

**PORT OF NOME
LOCAL SERVICE FACILITIES DESIGN & ENGINEERING GRANT
FUNDING STRATEGY**

AGENCY	U.S. Department of Transportation
PROGRAM	RAISE Grants (Rebuilding American Infrastructure w/Sustainability & Equity)
DESCRIPTION	Funding Surface Transportation Projects having Significant/Local Regional Impact
FUNDING	\$1.5B Total – 50% to Rural Projects (Project Awards of \$1M Min/\$25M Max)
ELIGIBILITY	State, local & tribal governments (port infrastructure investment)
FED SHARE	Min 80% (Secretary may elect go fund up to 100% for rural projects)
DEADLINE	April 14, 2022 – 5:00 PM (EST)
PROJECT	PORT OF NOME LOCAL SERVICE FACILITIES DESIGN & ENGINEERING PLANNING GRANT
APPLICANT	CITY OF NOME
\$\$ REQUEST	\$3,322,551

Primary Selection Criteria:

Safety
Environmental Sustainability
Quality of Life
Mobility and Community Connectivity

Secondary Selection Criteria:

Economic Competitiveness
State of Good Repair
Partnerships and Collaboration
Innovation

Program Requirements:

Climate Change and Environmental Justice Impact Consideration
Racial Equity and Barriers to Opportunity

PORT OF NOME LOCAL SERVICE FACILITIES DESIGN & ENGINEERING – PROJECT PURPOSE:

Throughout the last 10 years, the City of Nome has worked diligently with the Corps of Engineers Alaska District to investigate demand and gauge need for enhanced maritime facilities in the Arctic. Although this effort has frequently been multi-faceted, the predominant purposes have been to prevent loss of life at sea, reduce elevated shipping costs, minimize impacts to the marine environment, and protect U.S. national security interests in Arctic waters. As more and more vessels transit this region each ice-free season, it is clear that marine shipping, research activity and resource development continue in an upward trend, with few signs of slowing down or reversing course. As the changes in climate accelerate to thin out multi-year ice, the geopolitical stage seems to change just as quickly, with more countries displaying efforts to pursue interests in the region whether or not they are anywhere close to the Arctic.

These significant changes resulted in several completed navigation studies by the USACE, the latest of which has identified Nome as the most practical and cost-effective location to develop a deep-water port in the U.S. Arctic, produced a signed Chief’s Report, and received authorization from the 117th

Congress to design and construct an Arctic Deep Draft Port at Nome. The City executed a cost-share agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the Preconstruction, Engineering & Design (PED) of the Port of Nome Port Modifications Project that began in July 2021. This joint effort is to design the General Navigation Features (GNF) elements of the project, at a cost-share of 65% USACE and 35% City, to serve as the foundation of an expanded port at Nome.

In addition to the cost-shared elements described above, the City of Nome is obligated to fund 100% design/engineering of the Local Service Facilities (LSF's) of the project. These elements consist of docks, bridge, roads and utilities, and is performed parallel to the PED efforts. Phase 1 design for the LSF's is underway, and moving toward 65% completion, with design teams presently coordinating to determine the precise locations where GNF/LSF elements will interface to isolate federal/local responsibility for design and costs.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project Development Team (PDT), comprised of personnel from the Alaska District, Bristol Engineering, PND Engineers, CRW Engineering, NJUS, Port Commission and Port staff, are meeting twice each month to discuss questions on project integration. All design criteria has been identified and reviewed, and a Public Information Meeting was held in February 2022 to engage local planners, facility stakeholders and partners, fed/state agency staff and City Administration.

PROJECT BUDGET:

Total ROM Estimated LSF Design Costs	\$4,153,189
Federal Funding Requested	3,322,551
City Contribution (Cash Match)	830,638
Other Contribution	0
Total Funds	\$3,322,551

REQUEST:

Support is requested from the Nome Common Council for this application to the USDOT RAISE grant program to fund a minimum of 80%* of the design costs for Phases II & III of the Local Service Facilities associated with the Nome Port Modifications Project and Arctic Port Expansion – in conjunction with the USACE Alaska District design work of the General Navigation Features (GNF).

*Secretary can choose to fund up to 100% for rural project costs.

Memo

TO: Mayor John Handeland & Nome Common Council
FROM: Jim West, Chairman – Nome Port Commission
THRU: Glenn Steckman - City Manager
DATE: 03/25/2022
RE: 2022 USDOT RAISE Grant Program – Local Service Facilities Engineering and Design



The following motion was passed by the Nome Port Commission at their Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2022.

1. Moved by C. Lean and seconded by C. Smithhisler, that the following motion be approved:
 - **MOTION:** Recommend the Nome Common Council authorize making application to the 2022 USDOT RAISE Grant Program for funds to complete engineering and design of the local service facilities, as part of the Army Corps' Arctic Deep Draft Port Project construction.

AT THE ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Rowe, Sheffield, Smithhisler, Lean, West, McCann
Nays:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

Discussion on this motion is reflected in the minutes of the March 17, 2022 Regular Meeting.