



# Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager  
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director *JLB*  
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission  
Date: May 16, 2022  
Re: Monthly PD Report/Capital Projects Update – May 2022

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## **Administrative:**

The Port & Harbor Department has been recruiting for 3 positions since mid-April, and have only received a small handful of interested applicants, most of which were not equipped with a valid driver's license. We are hoping to receive additional applications in the coming weeks. In the meantime, the existing staff continues planning for the upcoming season, and is presently coordinating with Public Works to begin installing ladders, fenders, and eventually the floating docks. In addition, the Road Crew has made a plan to do some improvements on the Causeway road to remove the top layer of pulverized rock, bring it to grade and lay down some new surfacing material.

The AAHPA (Harbormaster for short) Conference has been confirmed for 26-30 Sept 2022, and will be hosted at the recently remodeled Mini Convention Center, with other venues being used for certain parts of the conference. We have begun the initial planning and coordination to secure lodging and discuss catering menus, and are now looking into a variety of options for providing some of the local flavor in speakers, that have historical knowledge in mining, fishing, dog mushing, the journey of the original inhabitants of this region, and with some traditional Alaska Native music and dancing. We are open to any and all ideas as the association's members have been looking forward to a Nome conference for a very long time, and we want to show them how it's done in Western Alaska.

The Port Commission will be holding a Regular Meeting at 5:30pm on Thursday, 19 May 2022 to have a look at the FY2023 proposed Port & Harbor Operating and Capital Budget draft. The public is encouraged to attend.

## **Causeway:**

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

Project Managers for the Corps and City have been coordinating on the overall schedule for meeting long-range target dates for executing construction agreements and providing cost-share funds for construction. Additional tasks include tracking design budget dollars, and discussing updated construction costs at each milestone of completion – 65% will give updated costs in early July.

### Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

The Corps and City design teams are presently working through the process of construction sequencing, as pulling the LSF (docks/roads/utilities) components into the GNF (armor placement/dredging) is not an easy task by any means. It requires precision coordination in order for contractors to understand how to bid on the work, as well as construct it. Although 65% was scheduled for end of June 2022, it looks like it will take into July to get each designer's work

submitted and reviewed by opposing design teams. It does not appear that this will cause any delay in final design completion, but the necessary time must be taken to ensure this design package is wholly accurate and ready for bid.

A Planning grant application was submitted to the USDOT RAISE program for funds to design, engineering and inspection funds associated with the Local Service Facilities belonging to the City. We are very hopeful for an award from this program, so progress on the expansion can move into phases 2 and 3, while phase 1 is being completed and solicited for construction. Applications were due on 15 April 2022, with awards anticipated in the Oct-Nov 2022 window.

Sediment at Causeway Bridge and Bridge Repairs:

*(The Corps is still working to determine a program and contracting mechanism to conduct sediment removal west and under the bridge).* District personnel are holding a Pre-Construction Conference on Wed 18 May 2022, to answer questions and initiate coordination between the contractor, Corps and the City. The repairs are intended to address corrosion on the west and underside of the bridge caused by wave impact. The contractor is requesting a closure period to complete the work on the Causeway Bridge after arrival of the first barge. HM Stotts is working with their lead on minimizing the closure and scheduling it after the mainline, yet before additional traffic ramps up.

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

This project has been submitted to the USDOT MARAD PIDP program for funds to finish design, procure, ship and construct a solid waste disposal facility to incinerate regulated waste from galleys in foreign ships. The demand for this type of waste disposal is growing with all the cruise ship traffic transiting the Arctic. The PIDP funds are expected to cover 80% of the costs, while a separate grant submitted on 13 May 2022 to the Denali Commission, is expected to cover the 20% match funds. Denali is expected to announce in July 2022, and the PIDP awards in Aug 2022.

**Harbor:**

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

This project is currently in hold status, but the City is expected to submit a letter in the coming weeks on the desired path forward.

Launch Ramp Replacement Project:

The contractor has committed to the remaining punch list items that will occur in the latter part of May, but still working through the elements of driving the City's spin-fin pile to serve in place of the bollard that required relocation last fall. Discussions also continue on the proper way to leave the 3 concrete panels that have the 1.5-2" lift after using the scarifying method. More detail will be shared as this is sorted out.

Snake River Moorage & Vessel Haulout Facility:

*City personnel continue to search for an applicable funding vehicle to develop this project. It is possible this project will align with one of the programs being funded by the IJA infrastructure dollars.*

**Port Industrial Pad:**

West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):

*The City continues to work with JBER and HQ USAF personnel to understand the remaining steps required to complete the property conveyance to the City. At this time, it is anticipated the final documents could be signed sometime around Oct/Nov 2022. In the meantime, the City and NJUS continue collaborating on development of the site for the NJUS tank farm, and defining vessel lay down closer to the ramp.*

Thornbush Laydown Site Development:

*This project has been submitted to the USDOT RAISE Grant program for funds to complete the remaining 10 acres of the 18-acre parcel. Applications were due on 15 April 2022, with awards anticipated in the Oct-Nov*

*2022 window. Should this package be successful, design would be finalized during the Jan-Mar 2023 window, with solicitations released in Mar-April for construction in summer of 2023.*

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

*ADOT has advised that the project solicitation will be released in Aug 2022, with construction in summer of 2023.*

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

Additional details available upon request.