



Nome, Alaska – Vision of an Arctic Deep Draft Port

The City of Nome respectfully requests funding from the Walker Administration in the amount of \$3.25M for designing an Arctic Deep Draft Port (ADDP). Since 2011, the State of Alaska, in partnership with the federal government, has committed considerable time/resources toward preparing for the opening of the Arctic to increased navigation. The Corps of Engineers (COE) ADDP study is near complete. The project was scheduled for a January 2016 Civil Works Review Board and approval of a Chief's report when Shell's announcement derailed the study into a 12-month "pause" based on dismal oil/gas forecasts. This action freezes the COE study. The City believes the project will permanently remain in a state of pause or cease altogether if immediate efforts are not taken to keep the project in a forward progression. The City of Nome and State however, could continue through design, and deliver to Congress and the Obama Administration a **construction-ready report** for federal authorization and appropriation. Time is of the essence, a Water Resources Recovery Development Act (WRRDA-COE project authorizing bill) is expected to be introduced during the 2016 Congressional session. The ADDP simply **MUST be on the list** of COE projects recommended for authorization/funding. This \$3.25M funding request will allow this critical timeline to be met.

Marine infrastructure in the Arctic is significantly lacking and critically needed to support many national and state perspectives that go unrealized as a result of no Deep Draft Port development in the Arctic. The risk of negative consequences that exist on state, national and international levels will be devastating if marine infrastructure is not seen as a priority. Alaska must be seen as a strong supporter/investor of developing its Arctic coastline if the State wants to attract outside investment.

The City will contribute \$250,000 in funds to this design work, and is prepared to take over the non-federal sponsorship role of the project, if it is able to proceed forward into the design phase. Additionally, the City will serve as the lead in managing the requested funds by partnering with the COE and ADOT/PF through technical services agreements to perform the following tasks:

Task	Amount
Project Management	\$ 125,000
Environmental	\$ 185,000
Contracting	\$ 240,000
Cost Engineering	\$ 49,000
Survey	\$ 165,000
Geotechnical	\$ 848,000
H&H	\$ 848,000
Sediment Transport Study	\$ 494,000
Contingency (10%)	\$ 296,000
Total Eng./Design Est.	\$ 3,250,000

The City sees port development in Nome as the first critical step in a much larger system of Arctic infrastructure that is ultimately necessary to cover the expansive area of Arctic waters and exposed coastline. However, these first steps must be taken quickly if the Arctic is to become a safe maritime corridor for vessels to transit with reduced risks to life safety, the environment, and cultural food resources. The City implores the State to realize the importance this project holds for Alaska, and demonstrate the critical role the Alaska coastline plays in the future of our nation by allocating \$3.25M in funds.

Failure to acquire the necessary funds to move forward with the design will essentially halt this project, and demonstrate to federal legislators and potential construction funding partners that there is insufficient support at the state level to develop critical Arctic infrastructure.