



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Project Manager *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Planning Commission; Port Commission
Date: April 15, 2024
Re: Monthly Projects Update – April 2024

Administrative:

Tariff Rate Study:

Northern Economics (NE) is expected to have a final draft of the Tariff Rate Study & Analysis by 19 April, with completion by 1 May 2024. The project schedule has been pushed out a bit, it remains within budget, and will serve as a sufficient source of information for the Commission and staff to use as potential tariff changes are evaluated for the 2025 ice-free season.

Strategic Development Plan:

PND has recently submitted the final draft of the Strategic Development Plan Update which once final, will complete Phase A of the project. Phases B and C costs were incorporated into the mid-year F24 budget amendment, and passed by the City Council on 25 Mar 2024. A contract amendment for both phases has been executed with PND, so Phase B work has now started, with Phase C to follow in May. Although the schedule has been pushed out somewhat due to conflicting timelines for public meetings and reviews, the project remains within budget.

Causeway:

Arctic Deep Draft Port – Nome Modifications Pre-Construction Engineering & Design (PED):

The solicitation package for Phase 1 of the Port of Nome Modification (PONM) Project was released on 27 Feb 2024. The Corps continues to coordinate with the City design teams in responding to bidder inquiries. As with many very large projects in remote locations, the Corps has decided to extend the bid due date an additional 30 days, with contractor award now anticipated for late summer 2024. All things considered, in-water construction is expected to begin in May/June 2025.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

The final PONM Phase 1 solicitation package was released by the Corps on 27 Feb 2024. The City's design teams have been responding to bidder inquiries along with the Corps to address contractor questions, and will remain onboard to perform inspection and field coordination during construction.

U.S. DOT Maritime Administration (MARAD) – Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grant Pre-Award:

Port staff and consultants are presently responding to the various pre-award grant submittals required the \$11.25M grant agreement can be executed. A number of these requirements are somewhat involved and therefore could take up to 18 months to complete. *These funds will be used to cover a portion of the costs needed to purchase and construct the marine utilities for Phase 1 of the Port of Nome Modification Project. The City will provide matching funds in the estimated amount of \$16M, which will be sourced through eligible state funding. The exact amount of the match will depend on the winning bid for the work.*

Causeway Bridge Repairs and Sediment Removal:

The Corps has awarded the contract to Bristol Engineering for the repairs to the abutment and girders on the north end of the Causeway bridge. The project field work is now scheduled for June 2024.

Arctic Port Reception Facility – Solid Waste Disposal (Incinerator):

A potential funding opportunity with ADEC and EPA is being evaluated for this project.

Harbor:

Inner Harbor CAP 107 Study (Deepen/Widen the Inner Basin):

The City continues to make monthly inquiries on the status of this project, with District reporting they are awaiting direction from Corps HQ on how to proceed. The delays on this issue have also been submitted to Alaska Delegation staff members for action. Recent information indicates there has been movement at Corps HQ on this project.

Snake River Moorage Facility:

A funding application was submitted to the USDOT RAISE Program in late Feb 2024, for final design and construction of this project.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (WNTF) - Property Conveyance:

The USAF has just returned the final drafts of the Quit Claim Deed and Environmental Covenants that should be the last round of reviews by the City and ADEC. If all is in order, this will move the 7-acre conveyance into the signature/execution phase within the next few months.

Thornbush Laydown Site Development (TBS):

Dredge spoils from the port expansion and inner harbor project have been given clearance by two ADEC programs (Solid Waste and Contaminated Sites), to be disposed of in the undeveloped 9-acre portion of this property. The spoils will require dewatering before serving as a hardened base layer to the specified fill and surfacing to complete development of the 18-acre parcel. Development is ongoing to create additional laydown area for the facility.

Over the summer, Public Works filled depressions on the pad to maximize the usable surface before winter. This repair/prep will allow relocations of containers, dredges and equipment in 2024 for construction setup.

Port Rd. Improvements (ADOT Project cost-shared with City/Port):

This state STIP project has been postponed to approximately 2028/2029 to avoid conflicting with the significant increase in haul traffic during the port expansion.

FEMA DR4672 Merbok Recover Projects:

Inner Harbor Dredging – South Wall and East Ramp:

The City await FEMA's environmental (EHP) review of the removal of the sediment positioned along the south and east areas of the small boat harbor, in order to award the work to the single bidder received in 2023. FEMA has approved the existing Scope of Work (SOW), and once the EHP is complete, will authorize funds through an Obligation Award Document so work can be done in the 2024 season.

Cape Nome Jetty Repair:

The 95% design repair drawings, specs, and bid docs has been shared with FEMA, along with a scope of work change request to incorporate the construction costs into the project budget. FEMA is doing the required reviews, which hopefully result in the necessary approvals so the work can be put out for solicitation, and construction can still occur in the 2024 season. The City has requested expedition.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report