

Downtown Revitalization Project Update – July 22, 2024

We are excited to share the latest developments in our ongoing Downtown Revitalization Project! As part of our commitment to enhancing the heart of our community, we have made significant progress in several key areas:

During the last week of June, a preliminary design was presented to the Downtown Revitalization Task Force and Council. Subsequently, meetings were held with Town Staff, the BIA Board, Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee, Goderich's Marine & Heritage Committee, and a public open house.

The public open house was very well attended with 139 signing the attendance sheet, demonstrating the public's interest and input into this project. Additionally, 42 written and 24 e-mail comments were received. Public comments received are currently being assessed and reviewed to assist the design team with delivering a complete design.

One common theme identified was general parking in the core area. As a result, Council has tasked staff to develop a parking strategy for the core area. BMROSS will gather information to provide an analysis of the current public parking inventory, usage and occupancy. Starting this week, BMROSS staff will be developing mapping of the existing public parking facilities, conducting in-person interviews/surveys with businesses on the square, as well as conducting parking counts to determine usage. An online survey will also be available for participants to identify usage, needs, opportunities and barriers related to parking in the downtown core. The information gathered will be utilized to provide parking strategy options.

Additionally, the basement investigations conducted earlier this year, demonstrates that many downtown sanitary services currently outlet to the rear of the properties. There are benefits to utilizing these existing services. To accomplish this, the Town is investigating where these shared private sewers may exist; there could be significant savings to the Town and building owners by utilizing such services. These may require easements and the Town taking responsibility for portions of the system. If you have any knowledge regarding these shared private sewers, please reach out to Sean Thomas at stthomas@goderich.ca or by calling 519-524-8344 Ext. 228.

The project remains on schedule, with a final detailed design being presented to the Downtown Revitalization Task Force, with a subsequent recommendation to Council in the fall of 2024, followed by a tender. While we respect everyone's eagerness to know the construction schedule, it is premature to speculate on specifics at this time. We are committed to producing a project schedule in January 2025, after the contract has been awarded.

For more information and regular updates on the project, please visit our dedicated project webpage at [Downtown Revitalization Project page](#), where you can subscribe to receive updates by clicking on the “Receive Email Updates” link.

Thank you for your continued participation and support!