

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's Report

May 5, 2023

**3D Housing:**

I took advantage of being on the East Coast to attend a conference in State College, PA regarding 3D housing. Held on the campus of Penn State, there were representatives from HUD and those involved with this new construction process from across the US. HUD estimates there is a shortfall of four million affordable housing units across all of the United States. Some this shortfall is because of natural disasters impacting many states. The potential of this type of housing could move people from temporary housing into a home that could meet the homeowners needs on a long-term basis

I was impressed with what I saw at the conference and how it could be positive impact not only in Nome but also the region for our housing needs. In Williamsburg, VA, they constructed a 1200 square ft house in 22 hours over two weeks. This did not involve the finishes in the home but the exterior and interior walls. 3D housing units are also proving to save up to 50% in energy costs. More importantly, the homes are projected to have a 175-year life.

They are now looking at possible pre-fab construction in Nome and shipping parts for assembly into the villages. There will still be need to develop a local skilled workforce and employment opportunities in Nome.

**University of Alaska Fairbanks Northwest Campus:**

Working with NACTEC and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Nome campus, the college will now be offering adult welding classes at Nome Beltz High School. City agreed to allow this project to move forward as the port moves closer to expansion.