



NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY
P.O. Box 1090
Nome, Alaska 99762
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www.necalaska.org

**RESOLUTION 2022-02
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE I.R.A. COUNCIL OF THE
NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY**

A Resolution to Support the Design and Engineering of the Port of Nome's Local Service Facilities which are associated with and Serve as External Components to the Army Corps of Engineers' Nome Modifications Project and Arctic Port Expansion through Submission of a USDOT RAISE Grant Funding Application.

WHEREAS, the City of Nome's port and harbor serves as a strategic maritime hub facility for over 50 communities along the Western Alaska coastline, with the responsibility of providing marine infrastructure to critical fuel, equipment, cargo, gravel, and other supplies requiring transport by water during the ice-free season, and;

WHEREAS, the Port of Nome plays a crucial role as the only publicly-owned coastal port north of the Aleutians for the refueling and resupply of Arctic vessels, as well as a hub for response vessels to act quickly to protect the marine environment and sea life, and vessel traffic has grown exponentially since 2012, as shown in the port's vessel traffic statistics; and,

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers has done many Arctic port studies to determine the best site to serve as the first Deep Draft Arctic Port for the nation, and selected Nome as the most reasonable location due to existing community and port infrastructure that will further facilitate search and rescue response, protection of the marine environment, resource development, and an Arctic location for strategic defense of the country; and,

WHEREAS, Nome Eskimo Community (NEC) is the Federally Recognized Tribe serving the community of Nome and is in support of infrastructure projects that promote the efficient and economical shipment of commodities to communities across the Bering Strait region that are necessary for sustaining the lives of Alaska residents and protect the marine environment by significantly reducing the need to lighter into the port; and

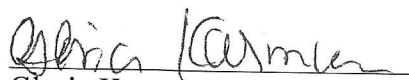
WHEREAS, NEC supports expansion of industry facilities in Nome that promotes job growth and increased opportunities to local residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Nome Eskimo Community strongly supports the City of Nome's application for funding to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure for Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program to construct the Local Service Facilities associated with the Nome Modifications Project.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned President of the Nome Eskimo Community IRA Council, do hereby certify that the Nome IRA Council is composed of seven (7) members of which 7 voted on this 1st day of April 2022, and the foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of 7 members.

YES 7 NO _____ ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____



Gloria Karmun

President

Nome Eskimo Community



Shannon Greene

Secretary/Treasurer

Nome Eskimo Community

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATOR DONALD *OMILAK* OLSON



ALASKA STATE CAPITOL, SUITE 514
JUNEAU, ALASKA, 99801-1182
(907) 465-3707

July 8, 2021

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

RE: SUPPORT FOR USDOT RAISE GRANT APPLICATION TO FUND DESIGN OF
NOME'S LOCAL SERVICE FACILITIES (LSF)

Dear Mayor Handeland,

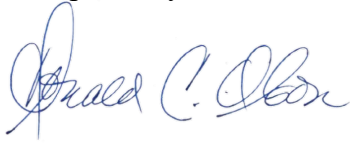
It was exciting to hear news of the Arctic Deep Draft Port project being authorized through Congress and signed by the President at the end of last year. What a milestone achievement for the City of Nome! I'm sure you and your team are both relieved and proud but won't waste a minute getting to the task of designing the external components that are identified as Local Service Facilities (LSF) and the responsibility of the local sponsor.

These external components, consisting of deep water docks, mooring dolphins, access roads, a bridge and utilities, are essential to the Port of Nome's ability to service the maritime industry in the U.S. Arctic. Multiple deep water docks will alleviate the growing risks associated with anchoring deep-draft tankers, cruise ships and national security vessels offshore, making it necessary to lighten fuel between vessels, and transfer provisions, equipment, passengers and crew to and from shore. These movements can frequently encounter weather conditions that even when mild, will present a 2-3 foot swell with 15 knot winds that require skilled mariners to ensure the safety of all souls aboard the lighter vessels.

These deep water docks will enable these larger vessels to shelter in a secure location to conduct operations safely and connect to vital utility components such as; fuel, electricity, water and communications. The modernization of the Port of Nome will provide the first Arctic Deep Draft Port in the nation, and it is with this in mind that we announce our support the City of Nome in their application to obtain funds for the design of the LSF features, as critical elements of this deep draft port facility in the Arctic, serving the region, the state, national security and the Arctic maritime fleet.

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donald C. Olson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donald" being the most prominent part.

Senator Donald C. Olson
District T



6520 Kulis Drive
Anchorage, AK 99502

July 9, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Alaska Marine Lines would like to offer its support for the proposed expansion of the Port of Nome. Nome has become a very busy port with a variety of user groups competing for the use of the facility.

Alaska Marine Lines is a major marine freight transportation provider to Western Alaska. Nome is the northern-most port on our route with developed upland staging area. It has an inner harbor that allows for cargo for surrounding communities to be staged and reloaded to lighterage vessels for delivery to surrounding communities. Further improvements to the inner harbor would help various users who share the use of the facility.

Alaska Marine Lines mainline service utilizes 380' x 96' barges to efficiently move large volumes of cargo to Western Alaska. These large barges require significant facilities to moor these vessels. We regularly navigate around large NOAA ships and another ship traffic inside the harbor. The entrance to the harbor is very challenging to transit. Immediately upon entering the outer harbor you pass berths where ships and barges moor to transfer cargo. Sea swell and cross currents make the transit very challenging. You can wait for long periods of time for adequate weather conditions to allow for a safe entry. It is common to have to leave the harbor for impending bad weather which creates swells that roll into the harbor making it unsafe to stay at the dock.

The proposed change to the breakwater and additional dock space will go a long way towards improving safety and providing needed infrastructure to the region for decades to come. Therefore, Alaska Marine Lines strongly supports the City of Nome in their efforts to secure funding for the expansion of the Port of Nome.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Don Reid'.

Don Reid
Vice President, Operations

Alaska Marine Lines
6520 Kulis Dr.
Anchorage, AK. 99502



ALASKA MARINE PILOTS LLC

P.O. Box 920226 - Dutch Harbor, AK 99692

Office (907)581-1240 - Fax (907)581-1372

www.alaskamarinepilots.com

To be good Stewards over the waters which we are licensed to protect

July 2, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Alaska Marine Pilots, as the only state certified marine pilot organization licensed to provide pilotage services in Western Alaska, please accept this letter of support for the City of Nome in its efforts to secure funding to expand the Port of Nome, serving as our Nation's first and only Arctic Deep-Water Port.

As mandated by state law, when a foreign or regulated vessel enters or departs Alaska State waters, it must have a licensed Pilot on board with the primary duty to direct and control the safe navigation of the vessel, protecting life, property, and the marine environment.

For more than 30 years, the Alaska Marine Pilots have been anchoring deep draft vessels such as Tankers, Cruise Ships, Research, and Military Vessels, in the open waters off the Port of Nome. Normal operations include ship-to-ship lightering, bunkers, stores, provisions, crew, and passenger exchanges. These evolutions are normally conducted inside the protection of a modern harbor. The existing port infrastructure in Nome severely limits the parameters in which pilots can safely moor vessel inside the protection of the port. The extreme nature of the arctic environment presents navigation and operational challenges unique to the region. Harsh wind, swell, and sea state, as well as ice conditions, make executing these routine ship operations dangerous from the anchored vessel. The construction of multiple deep-water docks engineered to securely moor the ever increasingly size of ships that use Nome will alleviate the risks associated with having to conduct business offshore and will provide a much safer working environment for years to come.

With increased interest and attention on the Arctic, both strategically and commercially, it's imperative that a functioning Deep-Water Port equipped with the necessary infrastructure be made available. Nome being positioned at the "Gateway to the Arctic", makes it the perfect location for such a Port. We support the City of Nome in their application to obtain funds for the design and construction of these much-needed facilities.

Best Regards,

Captain Clayton W. Christy

President, Alaska Marine Pilots, LLC



Alaska Maritime Agencies

4341 B Street, Suite 202, Anchorage, AK 99503

Tel: (907) 562-8808 Fax: (907) 782-4110 Email: ancoffice@alaskamaritime.com



7 JULY 2021

Subject: Support for funding improved Local Service Facilities (LSFs) at Port of Nome, AK

To: Whom it may concern,

Founded in 1956, Alaska Maritime Agencies provides ship husbandry services to cargo, research and passenger vessel activity here in Alaska, which is necessarily dependent on waterfront infrastructure in the region.

The proposed improvements to Port of Nome are likely to have a profound and positive effect on Alaska Maritime Agencies and to the local economy. Vessel activity at the port not only helps support our company, but provides jobs and economic opportunity for a variety of vendors we utilize. These include marine pilots, tug & launch operators, tour agencies, line handlers, tank surveyors, terminal workers, provisions providers, and crewing services just to name a few. In addition to improving access for current vessels, expanding the port facilities and deepening the berths at Port of Nome will render the port usable to vessels calling in the region that heretofore have been too large to call pier-side.

Construction of multiple deep water docks with mooring dolphins at Nome will alleviate risks associated with requiring deep-draft tankers to anchor offshore, and lighter fuel deliveries ashore by barge. Such cargo transfers could now be done while alongside a pier, which is an environmentally safer and a timelier evolution than doing so at anchor. In the summer months, the region is subject to a consistent 2- to 3-foot swells and 15-20 knot winds, which fall on the extreme edge of the safe operations window for transfers to lightering barges.

Nome plays a particularly important role in the region as a gateway to both the US and Russian Arctic, the Northwest Passage, and the Northern Sea Route. As a manned CBP Port with a significantly developed airport, Nome is ideally placed for vessels to conduct entry inspections into US Commerce and Immigration, as well as to undergo US Coast Guard Port State Examinations. Having the ability to moor large vessels arriving from foreign ports will enable these inspections to take place in a more controlled environment, offer safer boarding opportunities, and be able to be executed along a more predictable schedule. This stands to ensure the best possible vetting of inbound vessels, improving regional maritime security, and saving taxpayer dollars by reducing weather-delays to inspections.

As Nome grows as a tourist destination, more and more Cruise Vessel Operators are interested in including Nome in their itineraries. Currently vessels serving more than ~200 passengers must anchor outside the breakwater, and tender personnel ashore in order to visit the community. This activity is quickly rendered unsafe in even marginal sea conditions. Larger vessels have canceled visits ashore upon arrival at the Nome anchorage,

to the great economic disappointment of local businesses. The ability of large passenger vessels to dock at Nome will eliminate last-minute delays and cancellations due to marginal conditions.

Alaska Maritime, and the vessels and vendors with whom we work, will see benefits from the expanded vessel access to the Port of Nome that will result from the proposed developments. Alaska Maritime Agencies supports LSF components being designed and constructed as external elements of the Corps foundation, and support the City of Nome in their application to obtain funds for the design of these LSF features. The development of these critical elements will economically aid the residents of Nome and the region, serve to enhance national security, and improve the safety and effectiveness of the Arctic marine fleet.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Very Respectfully,


Luke Hasenbank
President

ALASKA MARITIME AGENCIES®
4341 B Street, Suite 202
Anchorage, AK 99503
24 Hour Main Phone: 1 (907) 562-8808
www.alaskamaritime.com

AS AGENTS ONLY
ASBA CERTIFIED AGENT

Cc: Joy Baker – Nome, AK

Alaska Port Services

"Serving all Southwestern Alaska Ports"



ALASKA PORT SERVICES, INC.

P.O. Box 240254

ANCHORAGE, AK 99524-0254

7 JULY 2021

Subject: Support for funding improved Local Service Facilities (LSFs) at Port of Nome, AK

To: Whom it may concern,

As a maritime services company, Alaska Port Services provides logistical services to cargo, research and passenger vessel activity here in Alaska, which is necessarily dependent on waterfront infrastructure in the region.

The proposed improvements to Port of Nome are likely to have a profound and positive effect on Alaska Port Services and to the local economy. Vessel activity at the port not only helps support our company, but provides jobs and economic opportunity for a variety of vendors we utilize. These include husbanding agents, marine pilots, tug & launch operators, tour agencies, line handlers, tank surveyors, terminal workers, provisions providers, and crewing services just to name a few. In addition to improving access for current vessels, expanding the port facilities and deepening the berths at Port of Nome will render the port usable to vessels calling in the region that heretofore have been too large to call pier-side.

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Nome plays a particularly important role in the region as a gateway to both the US and Russian Arctic, the Northwest Passage, and the Northern Sea Route. As a manned CBP Port with a significantly developed airport, Nome is ideally placed for vessels to conduct entry inspections into US Commerce and Immigration, as well as to undergo US Coast Guard Port State Examinations. Having the ability to moor large vessels arriving from foreign ports will enable these inspections to take place in a more controlled environment, offer safer boarding opportunities, and be able to be executed along a more predictable schedule. This stands to ensure the best possible vetting of inbound vessels,

Alaska Port Services

"Serving all Southwestern Alaska Ports"



ALASKA PORT SERVICES, INC.

P.O. Box 240254

ANCHORAGE, AK 99524-0254

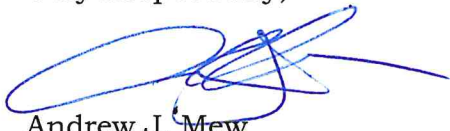
improving regional maritime security, and saving taxpayer dollars by reducing weather-delays to inspections.

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Alaska Port Services, and the vessels and vendors with whom we work, will see benefits from the expanded vessel access to the Port of Nome that will result from the proposed developments. Alaska Port Services supports LSF components being designed and constructed as external elements of the Corps foundation, and support the City of Nome in their application to obtain funds for the design of these LSF features. The development of these critical elements will economically aid the residents of Nome and the region, serve to enhance national security, and improve the safety and effectiveness of the Arctic marine fleet.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Very Respectfully,



Andrew J. Mew

Alaska Port Services®
Anchorage, AK

Cc: Joy Baker – Nome, AK



FUGRO

Fugro USA, Inc.
5761 Silverado Way, Suite O
Anchorage, AK 99518
USA

Mr. Bruce Sexauer

Alaska District Corps of Engineers
Civil Works Project Management Branch
CEPOA-PM-C
JBER, AK 99506-0898

Alaska Congressional Delegation

Congressman Don Young
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Senator Dan Sullivan

December 19, 2019

Subject: Support for Arctic Deep Draft Port in Nome

Dear Mr. Sexauer and Honorable Members of Congress:

I am writing on behalf of Fugro USA to express our strong support for the proposed Arctic deep draft port in Nome. Fugro is a leading private sector geo-specialist company with decades of experience working in Alaska's Arctic waters. We believe the port development is a strategic and necessary step in building Alaska's Arctic infrastructure.

As a nation, we are not yet prepared to capitalize on the increasingly accessible Arctic. Less than 20% percent of US Arctic waters are mapped and there is not a single deep draft port in the region. Without accurate bathymetry and adequate portage, we are ill equipped to accommodate the increased size and volume of vessels operating in the Arctic.

Safe transit is critical to the region's continued economic development. Serving as a hub for shipping commercial goods and construction materials, the Port of Nome is also an important resupply stop for vessels, not to mention a burgeoning destination for cruise ships and a key support to the region's commercial fishing industry. Expanding Nome's port will ensure all these activities can grow sustainably, without harm to the natural environment or negative impacts to residents. Additionally, the improved facilities will enhance domain awareness and preparedness as trans-Arctic trade routes and voyages increase from year to year.

In short, a deep draft port in Nome is of significant importance to Alaska as a state, and to the nation as a whole. Its development will serve many interests, from maritime safety to economic development to emergency response and national security.

Sincerely,

Rada Khadjinova

General Manager-Alaska

"Where Southerly East Wind Blows"

(907) 624-3411
(907) 624-3833 Fax



Unalakleet Native Corporation

P.O. Box 100
Unalakleet, Alaska 99684

Bruce Sexauer
Alaska District Corps of Engineers
Civil Works Project Management Branch
CEPOA-PM-C
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898

January 15, 2020

RE: SUPPORT FOR ARCTIC DEEP DRAFT PORT AT NOME

Dear Mr. Sexauer,

Unalakleet Native Corporation would like to convey its support for an Arctic Deep Draft Port at Nome. This project will encourage economic development and reduce shipping costs to the Bering Strait region. It will also expand an existing logistics marine transportation hub, bringing economic opportunity to the region through jobs, training, education, and increased commerce for marine and other businesses. More importantly, it encourages our young people to seek careers as skilled professionals and tradesmen supporting the marine industry. These jobs allow the region's residents to earn a reliable income with which to raise a family while continuing to live on their traditional lands.

The Port of Nome is the region's hub. Communities in this region are connected through an invisible network, supporting each other during shortages of medical supplies, fuel, and other resources. Unalakleet, like many other area coastal communities, relies upon the Port of Nome to provide the critical transshipping link for the supply of fuel, building materials, vehicles, equipment, and supplies to maintain our commercial enterprises, as well as our traditional home and cultural practices.

The Bering Strait region is remote, with small communities that are dependent on the ability of the maritime industry to deliver goods through the marine transportation network. Moving equipment, modular homes, vehicles, and fuel can be very costly. Some of these items can only be moved over water during the ice-free shipping season as they exceed air transportation limits.

Unalakleet Native Corporation strongly supports the construction of a deep-water port at Nome for the purpose of bringing economic benefit and lower shipping costs to the Bering Strait region.

Sincerely,

Steve Ivanoff
President

President: Steve Ivanoff
CEO: Mark Johnson