



Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Project Manager *JLB*
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Planning Commission; Port Commission
Date: February 12, 2024
Re: Monthly Projects Update – Feb 2024

Administrative:

Tariff Rate Study:

Northern Economics (NE) is making progress on the Tariff Rate Study & Analysis, with the next draft to be presented to the Port Commission in the coming weeks. This project remains on schedule and within budget at this time, with NE indicating they have received good response from users being polled for input on the project.

Strategic Development Plan:

Public meetings were held in Nome from 23-25 Jan 2024, to gather input from the community and port users on port development. A wide range of ideas were captured and currently being considered and incorporated into a draft plan for presenting to the Port Commission in the coming weeks. This project is also on schedule and within budget, with Phase A wrapping up soon, and Phase B to commence once that part of the budget receives authorization.

Causeway:

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

The Alaska Corps District and Pacific Ocean Division (POD-HI) have completed their final review of the design/specs for construction of Phase 1 of the Port of Nome Modification (PONM) Project. The contracting office is finalizing the solicitation package which has just another 10-day process to complete before it will be ready for official release to bidders at the end of Feb 2024. The ceremonial signing of the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) was performed on 25 Jan 2024 in Nome, which was the remaining official action required to allow the project to be put out to bid.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:

Upon release of the final PONM Phase 1 solicitation package, the City's design teams will remain onboard and available during the bidding process to address contractor questions, and throughout construction to provide inspection services and ensure the LSF elements are built correctly.

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

The Finance Director and myself have been engaging in multiple webinars hosted by MARAD for all grant recipients to ensure a solid understanding of all pre-award submittal requirements. There are numerous layers to this new approach, all of which must be met before the \$11.25M grant agreement is executed. 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. The exact

amount of the match will depend on the winning bid for the work.

Causeway Bridge Repairs and Sediment Removal:

The Corps has awarded the contract to Bristol Engineering for the repairs to the abutment and girders on the north end of the Causeway bridge. The project field work is now scheduled for early summer 2024.

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 City continues to make monthly inquiries on the status of this project, with District reporting they are awaiting direction from Corps HQ on how to proceed. The delays on this issue have also been submitted to Alaska Delegation staff members for action. Recent information indicates there has been movement at Corps HQ on this project.

Snake River Moorage Facility:

Port staff are in the process of preparing a grant application for this project under the USDOT RAISE Program as a suitable funding vehicle to perform design and construction of this project. Applications are due on 28 Feb 2024.

Port Industrial Pad:

West Nome Tank Farm (WNTF) - Property Conveyance:

The USAF has just returned the final drafts of the Quit Claim Deed and Environmental Covenants that should be the last round of reviews by the City and ADEC. If all is in order, this will move the 7-acre conveyance into the signature/execution phase within the next few months.

Thornbush Laydown Site Development (TBS):

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 the undeveloped 9-acre portion of this property. The spoils will require dewatering before serving as a hardened base layer to the specified fill and surfacing to complete development of the 18-acre parcel. Port staff are currently working on pricing for fill that may be placed in 2024 to continue making progress on the laydown site.

Over the summer, Public Works filled depressions on the pad to maximize the usable surface before winter. This repair/prep will allow relocations of containers, dredges and equipment in 2024 for construction setup.

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

This state STIP project has been postponed to approximately 2028/2029 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:

The City has finally received and approved Scope of Work (SOW) from FEMA on the estimate of cubic yards of sediment that remains near the south wall and east gravel ramp in the inner harbor. FEMA is processing the funding obligation for the City's signature so work can be done in the 2024 season.

Cape Nome Jetty Repair:

PND (subcontractor to Bristol) is close to having 95% design repair drawings, specs and bid documents that will be shared with FEMA for review and input. Once completed, the bid package will be released on the street for contractors to propose on construction in the 2024 season.

Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report