



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission
Date: September 09, 2021
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – September 2021

Administrative: Although some vessels have been able to work in the poor weather, it has kept a number of them inside the inner harbor and frustrated. Weather has had a similar impact on outer harbor vessels, but these larger vessels manage to work in minor to mid-level conditions, providing it is not surging too much and impacting the docks or moving the bollards.

Staff have been busy working with users for tracking a myriad of user activities for invoicing, compliance issues, responding to oil spills, vessel conflicts and maintenance & repair needs. The majority of these needs, with the exception of invoicing, are the direct result of the over-crowding inside the inner harbor. Staff continue to seek grant funds to develop the Snake River, as well as push back against the federal programs that exclude remote regions, since they technically are not connected to a main highway.

Harbormaster Stotts and his seasonal staff are meeting necessary training requirements that involve, ADEC, USCH, USDA and OSHA. Each of us appreciates the efforts that Dave Barron has made during his time at the City to address the needs of the Port & Harbor. As is his nature, Dave always goes above and beyond in getting the work done correctly and timely. NSHC has gained a valuable employee.

Causeway:

Arctic Deep Draft Port – Nome Modifications Pre-Construction Engineering & Design (PED):

Design is underway, with all parties knowing their elements of the collaborative big picture, and coordinating on various milestones in order to meet review and comment timelines that allow an item to come together, and move forward. The 13 Sept 2021, Council Meeting contains an amendment to the PND contract to enable preparation of the initial layout of 35% Phase 1 design level. The Corps still has not yet picked a date to hold the design charrette in Nome. Discussions continue on the best time the project team can get together for both in-person and virtual.

- 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 is still working through the process of obtaining an official waiver from HQ to secure permission to partner with the City to use real estate owned by SNC/BSNC adjacent to the project to stockpile sediment during excavation. Once granted the waiver, the Alaska District will offer this option to the contractor that holds the annual dredging contract. If accepted, the contractor may elect to do the work or sub-out.

Anode Replacement Project:

The City's contractor, Global Diving & Salvage (GDS) has completed the installation of the anodes, with final submittals pending for closeout. Once the contractor is eligible for final payment, all project documents will be filed on the City and Bristol servers. We anticipate this project to come in under budget.

Harbor:

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

The draft feasibility study is with the planner for final tweaks before submitted to Division (POD) for review and inclusion in the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) meeting, which was postponed from Friday, 20 Aug 2021, to an unknown date as of this report. Results of POD's review will mean more effort from the Corps team and local sponsor to resolve before the next review period. This study remains on budget and mostly on schedule.

Concrete Launch Ramp Replacement Project:

This project has experienced delays brought on by 4-5 back to back storms that shut down the project for over a week, followed by a few more weeks with STG reconsidering the work plan, and deciding a more effective approach of de-watering the site so construction can occur in a shorter time-frame. The Contractor was successful in obtaining both the Corps concurrence and no additional requirements from ADEC. STG installed an Aqua Dam (large bladder), and was able to de-water the site shortly after, but soft soils below the dam have been moving frequently preventing a seal to the floor and generating leaks. STG has put together a way to resolve this issue, with construction of the ramp to follow early in the week of 13 Sept 2021.

Snake River Moorage & Vessel Haulout Facility:

City staff continue to investigate suitable federal and state grant programs to find an appropriate funding vehicle to develop this project. The importance of this project continues to escalate as more and more vessels wish to use the facility to do commercial fishing, dredging and commodity movement, along with sailing vessels seeking a resupply/refuge point after their long voyages north/south of the Northwest Passage. All combined, the multi-fleet user drives congestion in the inner harbor, and contributes to navigation and maneuvering conflicts within the Small Boat Harbor, especially when the larger vessels need to maneuver and there are many smaller vessels in close proximity to do it safely. Achieving development of this project will bring long-awaited relief to all fleets using the Inner Harbor. Users, large and small, continue to complain, with some providing support letters for funding applications expressing the critical need for the facility.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):

The City continues to have little success in working with the USAF's Real Estate unit, even with a new project coordinator being assigned to the project. As the USAF was trying to obtain information from ADEC during our last teleconference, the City will contact ADEC staff on land use controls and long-term access agreements, along with the environmental protocols and their effect on land use. NJUS and the City continue to collaborate on a development plan for the site, with CRW Engineering in an effort to be further prepared for the transfer.

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

City Engineer Blees has been working with ADOT to address the remaining ROW issues along Port Road that is required for construction. ADOT expects the project solicitation period to be during winter 2021/2022, with construction in summer 2022.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.

Additional details available upon request.