



# Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager  
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*  
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission  
Date: July 7, 2023  
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – July 2023

---

## **Administrative:**

Port staff have been very busy with vessel operations, invoicing, facility maintenance, safety inspections, shuffling vessels in the harbor to accommodate fuel and cargo barges, and cleanup of small oil spills in the harbor. Multi-day calls at the Causeway by MTSA-regulated foreign-flagged vessels requiring 24-hour port security has strained existing staff, but we are managing through these 4/5-day calls as they come.

## **Causeway:**

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

Final responses to NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Incidental Hazard Authorization (IHA) permit application have been submitted. The project team anticipates receiving approval in late July/early August. Once the IHA permit is in the Corps' hand, the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) will be executed.

Additional design work was identified by the Corps, based on the need to have a base project, plus 3 options to section out awards based on available funding at the federal and local level, once bids are received. It is anticipated the Corps will be able to award the base project and at least one option, which will take the Causeway extension out to the 90 degree turn to the east, with next FY funding awarding option 2 for completing the structure. More to come as this element of the project is finalized and design updates are complete.

*The Corps intends to schedule another meeting in Nome on the project, which may occur in Aug or Sep 2023, but the actual schedule has not yet been determined. Once info is available, the City will share with Nome media and an ad will be placed in the newspaper.*

### Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

The City's designers have been given 2-3 weeks to incorporate the additional contract options assigned by the Corps. These changes will be incorporated into the 100%, but unsigned drawing for a last review by the Corps. Once the 100% packages are approved, both CRW and PND will sign and stamp their drawings for transmitting to the Corps, to become part of the final solicitation package, scheduled for release on the street in late Oct/early Nov 2023.

### Causeway Bridge Repairs and Sediment Removal:

The Corps is finalizing an RFP to share with Bristol Engineering this month to obtain a quote to conduct the bridge repair work.

Sediment that was accumulated under and west of the bridge was scoured out by Merbok, meaning the Corps dredging contractor was not asked to do that work in 2023. Unfortunately, without any sediment in the breach, there was need during the fuel line repairs to push sand back under the bridge to establish a stable working surface above the water line for the contractor to have a safe platform by which to access the fuel lines to minor work, along with necessary thickness testing. Port staff worked with Bristol Engineering to submit an emergency permitting request to Corps Regulatory to allow for the sediment infill. The Corps indicated the work could proceed immediately under a Nationwide Permit (NWP3), and a call to the USCG regarding inspection/notification of fuel line work was also given the high sign to proceed without any concerns.

Arctic Port Reception Facility – Solid Waste Disposal (Incinerator):  
*New funding opportunities are 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.*

**Port Industrial Pad:**

West Nome Tank Farm (WNTF) - Property Conveyance:

Delays in the USAF's process of conveying the WNTF property to the City continue. Therefore, this issue has, once again, been brought to the attention of the Alaska Congressional Delegation, who share this City's disappointment and frustration in the amount of time that has elapsed since NDAA 2015 passed into law, authorizing conveyance of the property to the City. **UPDATE:** Had a call with the nationwide installations team on the status of the quit claim deed comments provided by the City. QCD has been with legal since City submittal in Nov 2022, but promises were made to get the final review complete and return the document to the City by the week of 10 July 2023.

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.*

Dredge spoils were spread by Public Works in June, which formed a base layer in a portion of the adjacent unfilled area on the TBS pad. Material received from the state's ex work on Bering Street last year, were used to provide surfacing to the extent possible, and fill depressions in the existing pad due to subsidence.

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

*This state STIP project has been postponed to 2026/27 to avoid road construction conflicting with the heavier truck traffic during the port expansion. There is ongoing discussion regarding maintenance work in 2023.*

---

*Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.*  
Additional details available upon request.