



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

ALASKA

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Lynn Sterbenz, Grants & Projects Specialist

CC: Phillip A. Zavadil, City Manager; Aubrey Wegeleben, City Clerk; Stephanie Mandregan, Finance Director

DATE: February 7, 2023

RE: Resolution 23-03 To apply for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program for planning and pre-construction activities of the Improvements to the City North Dock and Piers Project

SUMMARY: Resolution 23-03 approves applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program for funding planning and pre-construction activities for the Improvements to the City North Dock and Piers Project.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council has not taken previous action on this specific grant, but this same project has been submitted to another federal grant opportunity the past year.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: The City of Saint Paul, Alaska owns, operates, and maintains the Saint Paul Harbor located on Saint Paul Island, Alaska. In 2019, the City of Saint Paul was awarded an EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance grant to complete a harbor improvement feasibility study to address current and longer-term needs at Saint Paul Harbor and inform the City's Capital Improvement Plan update. From the beginning of the feasibility study, the Project team engaged the community and industry stakeholders to capture community needs and priorities. The team also coordinated with operators, coastal engineers, and the USACE to ensure technical input had been captured and reflected in preliminary concept plans. Based on stakeholder input and feedback, the Project team updated the study concepts, clarified cost estimates, and outlined pros and cons of the various alternatives. In support of the feasibility study, a site visit was conducted in June 2021 to inventory the existing moorage facilities, concluding that there is inadequate moorage space for the larger commercial fishing vessels. The existing moorage for larger vessels is in poor condition, particularly regarding the fenders and mooring capacity. The feasibility study was released in August 2021 and outlined 3 broad phases, with multiple sub-phases, for the Saint Paul Harbor Improvements and Expansion Project.

Over \$90 million in improvements have been identified for Phase 1, which focuses on upgrading and expanding the existing inner harbor facilities for improved larger vessel moorage. The City has broken Phase 1 into sub-phases, 1A through 1I. Improvements to the City North Dock and Piers have been designated as Phase 1D.

The Improvements to City North Dock and Piers Project includes the following components:

- Removal of City North Dock and two City Piers
- Installation of additional 3 dolphin moorage to be in line with new pier headline. New dolphins to include modern, energy-absorbing fender system.
- Installation of two new 40' x 125' approach ramps to the dolphins. These access ramps would be able to hold heavy equipment for loading and off-loading of people and freight. May need to add a portable ramp for the larger vessels.
- Installation new catwalks between the dolphins.
- Limited three-phase shore power and fresh water at some of the new moorage spots
- Conducting maintenance dredging of local sponsor area to -29' MLLW as required, from face of berthing dolphins to federal channel, and to -25' MLLW from face of South Dock to the maneuvering basin

This grant proposal seeks funding for the preliminary engineering and design that will support the environmental review for removal of the existing City North Dock and Piers and replacing it with improved and expanded mooring and approach facilities. Planning and pre-construction activities for the Project are estimated to cost \$1,500,000.

The reason this proposal is for the Planning and not Construction is because RAISE Grant application requires a Benefit/Cost Analysis for Construction project proposals. The completion of the BCA will be included as a component of the Planning and Pre-construction activities.

ALTERNATIVES: Council could choose to submit this project to another federal grant opportunity instead of this one, or not submit this project to any grant funding opportunities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: As a rural community, Saint Paul allowed to request 100% federal funding of the project. In other words, no match is required. The City would be responsible for cost overruns of the project should those occur.

LEGAL: None.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends approval of this resolution.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to approve Resolution 23-03.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution 23-03.