



# Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager  
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director JLB  
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission  
Date: May 5, 2023  
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – May 2023

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**Administrative:**

The Port successfully hired Carolyn Ahkvaluk on 1 May 2023, as the full-time Purchasing/Office Manager, who will be shared with Public Works. Training began immediately, and will continue over the next couple of weeks with additional accounting staff in Nome. Planning, scheduling, compliance training and budgeting for 2023 currently occupy our days. We have had numerous discussions with Public Works to confirm schedules for required maintenance/repairs and purchasing of materials.

**Causeway:**

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

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) released the project's Incidental Hazard Authorization (IHA) for public comment on 1 May 2023, with responses due back by 1 June 2023. Anticipated approval of this required permit is now pushed back to June or July 2023. Until then, the City and Corps permitting leads will continue to coordinate with agency personnel, and design teams continue moving forward.

One of the impacts of this extended timeline pushes execution of the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) until July, which is also the document that makes the official adjustment to the cost-share modification from 75/25 to 90/10%. As stated prior, the Alaska District has given assurances that all funds in excess of the 10% obligation will be returned to the City upon execution of the PPA.

Higher-level decisions have required adjustments to the final 95% design drawings and specs, with the Corps needing an additional 3 weeks to return the information to the City's designers for making changes to the LSF components. It is expected the City teams will have an equal 3 weeks to reciprocate with the final tweaks to the 95%, before moving on to 100% design.

The Corps and City will host another public meeting on the project at the Mini Convention Center (MCC) in Nome, on Tuesday 16 May 2023, from 5:30p-7:30p. A presentation will be given by members of the project team, followed by a Q&A session. Meeting information will be shared with Nome media and an add will be placed in the upcoming paper.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

As stated above, the City's designers will be making changes to the existing 95% design, once modified drawings are received from the Corps on 16 May 2023, which pushes the 100% deadline into June 2023. More information will be shared as it comes available.

Causeway Bridge Repairs and Sediment Under Bridge:

*The Corps is still preparing a contract solicitation to be released in the summer of 2023, with work now pushed out to the summer of 2024. Sediment that has accumulated under and west of the bridge is being folded into the new Maintenance Dredging solicitation in Fall 2023 for the 2024-2026 contract.*

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 and their Division office.*

**Port Industrial Pad:**

West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):

*The City has made regular inquiries with the USAF, and has learned that a new project lead has been identified for this property transfer, and the AF is working to get up to speed on this significantly delayed issue. (Both email and voicemail left this week.)*

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.

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.

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*Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.*

Additional details available upon request.