

To: Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: Manager's Report

August 5, 2021

**Roads:**

City road staff have been grading and filling washed out areas these past two weeks. Every area in Nome has been impacted by the heavy rains; the worst in 76 years. A number of complaints have been about poor drainage in the community. With the brief dry spell, the staff has been washing down the streets. We then received complaints of water flowing on to already muddy properties so we stopped.

**Northwest Campus:**

The Mayor and I attended a meeting with University of Alaska Fairbanks leaders to discuss job training and the proposed Nome Port project. Gay Sheffield made a presentation on the climate changes happening in Bering Straits region and its impact on fishing and subsistence needs of our population in the Nome Census District.

**Alaska Senate Finance Committee:**

This past Saturday the committee made a visit to NACTEC and the Northwest Campus. While the city's role was originally a meet and greet, it quickly evolved into a Port expansion briefing. The committee is very interested in the port project and plans to visit the Harbormaster Conference in Anchorage this fall where Nome will be presenting. The Port staff and the Corps will be making presentations at the conference.

**Snow Removal Planning meeting:**

City representatives met with former employees, contractors and vocal residents to discuss snow removal processes and possible improvements. Suggestions included a snow removal complaint telephone line, better community outreach, improved staffing, better use of contract equipment and a better defined street by street snow removal plan.

The plan is for the committee to meet in another four weeks to discuss staff recommendations and further ideas.

**Delta Variant:**

With the outbreak of COVID 19 cases in the villages and the rise in cases in Anchorage, a close eye is being kept on the outbreak. A PSA will be issued encouraging Nome residents to mask up in indoor public spaces and to watch their distance and wash their hands. It is clear that the level of vaccination (70% plus 2% COVID exposure) is helping to protect the community.