



# Memo

To: Dan Grimmer – Acting City Manager  
From: Joy L. Baker – Project Manager/Acting Port Director *JLB*  
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission; Planning Commission  
Date: 1/10/2025  
Re: Port Admin & Projects Status Update – Jan 2025

---

**Administration:**

Staff continue working on account collections, budgetary needs, form updates, tariff review, procurement, statistical tracking and funding needs. Efforts continue with Public Works to prioritize facility maintenance and repair projects to determine ROM estimates, schedule and classifying as in-house or issuing an RFP for the work. IN preparation for the 16 Jan Port Commission meeting, we are evaluating a number of pending projects versus funding opportunities for discussion with the PC, Public Works, City Admin and engineers.

Discussions have begun for making in-person visits to WA DC and Juneau for presenting City/Port/NJUS 2025 Priorities, once the lists have been approved by the City Council. The DC trip will likely be scheduled for early Feb 2025, with dates for Juneau being determined in the coming months as things come together in Juneau.

**Strategic Development Plan:**

PND and Corvus continue working on the Strategic Development Plan, incorporating input from the public, users, port commission and city/port staff. This guidance will inform the final port (Phase C), and reflect a solid long-range plan for future port development. An updated draft will be shared in a Port Commission Work Session for review.

**Causeway:****Arctic Deep Draft Port – Nome Modifications (Construction Bid Award):**

The USACE and City design teams have been diligently working on the revised bid solicitation, with a 90% package being issued this week for internal review. The current schedule still shows a solicitation potentially being released sometime in Feb 2025, with an award in late summer 2025, but neither are confirmed at this time.

**Local Service Facilities (LSF) Inspection Integration:**

City designers are in close coordination with the USACE team, and thus far, have met all schedule milestones for Phase 1A.

**U.S. DOT Maritime Administration (MARAD) – Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grant Pre-Award:**

Prior to the December holidays, the required Title VI documents were drafted and submitted to PIDP staff, City Admin and HR for review and comment. Discussions will continue on the necessary content for this package, with briefings scheduled with PIDP staff next week, and subsequent follow up with City Admin/HR. This will then allow the \$11.25M grant agreement to be executed. Upon signature, a project schedule will be identified to bid, award and construct the marine utilities associated with the port expansion. More to come as this moves forward...

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

The USACE has now advised that this project no longer qualifies for a Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) 107 Study path due to construction costs exceeding the \$10M funding cap. The Alaska District is now recommending pursuit of a General Investigation (GI) Study, which was the path used for the port expansion feasibility report. We are working with the project team to determine next steps on this path, along with the local cost-share and proposed schedule.

**Snake River Moorage Facility:**

Great news!!! After multiple funding applications being submitted to USDOT for this project, the City has finally achieved success in being selected for a \$13.2M award, based on reconsideration of our FY2024 package as a project of merit. See attached award letter dated 10 Jan 2024. (Megan Onders caught the Facebook post by Senator Murkowski on Wed 8 Jan, announcing a total of 6 Alaska project awards – good job Megan!!) More to come on this issue, as we work with RAISE staff on pre-award requirements, and discuss language for the grant agreement.

**Port Industrial Pad:****West Nome Tank Farm (WNTF) - Property Conveyance:**

*After multiple reviews by ADEC, state legal staff, and City attorneys, the USAF has finally provided what appears to be the what may be a final draft of the Quitclaim Deed and Environmental Covenants necessary to convey the WNTF property as passed into law in the 2014 NDAA legislation. As the last few edits come together, more info will be made available on the timing for executing these documents.*

**Thornbush Laydown Site Development (TBS):**

Edge Survey completed a topographic survey of the filled and unfilled areas at the TBS property, and submitted the drawings/calculations. We are presently working with the City engineer to determine the best way to approach and fund the development of the remaining 8.5 acres of the 18-acre parcel. This additional laydown property is critically needed for staging of cargo and equipment, along with stockpiling gravel and rock, needed for the port expansion as well as for export to construction projects throughout the region.

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

*This state STIP project has been postponed to approximately 2030 to avoid conflicting with the heavier truck traffic during the port expansion, and to facilitate a more productive repair following the project.*

**FEMA DR4672 Merbok Recover Projects:****Cape Nome Jetty Repair:**

The most recent email communication with the state indicates the delays with the Obligating Award Document (OAD) have been resolved and the state-supported cost-share is available and should be authorized and shared with the City within the next 10 days. Bid documents for the repair work remain on the street with proposals now due by 3pm on 23 Jan 2025, having been extended based on bidder inquiries/concerns over the holidays. The OAD will be executed prior to contract award with work occurring during the 2025 ice-free season.

---

*Italics reflects information with no change from last report. Additional information is available on request.*



**U.S. Department of Transportation**

January 10, 2025

Congratulations! The project below was selected to receive an FY 2025 RAISE grant.

**Project Name:** Snake River Moorage Facility

**Applicant:** City of Nome

**State:** AK: Alaska

**RAISE Grant Award Amount:** \$13,208,450

**Estimated Total Project Costs:** \$16,510,562

**Project Description:** This project will dredge approximately 7 acres, add approximately 1,700 feet of floating dock, and develop a portion of the shoreline to include a bulkhead at the Port of Nome.

All grantees must execute a grant agreement with the USDOT. The FY 2025 grant agreement templates are available for preview and download through this [link](#). Grantees will receive a partially prepopulated draft from the RAISE Program Office within the next month, but are welcome to begin reviewing the template. The Department expects all RAISE funding be obligated no later than September 30, 2029 and expended by September 30, 2034.

The USDOT Operating Administration (e.g. FAA, FHWA, FRA, MARAD, FTA) overseeing your project will contact you in the coming weeks regarding next steps to complete the relevant requirements before executing a grant agreement.

This letter does not authorize the applicant to incur costs to carry out the project. The execution of the grant agreement will obligate RAISE grant funding, making it available to reimburse eligible expenses for the awarded project. Unless authorized by USDOT in writing, any costs incurred prior to that obligation of funds for a project (i.e., "pre-award costs") are ineligible for reimbursement and may be ineligible to count towards non-Federal match requirements. This letter does not authorize pre-award costs to be eligible.

If you have any questions, please contact the RAISE Grants Team at [RAISEgrants@dot.gov](mailto:RAISEgrants@dot.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Augustine".

John Augustine

Director, Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation  
Office of the Secretary