

**Presented By:**  
Port Director  
**Action Taken:**  
Yes \_\_\_  
No \_\_\_  
Abstain \_\_\_

**CITY OF NOME, ALASKA**

**RESOLUTION NO. R-24-02-07**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NOME TO APPLY FOR AND PARTICIPATE IN THE USDOT RAISE DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FUNDING OF THE PORT OF NOME LOCAL SERVICE FACILITIES DESIGN & ENGINEERING – PHASES II & III**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) administers the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability & Equity (RAISE) Grant Program, which supports investments in the planning and/or construction of surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact, with at least \$75M awarded to eligible design projects, \$15M of which seeks to directly benefit areas of persistent poverty, or historically disadvantaged communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Nome owns the Port & Harbor, which serves as the regional maritime hub facility for over fifty (50) western Alaska communities, transshipping fuel, cargo and gravel throughout the region during the ice-free season, serving as the critical transportation network link that enables equipment, fuel, building supplies, and basic life-sustaining necessities to be delivered to the region’s rural network, and the only publicly-owned coastal maritime infrastructure north of the Aleutians for the refueling and resupply of Arctic vessels that has grown exponentially since 2012, as demonstrated in the port’s vessel traffic statistics; and,

**WHEREAS**, the USACE performed multiple Arctic port studies to determine the best site to serve as the first Arctic Deep Draft Port for the nation, identifying Nome as the most practical and cost-efficient location that will further facilitate resource development, search and rescue response, protection of the marine environment, and to provide a practical Arctic location for strategic defense of the country; and,

**WHEREAS**, the USACE recently completed the Nome Modifications Feasibility Study, which resulted in a Signed Chief’s Report submitted to the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress as part of the WRDA 2020 legislation, and the project was authorized through the FY2021 Omnibus Consolidations Appropriations Act; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City executed an Agreement with the USACE Alaska District for Phases II and III of a Preconstruction, Engineering & Design (PED) covering 100% the Local Service Facilities (LSF), for docks, roads and utilities, which are required to be funded by the non-federal sponsor; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City has qualified engineering firms that have just completed Phase I design of the LSF’s, and are now pursuing RAISE funds to support design of Phases II and III; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Nome Common Council supports application to the USDOT RAISE Grant Program with a match of up to twenty (20) percent for the design and engineering of Phases II and III of the Local Service Facilities associated with the Arctic Deep Draft Port Modifications Project, and agrees, subject to selection by USDOT, to enter into an agreement with USDOT for a RAISE Discretionary Grant.

**APPROVED** and **SIGNED** this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

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**JOHN K. HANDELAND, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**JEREMY JACOBSON, Clerk**