

Board Of Trade, Inc.

P.O. BOX 967
NOME, ALASKA 99762

April 13, 2022

Mayor John Handeland
CITY OF NOME
P.O. Box 281
Nome, AK 99762

RE: SUPPORT FOR USDOT RAISE GRANT APPLICATION TO FUND THORNBUSH LAYDOWN SITE DEVELOPMENT

Dear Mayor Handeland,

As the owner and operators of BOT, Inc, I have seen a large increase in demand from the maritime industry in recent years, both on-land and on-water. Over time my crew and I have witnessed a growing need for additional lay down space at the facility, and seeing this is being actively pursued is a relief as the congestion brings conflict and delays to all users of the Port. As a multi-use facility, there is significant need for additional laydown space for not only the seasonal aspects of moving cargo, equipment and loose bulk materials, but staging high volumes of loose bulk materials such as gravel, sand and rock, repairing vessels and equipment, distributing freight, breaking down large loads, and for the temporary staging of project equipment, moving inbound or outbound. Having access to this expanded uplands directly impacts projects across the region by reducing delays that enable shippers to make good use of the window of time available in a compressed, ice-free season.

As demand at the port facility continues to grow, it is clear that expansion of the available uplands is a priority need, and therefore, I support the City of Nome in this application to obtain funds to complete development of the Thornbush Laydown Site, an 18-acre pad critically needed to support increased demand at the Port. All of which continue to signify the importance of the Port of Nome, as an Arctic hub in support of serving the region, the state, national security and the Arctic maritime fleet.

Thank you for your consideration and work on this important project.

Respectfully,



Jim West, Jr.
President
Board of Trade, Inc.
P.O. Box 967
Nome, AK 99762