



# Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager  
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*  
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission  
Date: April 7, 2023  
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – April 2023

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## **Administrative:**

Recruitment is once again underway to hire a full-time Purchasing/Office Manager that is shared with Public Works. Weekly staff meetings continue, with both short and long-term issues being addressed and resolved on a routine basis. Planning, scheduling, training and budgeting for 2023 currently fill our calendars along with necessary coordination with Public Works to ensure required maintenance/repairs and procurement happens when needed – especially while budgeting for FY 2024.

In seeking grant monies, application was made to the USDOT RAISE program on 28 Feb 2023 to fund design work for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> phases of the port expansion. Also, an application to USDOT for a PIDP grant is currently being drafted to fund construction of Phase 1 utilities, and a DHS PSGP application is being worked up to submit for a replacement VHF radio system, necessary to ensure port security.

## **Causeway:**

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

PND's environmental subcontractor and the project team continue to respond to questions from NOAA/NMFS on the Incidental Hazard Authorization (IHA) and Biological Assessment (BA) applications submitted in Dec 2022. There have been no inquiries of significant or elevated concerns from the reviewers. All responses to questions thus far have been deemed adequately responsive, and stipulations issued are reasonable. Approval of this required permit is now anticipated for some time in May/June. Until then the City and Corps permitting leads will continue to coordinate.

The Corps has put together a presentation to back up their decision to steepen the armored slopes of the Causeway extension, as well as reduce the size of rock based on the steepened slope. The Corps will present this information to a small in-house team and PND staff on Tuesday morning, 11 Apr 2023.

*The District has not yet received guidance from Corps HQ on the cost-share modification to 90/10%, and has recently requested additional funding under the original 75/25% Design Agreement, executed in June 2021. While the 90/10% cost-share was adopted into law in December 2022, the City awaits execution of the guidance required for the District to adjust the cost-share table, thereby reducing the amount already paid by the City from 25% to 10%. At the District's assurance that all funds in excess of the 10% obligation will be returned to the City, the request for funding has been submitted for approval and payment.*

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

The City's designers submitted responses today, 7 Apr 2023, to the Corps reviewer comments on the 95% project design and specs. The 95% package will now move through the Corps' Agency Technical Review (ATR) process, an Independent External Peer Review (IEPR), and a Safety Assurance Review (SAR), before the 100% design package deadline of 12 May 2023.

Causeway Bridge Repairs and Sediment Under Bridge:

*The Corps is still preparing a contract solicitation to be released in the summer of 2023, with work now pushed out to the summer of 2024. Sediment that has accumulated under and west of the bridge is being folded into the new Maintenance Dredging solicitation in Fall 2023 for the 2024-2026 contract.*

Arctic Port Reception Facility – Solid Waste Disposal (Incinerator):

*New funding opportunities are being evaluated for this project.*

**Harbor:**

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

*The City continues to make monthly inquiries on the status of this project, with District reporting they are awaiting direction from Corps HQ and their Division office.*

**Port Industrial Pad:**

West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):

The City has made regular inquiries with the USAF, and has learned that a new project lead has been identified for this property transfer, and the AF is working to get up to speed on this significantly delayed issue.

Thornbush Laydown Site Development:

*Funds to complete design/construction are being sought at federal and state levels. Dredge spoils from two Corps projects (port expansion and inner harbor deepening) are currently being evaluated for disposal into the undeveloped 9-acre portion of this property. These spoils would require dewatering before serving as a hardened base layer to the specified fill and surfacing to complete development. **The City has received letters of non-objection for disposal from two ADEC programs, Solid Waste and Contaminated Sites.***

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

*The City talked with AKDOT Northern Region on 10 Feb 2023, and confirmed that the Port Rd project was postponed to 2024. Due to the conflict with the construction window of Phase 1 of the port expansion, there will be additional discussion/coordination on the Port Rd construction window. Port Rd Improvements will need to follow the completion of Phase 1 (anticipated to be 2026/27). There is talk of maintenance needed in 2023.*

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*Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.*

Additional details available upon request.