

## **Reconstruction of the Betsy's Cove retaining wall and parking lot**

In 2018 it became clear that the Betsy's Cove retaining wall was failing. The wall itself was sinking and sliding in the mud towards the cove and buckling in places and the parking lot was subsiding. The Harbor Committee was apprised of the situation and began a study of potential remedies. Using grants from the Maine Department of Marine Resources (approximately \$40,000) and Harbor Committee funds (approximately \$10,000), the Committee contracted for soil testing to determine soil composition and depth to bedrock and preliminary and final construction drawings based on the findings.

After reviewing multiple design options, the Committee and the Selectmen selected a design option that would replace the existing 45 degree wall with a vertical wall. This option will create more room in the parking lot (6 additional spaces) and provide a strong and long-lasting solution for the landing.

The reconstruction will use galvanized sheet pile driven to the ledge, which is 18' to 22' below grade. On the Cove side of the wall, pressure treated wooden pilings will be driven every 10', which will improve the aesthetic appearance of the wall and provide additional stability. The minimum expected life of the wall is 70 years. This compares to 20 years for the current wall which was constructed in the early years of the current century.

The town has obtained a Small Harbor Improvement Grant (SHIP) from the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) for half the cost of the project up to a maximum state contribution of \$250,000.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$615,000. The MDOT contribution will be \$250,000. The Town's share will be \$365,000

Attachments:

Appendix A – Pictures of the current wall

Appendix B – Engineering Consultants Summary of Estimated Costs

Appendix C – Detail of Construction Costs

Appendix D – Construction Drawings