

CITY OF NOME, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. R-23-09-02

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROJECT
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (PPA) WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PORT OF NOME MODIFICATION PROJECT (PONM)
(aka; ARCTIC DEEP DRAFT PORT AT NOME)**

WHEREAS, the City of Nome (City) has prioritized port expansion and facility improvements to meet the growing demands of industry, the opening of Arctic waters, and the vast increase in vessel traffic, believing that Nome is best positioned to serve as the U.S. Arctic port site to facilitate resource development, search and rescue response, marine environment protection, and to provide a practical location for strategic defense of the country; and,

WHEREAS, the Port of Nome serves as the regional maritime hub facility for over fifty (50) Alaska villages from the Yukon River to the Arctic Ocean, transshipping fuel, cargo, equipment, gravel and rock, and is well-known to be the only publicly-owned coastal port north of the Aleutians for the refueling and resupply of Arctic vessels, the number of which has grown exponentially since 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the Nome Port Commission has acted on these initiatives through continued pursuit of strategic development and construction of additional facilities to meet demands of industry, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the region; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Congressional Delegation, successfully championed the passage of federal legislation with an appropriation of \$250M in federal funding, followed by the Governor of Alaska and Alaska Legislature awarding \$175M in grant funds in FY2022 to serve as the City's cost-share to the USACE, both efforts to support construction of an Arctic Deep Draft Port at Nome; and,

WHEREAS, in 2021, the USACE and the City signed a cost-shared *Design Agreement* for the design of the PONM Project, which was fully funded and is nearing completion, with a solicitation package being prepared by the USACE for release on 1 November 2023, but first requires PPA execution; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nome Common Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute a PPA with the USACE for the construction of the PONM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 11th day of September 2023.

**JOHN K. HANDELAND,
Mayor**

ATTEST:

**JEREMY JACOBSON,
Deputy City Clerk**