

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Native Village of Mekoryuk****Federal Tax ID: 92-0065724****Project Title:****Project Type: Planning and Research**

Native Village of Mekoryuk - Nunivak Island Port

State Funding Requested: \$50,000
One-Time Need**House District: 38 / S****Brief Project Description:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers feasibility study of potential deepwater port located at Nash Harbor.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$50,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$50,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Funds will cover community match requirement for US Army Corps of Engineers study and report on potential site at Nash Harbor.

Project Timeline:

Expenditure timeline depends upon receipt of funds and US ACE availability.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Native Village of Mekoryuk

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Howard T. Amos
Title:	President
Address:	P.O. Box 66 Mekoryuk, Alaska 99630
Phone Number:	(907)827-8828
Email:	

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

NATIVE VILLAGE OF MEKORYUK

INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT COUNCIL

P.O. Box 66

Mekoryuk, Alaska 99630

(907) 827-8828

Fax (907) 827-8133

To: Representative Bob Herron

From: Howard T. Amos, President
Native Village of Mekoryuk

Re: Community Share For Narrative Report For Nunivak Island Regional Port

Date: October 1, 2011

Name of Tribe and Local Organizations Involved

The Native Village of Mekoryuk is a Federally recognized governing body per *Federal Register/Vol. 65, No. 49/Monday, March 13, 2000/Notices* for the Native Village of Mekoryuk which is situated in Southwest Alaska in the Bering Sea. The village is located 500 miles west of Anchorage, the largest city in Alaska and 150 miles west of Bethel, the largest hub of the region. Mekoryuk is one of the fifty six villages that is incorporated into the Calista Corporation formed under the *December 18, 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)* and is a member Tribe in the Association of Village Council Presidents, Inc. The City of Mekoryuk represents the State of Alaska in the community.

The Tribe, City and the Village Corporation (NIMA) are all involved in some way or another with this project. Locally, these three organizations are known as a Tri-Council Organization.

Contact Information

The contact for this application:

Mr. Howard T. Amos, President
Native Village of Mekoryuk
PO Box 66
Mekoryuk, Alaska 99630

Phone: 1.907.827.8828
Facsimile: 1.907.827.8133
Email: pantungan@yahoo.com

Description of Port Project

The Native Village of Mekoryuk is located on Nunivak Island and is a Tribal Governing body for the village of Mekoryuk, which has been selected by the community to oversee the port project on Nunivak Island.

After numerous village meetings, beginning in 1990, a site was selected as possible location for a deep sea port on Nunivak Island. Recently the old village of Nash Harbor thirty five miles west of Mekoryuk has been selected as an alternative site for a deep sea port on Nunivak Island. The first selection is located in the east of the village and the location was initially studied for

PAST PRESIDENTS

Moses Nayiruk • Peter Smith, Sr. • Tom Dotomain • Jesse Moses • Walter Amos • George K. Whitman, Sr.
Edward J. Shavings, Sr. • George King, Sr. • Henry J. Shavings • Joseph David, Sr. • Jerry David, Sr.
Fred Don • Howard T. Amos • Samson Weston • Hultman Kiokum
Tom Amos • Solomon Williams • Daniel Olrun, Sr.

adequate depth by the US Army Corps of Engineers on June 7-9, 2011 (see attached trip report: *Nunivak Island Regional Port, June 7-9, 2011*)

This location is identified per the US Army Corp of Engineers as “...one possible location for a medium or deep draft port for Mekoryuk.”

The other location is west of the village of Mekoryuk, in an old village called Nash Harbor. This location was not investigated due to logistical problems. (*The boat had engine problems after the studies east of the village of Mekoryuk was completed.*) However, it is slated for investigation next season for possible location for a deep sea port.

Authorized Persons to Apply On Behalf of Tribe

There are two key people in the Native Village of Mekoryuk that are authorized to apply for and seek funds from various organizations and they are:

Mr. Howard T. Amos, President
Native Village of Mekoryuk
PO Box 66
Mekoryuk, Alaska 99630

And

Mr. Steven Whitman, Executive Director
Native Village of Mekoryuk
PO Box 66
Mekoryuk, Alaska 99630

Phone: 1.907.827.8828
Facsimile: 1.907.827.8133
Email:

Technical, Legal and Financial Capacity

Technical Capacity – Native Village of Mekoryuk (NVM) has been awarded funds from various governmental and private agencies for various projects in the village.

The NVM has received funds for daily operations from the US Bureau of Indian Affairs and has not had any discrepancies to date to receive ongoing funds on an annual basis.

In 2009 and 2010 minimal funds were received from Coastal Village Region Fund and Best Western Seafoods of Seattle to aid the ongoing activities to ensure the success of this project. No other funds have been received for this project. The majority of the work has been done on a voluntary basis to keep the project ongoing.

Legal Capacity – Native Village of Mekoryuk (NVM) is a Federally recognized Tribe of Alaska per *Federal Register/Vol. 65, No. 49/Monday, March 13, 2000/Notices*.

Financial Capacity – Native Village of Mekoryuk’s accounting firm is Far North Financial Management, LLC, of Anchorage however, Mr. Steven Whitman, the Executive Director has oversight of daily financial operations for the Tribe.

Name: Far North Financial Management, LLC.
Address: 5313 Arctic Boulevard #210
Anchorage, Alaska 99518
Phone: 1.907.344.9444

Native Village of Mekoryuk is directed to present quarterly reports on all funds received and expended from the Federal Government and other agencies whenever money is received from them. The most recent funds include Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Reservation Roads (BIAIRR), Administration for Native Americans (ANA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grants.

Grant Request

Budget – The Native Village of Mekoryuk has an obligation with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District to provide fifty percent of all tasks developed and completed to this project.

The current obligation is for provide fifty percent cost to develop a Narrative Report.

Village share for USACE report:	\$15,000
Travel:	5,000
Supplies:	1,000
Salary	10,000
Technical Assistance:	5,000
Office Space/Supplies	5,000
Fund Administration:	2,500
Miscellaneous (taxes, fringe, etc):	2,500
Total:	\$50,000

Budget Narrative

Village Share for USACE Report – per the US Army Corp of Engineers initial agreement the village share is this amount to complete a narrative report for this location

Travel – to meet with agencies involved with this project

Supplies – needed to complete this phase of the project

Salary – to pay person on work done on this phase of the project

Technical Assistance – obtain expert technical assistance on issues in question regarding this project

Office Space/Supplies – rental for office space and supplies to gather and write up information regarding this project

Fund Administration – report to appropriate agencies on funds used on project

Miscellaneous – for taxes and fringe benefits and other unforeseen incidents that might occur during the planning process of this project

Project Description Area Served

The project envisioned by the Native Village of Mekoryuk and the village as a whole (City of Mekoryuk, NIMA Corporation) is to attain planning funds to start initial work on project, i.e. reports by appropriate expert agencies that deal with developments of ports and harbors in Alaska and other locations. These reports are needed to ensure success of this project.

With a deep sea port the site is envisioned by the community to enhance economic development opportunities in the community and the region. The site could be used as a staging area for supplies, equipment etc. for the numerous boats that by pass Nunivak Island to other locations in the State.

Currently there is no deep sea port in the vicinity of Nunivak Island other than the one located in Bethel which serves portions of the region. The deep sea port will be an important and a useful community infrastructure not just for the community but for the state as a whole.

The coastline of the western part of Alaska will benefit from the deep sea port on Nunivak Island. The nearest port is located at Nome which is to the north of Nunivak Island and does not serve any of the villages along this coastal part of Alaska.

This project is envisioned to serve all the western coast of Alaska.

Proposed Project

The proposed Narrative Report initiates planning for a deep sea port that will make it less difficult for barges and boats to load/offload supplies, equipment and passengers to the community of Mekoryuk.

The proposed project is to do research and development on the size and type of launch that will meet the needs of the village of Mekoryuk and the region.

Denali Commission has been working with small communities in various locations in Alaska on boat launches however; Nunivak Island is not part of this program since it is located in the Bering Sea.

A delegation from the village of Mekoyuk and various agencies met at the Denali Commission offices in May 2008 to discuss possible assistance from the Denali Commission, but to date Denali Commission has not provided any funds to assist with this project.

The funds received from Representative Bob Herron will be used to as a fifty percent share required by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District to complete a Narrative Report on the proposed deep sea port on Nunivak Island.

Along with the Narrative Report developed by the US Army Corps of Engineer, Alaska District the funds obtained from Representative Bob Herron's office will be utilized other funding agencies for this project.

Funds received from Representative Herron's office will definitely add leverage to funds sought for this project. This will especially assist with the obligation the village of Mekoryuk has with their fifty percent share to the UASCE, Alaska District, on this first phase of the project.

Local Match

For local match the Native Village of Mekoryuk will utilize the Executive Director to oversee the project.

The Port Project Coordinator will keep a journal and other requirements to make sure the progress does not scope creep beyond the funds made available through Representative Bob Herron's office.

The funds will focus on the villages share to develop a Narrative Report by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, to move forward with this project. Additional funds are continually sought by the Native Village of Mekoryuk to continue with the project.

Type of Deep Sea Port

The village of Mekoryuk envisions a deep sea port that will benefit a majority of the sea going vessels around and in the region and the State as a whole. The village envisions a deep sea port that will accommodate vessels with the draft between 5 to 25 feet.

Service Area

The Narrative Report prepared and developed by the US Army Corp of Engineers, Alaska District, will identify the service area that will encompass the deep sea port on Nunivak Island.

The village has a dire need to cover its share and the financial obligations as required by the USACE to move forward with this project.

This report is essential to move forward with this project.

Schedules

The village will prepare schedules of operation once it is constructed and completed.

The facility will begin operations during the spring after the area is ice free. It will continue to operate until fall when the area begins to ice over. In Southwestern Alaska the spring season is in late May and the fall season is middle to late October when the Bering Sea begins to freeze. In recent years due to global warming the Bering Sea has iced over much later than October.

It is difficult to exact dates on the schedule since each season is different from the previous.

Type of Service

The type of service anticipated to be provided is a public facility where barges/boats can be launched and pulled for a fee. This service will be for anyone and everyone that will safely utilize the facility without endangering the safety of the residents of the Village of Mekoryuk and vessels arriving to this location.

Project Timeline

Project planning has begun as of the filing of this application. Coordination with other agencies to locate funds available for such services has already begun although there has been no commitment for said project.

Demonstration of Need

The project is the first of its kind in the region. Currently, it is difficult to make a determination on the need for this project prior to the completion of the Narrative Report which will be produced by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District.

Local (Mekoryuk residents) observation of vessels traveling around the area has seen numerous occasions where a vessel is in need of a safe harbor. Many times when the weather does not cooperate for travel these vessels seek shelter near the village of Mekoryuk. This has prompted the locals of Mekoryuk as an opportunity to seek ways to provide assistance to these unfortunate travelers and to create economic development within the region.

Benefits of Project

The Narrative Report is required to continue the efforts to complete on a much needed infrastructure for the community and the region.

The benefit of the Narrative Report is immeasurable to the community. The report will address much needed literature to present to possible funding agencies on this project.

As everyone that lives in Alaska knows, watercraft to bring much needed supplies for construction, equipment, fuel and other needs for the villages is the essential ingredient for a village to survive the winter months. It is envisioned by the people working on this project that the cost of living will be reduced in the area and assist with many other economic trends in the area. Therefore, it is important to have the community share on the Narrative Report by the US Army Corps of Engineers to continue with this project.

Commitment

The Native Village of Mekoryuk is committed to work with this project. It has been designated by the village to have complete oversight of the project. The village has a Tri Organizational council consisting from executive members of the three major organizations (Tribe, City and Village Corporation) in the village to oversee the needs of community members and at times nearby villages.

The Native Village of Mekoryuk has been working on this project without paying anyone a salary since 1990. This in itself should be a testament to show the commitment of the village to ensure the success and fruition of this project.

Conclusion

The ongoing commitments on this project are shouldered by the Native Village of Mekoryuk to ensure this project is a success. The village determines that with this project lives in region would become a little bit easier with employment that comes with this project. It is therefore

essential to obtain funding to complete a Narrative Report from any organization that is willing to assist this project.
