



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Project Manager *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission
Date: October 17, 2023
Re: Monthly Projects Update – Oct 2023

Causeway:

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

The Corps designers are working with the contracting and real estate offices to compile the solicitation package for release in both draft and final forms during Nov 2023. Prior to release, the Corps and both of the City's designers will sign and stamp their respective designs/specs, and remain available to respond to questions posed by prospective bidders.

The Incidental Hazard Authorization (IHA) permit for the 1st year (2024) of the project, issued by NOAA/NMFS, remains available at [this link](#) or by accessing www.federalregister.gov and entering 2023-19187 in the search bar at the top right of the main page.

On 11 Sept 2023, the City Council unanimously passed Resolution R-23-09-02, authorizing the City Manager Steckman to sign the Port of Nome Modifications Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), including various certifications. The signed package has been submitted to the Corps for final routing through Pacific Ocean Division (POD) for execution. This secures the path forward for Phase 1 construction (extension of the existing Causeway and creation of the deep-water basin).

Also, on 11 Sept 2023, the City Council unanimously passed Resolution R-23-09-03, authorizing award of the Option to Lease to Alaska Gold Company for property on Satellite Field (owned by Bering Strait Native Corporation (BSNC)) for land to be used for the workforce camp facility during the port expansion – a requirement of the City. The Option to Lease Agreement is near final, with specific details of the property location being confirmed with the Alaska District Real Estate folks, but should be fully executed soon.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

Same as 1st paragraph above in the ADDP section above, and the LSF designers will remain onboard during the bidding process as well as throughout construction to provide inspection services and ensure the LSF elements are built correctly.

Causeway Bridge Repairs and Sediment Removal:

The Corps is in the process of contracting with Bristol Engineering for performing repairs needed on the abutment and girders on the north end of the Causeway bridge. The project field work is anticipated to be done in the early part of the 2024 ice-free season.

Arctic Port Reception Facility – Solid Waste Disposal (Incinerator):

Additional funding opportunities are on the horizon and 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:

In early October, the USAF shared their latest responses on the City's and ADEC's comments from Nov 2022 regarding the quit claim deed and environmental covenants. Pending any additional concerns, it seems this long awaited 7-acre parcel conveyance to the City might just be going to happen – what a great Christmas present!

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.

Over the summer, Public Works filled depressions on the pad to maximize the usable surface before winter. This repair/prep will allow relocations of containers, dredges and equipment in 2024 for construction setup.

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

This state STIP project has been postponed to 2027/28 to avoid road construction conflicting with the heavier truck traffic during the port expansion. There is ongoing discussion regarding fixing drainage and pavement breaks.

FEMA DR4672 Merbok Recover Projects:

Inner Harbor Dredging – South Wall and East Ramp:

The City continues to wait for FEMA to authorize and obligate funds for this work to remove sediment from in the inner harbor that was pushed in by the 2022 storm. Considering the 2023 ice-free season is complete, the City has advised FEMA that this work will have to wait until spring break-up in 2024.

Cape Nome Jetty Repair:

PND Engineers (subcontractor to Bristol) continues working on the repair design and construction cost estimate which is intended to return the Jetty to pre-storm condition. The 95% package will be submitted to FEMA for review, and once any concerns are addressed, will go through necessary federal channels to authorize funds to cover all design, bid and construction costs.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report