

Streetscape Project.

Three years ago the Chamber Of Commerce contracted Ekistics Ltd. to provide designs for a variety of possible waterfront development projects. Eight designs were provided, and after considerable committee review as well as public consultation, the Streetscape Project was selected. Our principal reasons for selecting Streetscape were to provide a safe walking environment for our citizens and to give Sheet Harbour a much needed makeover. The benefits are obvious. When completed we will have approximately 2.9 kilometers of new sidewalks along with six rest areas. Fifty-six LED light fixtures will be installed along the route. We will also have new storm drains which will replace the existing system. Over the years we have seen flooding along the route largely due to inadequate drainage. When the project is completed the entire route will be paved. In all, Sheet Harbour will have a main street to be envied.

Approximately 2.5 years ago we set about securing funding for the project. With the funding in place in March '09 we hired Strait Engineering Ltd to do a final design for the project. Once this design was reviewed by our committee, and with more public consultation, we were finally in a position to go to tender. In September '09 we received five tenders, and after considerable review Amber Contracting Ltd was selected.

In the fall of '09 Amber did some preliminary work, but had to halt for the winter. During the winter we hired Skip Colwell to be our project manager. He had recently retired from HRM after over 30 years in street construction supervision. On May 3rd Amber resumed construction. Their first priority is the laying of the storm drains. Once this is complete the cable will be buried for the street lights and the sidewalks and rest areas will begin. The streetlights will be installed around the same time. If all goes as scheduled, the project will be completed by mid August.

The Sheet Harbour And Area Chamber of Commerce have leased the old Credit Union office from NS Power to serve as a project office. Skip will be there most days. If any one has any questions regarding our project he can be reached at 885-2224. Finally, we are planning a sod turning event in the next couple of weeks. We will have a date within the next few days. All citizens are welcome to attend this event.

Wayne Malay