



Memo

To: Brooks Chandler – Interim City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Project Manager/Acting Port Director *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission; Planning Commission
Date: 11/21/2024
Re: Port Admin & Projects Status Update – Nov 2024

Administration:

As Port & Harbor field activity is closed during freeze-up, it allows a more concerted focus on the myriad of issues that happen behind the scenes that are of equal importance to the success of the facility. We are presently evaluating a number of funding opportunities to support the list of development projects that are pending at any given time, and prioritizing that work through discussions with the Port Commission, City Administration and our user base.

Other elements that warrant our attention in the winter are; streamlining accounting, tightening up field data collection for billing, A/R collections, long range planning, meeting compliance requirements, budget prep, prioritizing maintenance, inventorying/replacing summer consumables, and identifying staff training for 2025. This winter, we've decided to spring clean the office before spring arrives!

At this time, we are at 50% of our projected revenue for FY2025, and only 30% of our projected expenses.

Strategic Development Plan:

PND and Corvus were in town at Old St. Joe's on 12-13 Nov 2024 for public meetings on the Port's Strategic Development Plan. The focus was to capture more input from the public, users, port commission and city/port staff on Phase B, to ensure Phase C, reflects a solid long-range plan for informing future development. Although there was not a large turn-out, the discussions were productive and wide-ranging, with the contractors gaining additional insight to fold into Phase C, a draft of which will be submitted to the Port Commission for review.

Causeway:

Arctic Deep Draft Port – Nome Modifications (Construction Bid Award):

As most know, the bid solicitation for Phase 1 of the Port of Nome Modification (PONM) Project was cancelled on 21 Oct 2024. Since that time, USACE has been working internally to determine the best path forward, and holding meetings with the City, as the non-federal sponsor (NFS). As has been conveyed to the media and public, the project itself has not been cancelled, but is rather in a bit of recalibrating, which has brought the Project Development Team (PDT) consisting of both USACE and City personnel back to the table, with designers coordinating the path forward. As this will likely result in a revised solicitation package being released in early 2025, we have no further information.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Inspection Integration:

As stated above, the City's designers are working diligently with the USACE team, and are fully prepared to meet all schedule milestones for Phase 1A.

U.S. DOT Maritime Administration (MARAD) – Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grant Pre-Award:

Title VI requirements are being wrapped up to comply with the remaining pre-award submittal, which will then allow the \$11.25M grant agreement to be executed. Upon signature, a project schedule will be identified to bid, award and construct the marine utilities associated with the port expansion. More to come as this moves forward...

Harbor:

Inner Harbor CAP 107 Study (Deepen/Widen the Inner Basin):

The USACE has advised of a potential path forward to finish the feasibility study, with a plan recommendation that develops the west side of the Inner Harbor, more specifically expanding the turning area and approaches to the ramps, and dredging up the Snake River to accommodate the planned moorage facility. More to come on this...

Snake River Moorage Facility:

Staff continue working with the engineers on a phased approach to break the project components as follows; 1/dredging, 2/shore & uplands development, 3/purchase, ship and install floats & gangways. As this new approach comes together, draft info will be presented to the Port Commission for input. New info; the City was recently advised by USDOT RAISE grant program staff, that FY2024 applications classified as Projects of Merit that were not selected for award, have been submitted to the Secretary's desk for reconsideration, with awards announced by 13 Jan 2025. The City's application was determined a Project of Merit, and is again being considered for selection.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (WNTF) - Property Conveyance:

After multiple reviews by ADEC, state legal staff, and City attorneys, the USAF has finally provided what appears to be the what may be a final draft of the Quitclaim Deed and Environmental Covenants necessary to convey the WNTF property as passed into law in the 2014 NDAA legislation. As the last few edits come together, more info will be made available on the timing for executing these documents.

Thornbush Laydown Site Development (TBS):

In Sep 2024, the City contracted with Edge Survey to perform a topographic survey of the filled and unfilled areas at the TBS property. Bristol Engineering is reviewing the computations and drawings provided by Edge, and will be providing quantities for each layer needed to fully develop the remaining 8.5 acres of the 18-acre parcel. This additional laydown property is critically needed for staging of cargo and equipment, along with stockpiling gravel and rock, needed for the port expansion as well as routine export during seasonal port operations.

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

This state STIP project has been postponed to approximately 2030 to avoid conflicting with the heavier truck traffic during the port expansion, and to facilitate a more productive repair following the project.

FEMA DR4672 Merbok Recover Projects:

Cape Nome Jetty Repair:

The most recent meeting with State/DMVA staff has indicated the Obligating Award Document (OAD) has been shared with the final approver, and should be received by the City between 22-26 Nov 2024. Bid documents for the repair work were released by the City on 7 Nov 2024, with proposals due by 3pm on 9 Jan 2025. The OAD will be executed prior to awarding any contract to perform the work during the 2025 ice-free season.

Italics reflects information with no change from last report. Additional information is available on request.