed inspections of 106 schools in HRM. Ongoing assistance with staff of the Halifax Regional School Board is being provided by P2 staff to assist in liquid waste management and reduction of liquid wastes from biology labs, chemistry labs, cafeteria wastewater as well as operational process wastewater.
- P2 staff responded to 43 environmental incidents.
- Staff have issued Summary Offence tickets (SOTs) for two offences which included the



discharge of matter which caused an obstruction in the municipal sewer system and for discharge of wastewater which exceeded the permissible level of pH in the municipal sewer system. SOTs that have been issued are each in the amount of \$675.00. Currently 12 additional locations suspected of by-law contraventions have been sampled and will be issued with SOTs should evidence support by-law infractions.

- Two industries within the proposed Halifax STP sewershed were identified by P2 monitoring to be discharging elevated levels of BOD to the municipal sanitary sewer system. The first industry was discharging between 2,000 to 3,000 litres of wastewater per week which had average BOD concentrations ranging between 10,000 ppm to 30,000 ppm. HRM's By-Law W-101 permits a discharge of no greater than 350 ppm. This industry has now totally ceased discharge to the municipal sewer system and their waste is being stored until alternative disposal options are identified. This industry has retained a consulting engineering firm to assist in identifying and implementing long term wastewater management options to insure compliance with HRM's By-Law W-101. The second industry identified has been discharging significant volumes of wastewater containing BOD concentrations in the 20,000 to 30,000 ppm range. This industry, in response to HRM's requirements for compliance with By-Law W-101 has retained the services of a consulting engineering firm which has designed a pretreatment system for installation at this site to reduce effluent BOD concentrations to meet the provisions of By-Law W-101. Installation of this system is anticipated to take several months but is anticipated to be operational prior to the commissioning of the Halifax STP.
- A treatability study was completed which reviewed the use of micro-biological based additives for the reduction of the accumulation of fat, oil and grease and resident BOD concentrations in sanitary sewer systems. Currently, By-Law W-101 requires the physical capture and removal of fat, oil and grease through the operation and maintenance of grease traps and grease interceptors. No beneficial results were observed and as such, physical removal of accumulated fat, oil or grease from pretreatment devices or sewer laterals will continue to be a requirement for restaurants and related food preparation industries.
- Staff have continued to provide technical support to staff from Transportation and Public Works for environmental considerations in the preparation of a Salt Reduction Management Plan as required by Environment Canada. P2 staff have completed four independent sampling programs for 12 indicator freshwater surface bodies to document impacts to lakes from road de-icing activities.
- P2 staff have provided 11 presentations on Pollution Prevention to Dalhousie University, programs and Continuing Education Courses, Nova Scotia Community College, EPIC core technical training course, various consulting engineering firms and related environmental seminars. These educational seminars and presentations are focussed on identifying the need for compliance by industries to the provisions of By-Law W-101.
- P2 staff have initiated an intergovernmental pollution prevention project for 12 industry sectors located in HRM which will involve HRM's P2 staff, Environment Canada, Department of Environment and Labour and the Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention.

- 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 Industrial Commercial and Institutional 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.
- Staff have installed 400 educational curb markers throughout various storm sewersheds in HRM to assist in educating the public and business activities regarding the proper disposal of liquid wastes.
- To date, staff have distributed educational information to 388 properties in 2 separate sewer sheds in response to reported observations of pet owners depositing dog waste into storm sewers. This information educates individuals on the proper disposal and the impact to lakes and surface water quality of improper disposal of pet waste.

## Section 5

### **Water Quality Sampling Program**

As a condition of federal approval for the Harbour Solutions Project under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, HRM has undertaken a water quality sampling program for Halifax Harbour. Weekly samples are collected for faecal coliform bacteria, and bi-weekly samples for more extensive chemical analyses, at over 30 stations throughout the harbour. The program began in June of 2004, and is scheduled to run until at least 2009. The purpose of the program is to assess whether the defined water quality objectives for the Harbour will be met with the planned sewage treatment in place.

The data from the first year show that many locations throughout the middle and inner Harbour exceed the national faecal coliform guideline level limit for contact recreation, particularly in winter as compared to summer. The data is summarised and published in quarterly reports. The first two have been released, and the third quarterly report is in draft form. The fourth quarterly, and the first annual report, are currently in preparation. More information is available on the HRM web site at: <http://www.halifax.ca/harboursol/WaterQualityData.html>.

## Section 6

### **Financial Information**

As of September 2005, the Harbour Solutions Project has spent \$88.32 million of its \$332.7 million capital budget. Spending for the quarter just completed was \$10.14 million which is largely comprised of \$5.38 million for the Wastewater Collection System, and \$3.55 million for the wastewater treatment Plants. Contract negotiation and management, the construction of the new Biosolids Processing Facility, the Public Involvement & Information Program, Aggressive Pollution Prevention, water quality monitoring, inflation, and administration make up the remaining \$1.21 million.

In October 2002, Council granted approval in principle to commence a series of increases, not to exceed \$0.29, to the Environmental Protection Charge as a means of funding the Harbour Solutions

Project. The first \$0.05 increase was implemented in October 2003. In January 2005, Council approved the schedule of remaining increases necessary to fund the Project. March 2005 saw implementation of the second \$0.05 increase, with the next increase of \$0.05 becoming effective October 2005. The table below shows the implementation dates for the increases totalling \$0.29 for the Harbour Solutions Project:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Environmental Protection Charge-HSP portion</b>	<b>Increase</b>
October 2003	\$0.42	\$0.05
March 2005	\$0.47	\$0.05
October 2005	\$0.52	\$0.05
October 2006	\$0.57	\$0.05
October 2007	\$0.66	\$0.09
<b>Total Increase</b>		<b>\$0.29</b>

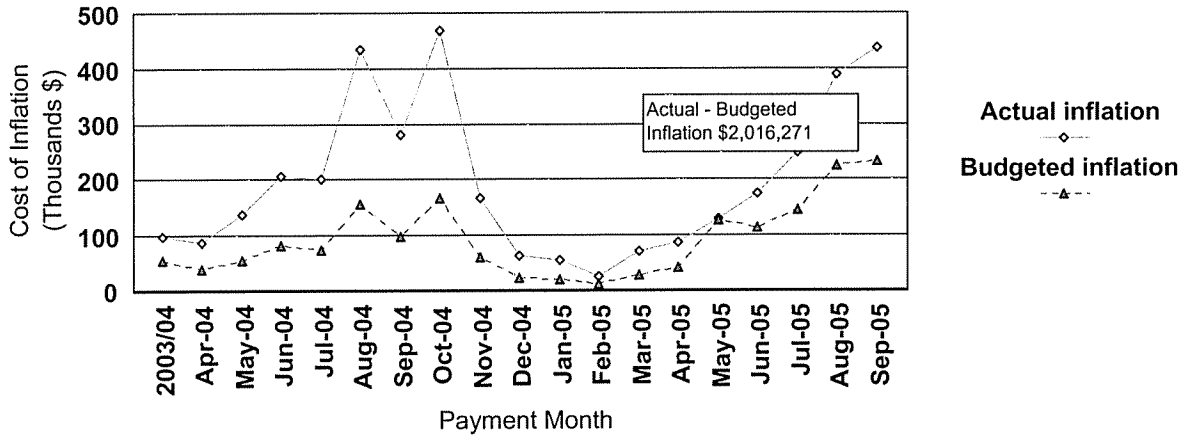
The above rates attributable to Harbour Solutions are just one portion of the Environmental Protection Charge. The charge also funds expenses associated with already existing infrastructure. All revenues collected are recorded in the Environmental Protection Reserve. Staff maintains an administrative split of reserve balances.

### Inflation

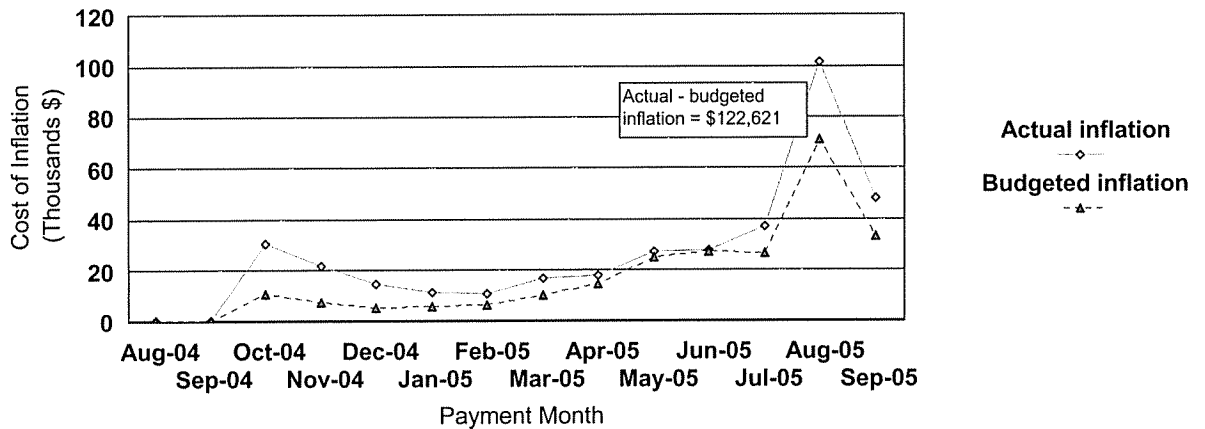
Although 2004/05 was an extraordinary year for construction-related inflation in HRM in terms of its strong increase, the inflation trend for the first and second quarters of 2005/06 seems to have stabilized, although still slightly higher than budgeted. At this time, it is too soon to revise estimates over the Project's life down from the projected 6% annual inflation. More data is required to determine whether this downward swing will be a continuing trend.

The impact of inflation in terms of dollars is demonstrated in the two charts below for the Wastewater Collection System and the Wastewater Treatment Plants. The difference between the actual and budgeted inflation represents the amount which must be taken from the contingency funds. As of September, 2005, \$2.14 million over and above budgeted inflation has been spent on these two contracts.

### Budgeted vs. Actual Inflation Sewage Collection System



### Budgeted vs. Actual Inflation Wastewater Treatment Plants



As work on the Wastewater Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plants has progressed, amendments to the contracts have been a necessary part of their administration. The following is a synopsis of contract amendments to date and their impacts on the guaranteed maximum prices (GMP).

### **Wastewater Collection System - Infrastructure Development Agreement**

#### ***Amendment #1***

General insurance requirements that were set aside during the drafting of the original agreement were clarified and amended. There was no impact on the GMP.

#### ***Amendment #2***

Substitute piping material for the Duffus Street to Young Street mainline pipe was proposed and accepted, resulting in a reduction of the GMP of \$88,300.

#### ***Amendment #3***

HRM's covenant regarding insurance deductibles was clarified and amended with no change to GMP.

#### ***Amendment #4***

This amendment included several items. First and foremost was to upgrade the Halifax diffuser ratio from 20:1 to 50:1. Flow metres, valves, and additional repaving depth on selected streets were also included, increasing GMP by \$1,310,574. The net GMP increase is substantially less as the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund will cover costs for the diffuser upgrade of \$1,075,080. Per the terms of this amendment, inflation is not applicable to the items specifically identified.

#### ***Amendment #5***

This amendment also addressed several items. In the absence of a license agreement with CN, the Contractor has carried out work on CN lands at its own risk. The amendment agreed to pay the Contractor for work completed while reiterating that any requirement to remove construction, reinstate lands, and make alternate arrangements at another site would be at the risk of the Contractor. There was no impact on GMP, as the work performed is already captured in the Infrastructure Development Agreement

The second item covered was a payment in respect of a Provincial land license. Under the Infrastructure Development Agreement, HRM is responsible for licenses and the Contractor is responsible for easements. It was anticipated that an easement for access to the land would be acquired but agreement could not be reached with the Province. A license was granted and HRM's share of the cost resulted in a \$352,000 increase in GMP. Inflation was not applicable on the license.

Finally, the amendment clarified the inflation base to recognize official quarterly index releases. Monthly inflation amounts are projected based on the two most recent official index values.

9

The inflation base was adjusted for the actual index values occurring before and after the effective date. GMP was not affected.

***Amendment #6***

This amendment, to add sewer separation and water main replacement work in the Duke and Salter Streets sewer sheds, was approved by Council on May 24, 2005. The increase to GMP of \$5,258,535 is funded as follows: Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund \$3,892,535, Halifax Regional Water Commission \$590,000, and a previously approved Salter Street Capital project \$776,000. Inflation, calculated on a revised base, is applicable on this amendment.

**STP Development Agreement**

***Amendment #1***

Wording detailing the calculation of the monthly inflation index was corrected to reflect intent. There was no impact on GMP.

Financial Summary of Contract Amendments  
(all prices exclude HST and inflation)

	<b>Guaranteed Maximum Price</b> \$	<b>Required contingency funds, net of cost-sharing</b> \$
<i>Wastewater Collection System</i>	112,300,000	
Amendment #1	--	
Amendment #2	-88,300	-88,300
Amendment #3	--	
Amendment #4	1,310,574	235,494
Amendment #5	352,000	352,000
Amendment #6	5,258,535	
Wastewater Collection System, as amended	119,132,809	499,194
<i>Wastewater Treatment Plant</i>	136,900,000	
Amendment #1	--	
Wastewater Treatment Plant, as amended	136,900,000	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>256,032,809</b>	<b>499,194</b>

Contingency Spending:

The contingency budget of \$18.20 million is largely set aside for addressing inflation beyond budgeted levels. The contingency is also being used to fund small items that have arisen through the contract amendments. Actual and planned spending of contingency funds is as follows (shown in millions):

Realized inflation in excess of budget	\$ 2.14
Contract amendments	0.50
Projected inflation in excess of budget	13.18
Uncommitted	<u>2.38</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18.20</b>

Harbour Solutions Project  
2nd Quarter 2005/06  
(in millions of dollars)

	Quarter To Date	Year to Date	Project Total	Budget
<b>Firm Price Contracts</b>				
Wastewater Collection System	5.38	6.31	52.44	112.3
Sewage Treatment Plants	3.54	4.33	15.45	136.9
Biosolids Processing Facility	0.23	0.23	1.15	12.5
Net HST	-	-	-	9.6
Community Liaison Committees	0.03	0.03	0.14	7.0
Land	-	-	4.92	4.8
Pre-Construction Contract	-	-	7.11	7.1
<b>Total Firm Price Costs</b>	<b>9.19</b>	<b>10.91</b>	<b>81.21</b>	<b>290.20</b>
<b>Variable Costs</b>				
Admin., Contract Mgmt., Communication	0.37	0.63	3.97	12.0
Contingency	-	-	-	18.2
Inflation	0.58	0.79	3.14	12.3
<b>Total Variable Costs</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>7.11</b>	<b>42.5</b>
<b>Harbour Solutions Project</b>				
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>10.14</b>	<b>12.32</b>	<b>88.32</b>	<b>332.7</b>
<b>Funding</b>				
EP Reserve Levies	5.93	6.85	62.52	160.2
Long-term debt:				
N.S. Municipal Finance Corporation	-	-	110.00	110.0
Federation of Canadian Municipalities	-	-	20.0	20.0
Cost Sharing:				
Province*	-	-	4.01	10.0
Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund	3.36	3.4	10.6	30.0
Potential short-term debt	-	-	-	2.5
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>9.29</b>	<b>10.21</b>	<b>207.15</b>	<b>332.7</b>

- 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 7

### **Public Information and Involvement Program (PIIP)**

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

#### *Public Messaging*

Harbour Solutions continues to be a major player in the Naturally Green Newsletter. This environmentally focussed in-house produced piece is distributed to approximately 166,000 households in HRM. The last edition was released in May 2005. The next edition is scheduled for release in mid October.

As well, Harbour Solutions was the main focus of a "Special - Harbour edition of Naturally Green". One hundred thousand copies of this 4 page piece were printed. Distribution of approximately 96,000 copies was done through insertion in the Saturday Herald and Sunday Daily News the weekend of September 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Two hundred copies were requested by the Public Relations department at Mount St. Vincent University as an example of a well layed out and well written piece of relevant local information.

Copies were also distributed to Mayor Kelly's office as well as the Councillor's support office. Remaining copies will be distributed at public venues and at the request of interested parties. Harbour Solutions continues to be linked with our Pollution Prevention(P2) program in TV, display and printed materials produced as part of the P2 program. This linkage reinforces the connected nature of the harbour, lakes, rivers and watersheds and how residents deal with waste and home and work. Stewardship is also the focus of the P2 message.

#### *Community Liaison Committees (CLC)*

The Halifax CLC and the Herring Cove CLCs continue to meet regularly to deal with the integration of the Wastewater Treatment Plants (WTP) into their communities. HRM staff liaise with and attend Halifax meetings when requested by the CLC's. The Halifax Group, through meetings with representatives from D&D Water Solutions Inc, have settled on a final exterior building design for the Halifax WTP.

The Herring Cove CLC has made significant progress in bringing water and sewer to the residents of Herring Cove. Construction got underway in August. The group is now preparing to focus on the integration of the WTP into the community. Architect, George Rogers has been contracted to work with the CLC to look at the exterior design and landscaping of their WTP. HRM staff regularly attend the Herring Cove CLC meetings.

In Dartmouth, construction has begun on the Wastewater Collection System (SCS) and Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP). Residents have been kept informed of work in their specific area through notices delivered door to door. Residents are also kept up to date on the overall project through publications such as Naturally Green.

Staff from Real Property and Asset Management, Harbour Solutions and Corporate Communications continue to work with the Harbourfront Trails Association, area Councillors



and residents on the waterfront trail running through the Woodside area.

#### *Communication Plan*

Public Involvement and Information Program (PIIP) staff developed and continue to implement a detailed communication plan for the Project.

#### *Presentations*

Presentations are developed on an on-going basis for conferences, workshops and community groups. The presentations are updated regularly to correspond with project progress. These presentations have all been made available on compact disks as well. Three new Harbour Solutions display units have been developed for use at public meetings, trade/home shows and other events. The new display units focus on the positive message of the project and the stewardship approach.

As part of our presentation materials, Mayflower Models has been contracted to construct 3 scale models of the new wastewater treatment Plants. These will prove a valuable tool in providing information on the advanced primary treatment process.

#### *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 e-mailed to stakeholders and posted on the website, along with notices of impending construction and their impacts. Newspaper and radio ads are developed for construction that may impact on traffic.

#### *Signage*

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

#### *Correspondence*

As requested/required, letters are drafted to address concerns from citizens regarding the Project. Letters are also drafted for the CLC's and other levels of government.