



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission
Date: June 11, 2021
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – June 2021

Administrative:

In preparation for the launch ramp going out of service in July, the vessel launch schedule has been busy, along with clearing cargo from the Causeway to allow for the staging of gravel stockpiles for yet another very busy export season. Port staff have been coordinating with users to wrap F21 invoicing prior to 30 June, while starting a new season, working with new users and doing maintenance and repairs. In addition to the two Port projects in the construction phase this summer, the updates below show there are many others in various stages; planning, feasibility, soliciting for funding or design. This keeps our small Port team extremely busy throughout the season. The Port was fortunate enough to have Joeline Kacena return as Office Manager during the school break, but have been unable to fill the Dock Watch position. It seems there are fewer folks looking for work, and those that are, get quickly scooped up by the organizations that pay considerably more than the City. Therefore we continue to solicit, but remain short-handed in the field until someone can be hired. The Port Commission will have a Regular Meeting on Thursday, 17 June 2021 to discuss the F22 budget and ongoing operations and capital projects.

Causeway:Arctic Deep Draft Port – Modification Feasibility Study (MFS):

The Design Agreement and certification documents for the PED phase have been signed by the City and returned to the Corps for final execution by the Alaska District (POA) Commander. Upon distribution of the signed package, the Corps team will coordinate with the City to schedule a charrette in late June or early July to gather input on the selected design alternative, and recommendations of necessary components within the expansion.

- Anyone with questions on this project can call 907-304-1905 or email jbaker@nomealaska.org, and further info on the project study is located on the Port of Nome page at www.nomealaska.org.

Sediment at Causeway Bridge:

The Corps contractor is scheduled to begin their annual maintenance dredging shortly after 15 June 2021. The Alaska Corps District Operations section has now decided to award this sediment removal option to this contractor who may decide to perform, or hire a subcontractor to clean out the sediment under the bridge.

Anode Replacement Project:

The Contractor's equipment and materials arrived in Nome on the first cargo sailing, and have been stored

until personnel arrive on-site in August 2021 to do the work. The Contractor's field crew has been coordinating with HM Stotts and his staff regarding vessel traffic schedules, site safety and access.

Harbor:

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

The project team is wrapping up the economics data gathering and running models to determine costs and benefits of the project to multiple fleets. The Corps HarborSym database model is managed by the Deep Draft Nav Center (DDNC) in Alabama, and is used on all navigation projects that are seeking improvements to benefit different user categories. This model is getting fine-tuned but we should be seeing results soon. The other is a spreadsheet model that is run using elements of the project are too difficult to quantify, which requires more human effort to gather details on vessel behavior when in port. It is tedious but very necessary in determining whether there is a project to be built, and what the layout will be. The study is currently on schedule.

Concrete Launch Ramp Replacement Project:

The Contractor advised that the cargo barge bringing their materials/equipment has been delayed by a week with arrival into Nome scheduled for the 3rd week of July. We are expecting an updated schedule from the Contractor with adjustments made to the construction window, but they remain confident they can make up time during the project and keep final completion within the same window. Port staff are keeping ramp users informed on the changes in ramp availability as they occur.

Snake River Moorage & Vessel Haulout Facility:

An application to the USDOT INFRA grant program was submitted on 16 Mar 2021, with awards expected to be announced in the coming weeks. The importance of this project continues to increase as overcrowding contributes to navigation and mooring conflicts within the Small Boat Harbor. Achieving the construction of this project will bring long-awaited relief to every type of fleet that utilizes the Inner Harbor. The number of support letters from our cargo, fuel and gravel operators is a clear demonstration of how beneficial it would be for our users to minimize or eliminate the congestion occurring each season.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):

The City has been advised that the USAF's Real Estate unit has been short-staffed for some time, but a new project coordinator has been assigned to this project and trying to get up to speed on the details. The City awaits response from the USAF regarding their discussions with ADEC on land use controls and long-term access agreements relating to the property conveyance. We are hoping some progress can be made on the conveyance soon, otherwise the City will reach out to ADEC directly to discuss the environmental protocols and their effect on land use. In the meantime, NJUS and the City are collaborating on a development plan for the site, with CRW (NJUS engineering consultant), in an effort to be further prepared for the transfer.

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

Alaska DOT has released final design and specs for agency review, with comments due by 15 June 2021. The solicitation period is anticipated to begin early to mid-July 2021 with construction expected in summer 2022.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.

Additional details available upon request.