



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission
Date: May 17, 2021
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – May 2021

Administrative:

Port staff have been busy ramping up efforts to prepare the facility for the 2021 ice-free season, both inside and outside. HM Stotts has been covering outdoor needs as well as spending time in the office with procurement, FY22 budget planning, field coordination with users and contractors, and tracking maintenance/repair needs. Our Assistant HM, Chris Schuneman, has returned from Public Works, just in time to use his operating skills to finish cleaning up the snow around the facility and providing access to vessels/equipment and working with the HM on initial maintenance items, purchasing and planning repairs. Coordination on capital projects has escalated considerably, with new ideas coming to light all the time to fund projects on the waiting list. We are soliciting for two seasonal positions, Office Manager and Dock Watch, hoping to have new hires in place by the end of the month. The Port Commission will have a Regular Meeting on Thursday, 20 May 2021 to discuss planning and development of the West Nome Tank Farm property and ongoing activities related to 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 returned the City for another review after modifications were made at the Division level. Once reviewed by the City attorney, the documents will be signed by the appropriate City personnel, and returned to the District for final execution by the Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Commander. Upon distribution of the signed package, the project design team will coordinate with the City to schedule a charrette in early June to gather input on the selected design alternative, and the plans for a phased approach.

- 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:

Alaska Marine Excavation is scheduled to begin their annual maintenance dredging in early June 2021. The Alaska Corps District Operations Section has decided not to award this option for the first year of the new project contract, in order to focus the 2021 funding on opening up the navigation channel into the harbor, which is of great importance to moving commodities throughout the region.

Anode Replacement Project:

Global Diving & Salvage has advised on a schedule adjustment to the project, with intent to be on-site in Nome performing work in August 2021, after the start of the next fiscal year. The project team has been coordinating with HM Stotts and his staff regarding lay down area, transport of anodes, and vessel traffic schedules. (This project will be funded by F22 P&H Budget.)

Harbor:

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

The project team continues to discuss and evaluate a variety of economic factors involved with the increasing the capacity of vessel to use the harbor with a deeper dredge depth and larger footprint area. Benefits from the vessel categories fluctuates depending on the amount of time a specific fleet type would spend or have access to a particular area of the harbor, or how the inability to do so would impact their operating costs. It is tedious but very necessary in determining whether there is a project to be built, and what the layout will be. Additionally, future use of the South Harbor Dock requires a retrofit that is being evaluated in this study. The City has asked their design consultant to estimate Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) costs of a particular approach to compare against the Corps plan – more to come.

Concrete Launch Ramp Replacement Project:

The construction contract has been approved by EDA and awarded, with materials ordered and enroute to the shipper for transport to Nome. Contractor anticipates receiving equipment and materials in Nome in early July, with a project start date of 12-14 July. Notifications are being made throughout the barging industry, along with vessel owners that will need to launch before the project. Port staff will keep pushing information to users regarding the out of service dates for the ramp.

Snake River Moorage & Vessel Haulout Facility:

The Council approved an application to the USDOT INFRA grant program on 16 Mar 2021, in conjunction with a combined commitment of in-kind services and cash equal to 20% of the application. The cash contribution includes a \$200K commitment from Nome Eskimo Community (NEC) as a co-applicant to the project. We are thankful that NEC continues to support our project application to grow the facility. We also have numerous support letters from organizations like; SNC and NSEDC, along with most our main cargo, gravel and fuel operators.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):

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 anticipate a teleconference with the USAF and environmental agencies in the next few months to resolve any concerns in the conveyance agreement.

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

The City has been coordinating with ADOT on an MOA that defines maintenance responsibility of Port Rd upon completion of the improvements in 2022. Final design should be ready soon with bidding in summer 2021.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.

Additional details available upon request.