



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Project Manager *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission; Planning Commission;
Date: May 10, 2024
Re: PROJECT MANAGER FINAL REPORT - MAY 2024

Administrative:

Tariff Rate Study:

Northern Economics (NE) will be presenting the draft Tariff Rate Study & Analysis to the Port Commission at their Work Session on Wednesday, 15 May 2024 at 5:30pm. This project remains within budget, but the schedule has been extended 30 days to allow for staff and Port Commission review.

Strategic Development Plan:

The PND team is finalizing the Phase A investigation and concepts portion of the work, with expected delivery in late May. Efforts to complete Phase B of the work are underway, which will dig deeper into the concepts of future development, with another round of public meeting to be scheduled in June 2024 that will capture community participation and input. Phase C funding has also been authorized, which will incorporate all input received into finalizing the recommended concepts and completing the plan.

Causeway:

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

The solicitation package for Phase 1 of the Port of Nome Modification (PONM) Project was released on 27 Feb 2024. The Corps continues to coordinate with the City design teams in responding to bidder inquiries – of which there have been many. Based on requests from bidders, the Corps extended the bid due date to 29 May 2024, with contractor award now anticipated for September 2024. All things considered, in-water construction is expected to begin in May/June 2025.

As authorized in the executed Project Partnering Agreement (PPA), the Corps requested a portion of the construction cost-share from the City, which were required to be paid prior to solicitation of the bid package. The funds were requested from the State, and transferred to the Corps, with additional funds anticipated to be requested once the bids are received and evaluated by the Corps, and a decision made regarding award of the base project, and any potential options to be funded.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

The City's design teams continue responding to bidder inquiries, as requested by the Corps. These teams will remain onboard to perform inspection and field coordination during construction, once those contract amendments are in place.

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

Port staff and consultants are presently responding to the various pre-award grant submittals required the \$11.25M grant agreement can be executed. A number of these requirements are somewhat involved and therefore could take up to 18 months to complete. *These funds will be used to cover a portion of the costs needed to purchase and construct the marine utilities for Phase 1 of the Port of Nome Modification Project. The City will provide matching funds in the estimated amount of \$16M, which will be sourced through eligible state funding. Exact amount will depend on the winning bid for the work.*

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

Additional funding opportunities are on the horizon and being evaluated for this project.

Harbor:

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

The Corps recently contacted the City to revisit this project and discuss a path forward to finish the feasibility study, which will determine a timeline for design and construction in the future. The main hurdles on this project have been the Corps' insistence on having the City take over responsibility of the south and east sheet pile walls, which the Corps has maintained, improved and repaired since the harbor was first constructed in 1919. The City position has been to not accept these sheet pile walls.

Snake River Moorage Facility:

An application was submitted to the USDOT RAISE Program to design and construct this project. Awards are anticipated to be announced sometime in August 2024. Development of this project will go a long way in removing congestion in the Inner Harbor, providing moorage to light draft vessels, and thereby allowing for larger shipping vessels to safely navigate and maneuver. This will reduce the risks to smaller vessels and their crews – while improving transshipment efficiencies.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (WNTF) - Property Conveyance:

After multiple reviews by ADEC, state legal staff, and the City attorneys, the USAF still has possession of the final drafts of the Quit Claim Deed and Environmental Covenants. This conveyance of this property to the City of Nome (as passed into law in the 2014 NDAA legislation), should have been completed years ago. There have been multiple opportunities to finish the recording documents in the past two years, but the USAF continues to incur delays for reasons that are not clear to the City. Once again, this issue has been elevated to the Congressional Delegation to make inquiries on why the property has not been conveyed. (Disappointed I couldn't close this one.)

Thornbush Laydown Site Development (TBS):

In 2024 season, City personnel anticipate finishing the fill/surfacing of an area of spoils pushed out in 2023 by Public Works. This will provide an additional acre of developed land adjacent to the existing 9-acre pad in use.

Dredge spoils from the port expansion and inner harbor project have been given clearance by two ADEC programs (Solid Waste and Contaminated Sites), to be disposed of in undeveloped areas of this property. The dredge spoils will require dewatering before being transported to the site, which will be the responsibility of the contractor that will be selected by the Corps for the port expansion.

Bristol is preparing a rough cost estimate to complete development of the remaining unfilled 8.5 acres. This work will need a funding allocation down the road.

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

This state STIP project has been postponed to approximately 2029/2030 to avoid conflicting with the heavier truck traffic during the port expansion.

FEMA DR4672 Merbok Recover Projects:

Inner Harbor Dredging – South Wall and East Ramp:

FEMA has completed all reviews and is ready to execute the funding obligation. Once that is done, the construction contract will be executed with Alaska Marine Excavation to complete the work in 2024.

Cape Nome Jetty Repair:

The City is waiting for FEMA to complete their review of the bid package and authorize the funding obligation so the City can release a bid package to construct the repair. The City has made multiple requests for the FEMA process to be expedited to ensure the work is done in the 2024 season.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report