

Mayor
John K. Handeland
City Manager
Glenn Steckman
Deputy City Clerk
Jeremy Jacobson



Nome Planning Commission
Kenneth Hughes III, Chair
John Odden
Gregory Smith
Carol Piscoya
Melissa Ford
VACANT
VACANT

**NOME PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 03, 2023 at 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

VERBAL

COMMUNICATIONS

- [A.](#) Letter of August 15, 2023 from Greg Smith/Nome Grown LLC to Nome Common Council re:
Code Amendment,

PAGE 2

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

- [A.](#) Variance Request for Lot 5A of Block 7, Set Back from Lot Line, **PUBLIC HEARING,**

PAGE 9

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Nome Comprehensive Plan Update,

VERBAL

STAFF REPORTS

- [A.](#) City Manager's Activity Report: September 9 - September 21,

PAGE 18

- B. Building Inspector's Report,

VERBAL

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

Dear Council Members,

I'd like to thank you for your dedication to the wonderful city we call Nome.

On March 16th, 2017 Nome Grown LLC opened it's doors for business; featuring a retail marijuana dispensary and a limited cannabis cultivation facility (the only cannabis cultivation in western Alaska).

Despite the taboo stereotypes and antiquated beliefs which are often based on emotion rather than reason surrounding the nascent marijuana industry, Nome Grown LLC has grown to employ 5 full time employees and 3 part time employees. We hope to increase the number of full-time/ part-time positions and sales tax revenue for the city.

The total U.S. economic impact from marijuana sales in 2023 is expected to reach \$100 billion- up more than 12% from last year, according to the recently published MJBiz Factbook.


The economic impact to the state of Alaska is listed at \$1.1 billion. For each state the economic impact per person varies based on factors such as population size, etc. For Alaska, the marijuana market will deliver roughly \$1431 of economic impact per person this year (MJ BizDaily, "US cannabis industry's \$100 million economic impact varies by state"; Andrew Long, 5/11/23). On the local level, the city of Nome collected \$287,630.64 in total sales tax and any penalty and interest in 2022 for cannabis. That roughly translates into \$80 per Nome citizen of economic impact. (City Clerk's Office/ US Census Bureau)

Over the past several months I have been engaged with the SOA Marijuana Control Board on legislation that will allow dispensaries to employ the use of a exterior pick up window for cannabis transactions. On July 14th, the Lieutenant Governor, Nancy Dalstrom; signed it into law with an effective date of August 13th, 2023. This specifically permits the use of a walk-up or drive through exterior window as part of the operation plan for a particular dispensary with proper permits in place.

In effort to see the recently passed aforementioned legislation implemented on the local level and to update city ordinance to be in line with state statutes; I would like to propose an amendment to City of Nome code of ordinances for your consideration. Specifically under Title 3; section 3.4.080 Hours of Sale I propose to amend Section (b) to possibly read: The exception to subsection (a) a retail marijuana establishment may employ the use of an exterior window pick up that is compliance with all applicable state statutes and local ordinances between the hours of ten a.m. to three a.m.. Perhaps re- lettering the existing exception under (b) to (c) and the existing section (c) to (d) may prove prudent.

I Have attached pertinent letters that provide the backdrop to the process with the Marijuana Control Board that has led us here. I truly look forward to working with the city council and officials to see this to fruition. Please feel free to contact me to seek clarification and/ or answer any questions or concerns.

Warmest Regards,



Gregory Smith/ Nome Grown LLC

Dear Honorable Members of the Alaska Marijuana Control Board,

I am writing to you today as a licensee of a retail marijuana store and as a member of the public who sees the safety reasons for this proposed regulation. I would thank the board for this regulation project and the AMCO examiners for all their hard work bringing this regulation draft to us for public comment. As I'm sure you recall, I have been in front of this board on a couple of occasions regarding this exact matter. I am here today to express my support for the majority of the proposed regulation, 3AAC 306.380, Walk-up or Drive-through Exterior Window Pick-up for Retail Marijuana Stores. This new regulation will give customers a simple, secure, and safe way to buy marijuana and marijuana-related products.

All of us Alaskans have to value our safety and security. As much as we love and cherish our town and State, it is not lost on us that our weather and geographical conditions are harsh. The conditions are extreme for anyone, but the concern is heightened for our elders. Accessibility is crucial to keep us safe and healthy. One of the main benefits of drive-through locations is the convenience it provides to legal marijuana consumers, particularly those with mobility limitations or disabilities. Some of us have trouble walking, some of us can't walk, and we rely on wheelchairs or other walking/mobility aids. Some of us have such major accessibility hindrances that we're too afraid to leave our houses regularly, knowing we must get out of our vehicles and walk through parking lots and areas that can be directly affected by the extreme weather Alaska has to get to our destination. Sometimes the weather can be too much, high winds/blizzards, rain, heat, etc., so instead, we go without because we cannot get from the car to the building without having safety issues. Now, some people will say, "so what, don't buy or smoke weed if you can't get to the store" this statement doesn't take into consideration that some people have either physical or moral reasons to take marijuana as an alternative to opiates or other pharmaceuticals, just because the State of Alaska has recreationally legal marijuana doesn't negate the fact that marijuana has medicinal benefits.

When 3 AAC 306.380 is passed, it will allow these individuals to purchase their desired products without physically entering the store; consumers will still be on the licensed premises, they will still follow the identification regulations, the required signage will still be visible to customers while making their way through the drive through thus, making marijuana more accessible and more convenient for elders and other-abled individuals while remaining legal.

Drive-through locations at retail marijuana stores in Nome and statewide would significantly reduce our safety risks, especially in winter or inclement weather. Elders, in particular, will benefit from this option as they can access their desired products without physically entering the store, which is crucial for their safety. The harsh weather conditions in Nome can be extremely challenging for anyone, especially those who rely on wheelchairs or other mobility aids. The drive-through option will reduce the safety risks for these individuals, as they no longer have to walk through windy, rainy, snowy, and slippery conditions to access the store.

In addition to convenience, drive-through locations also offer enhanced safety measures. All transactions will be recorded through video surveillance and kept on file for at least 40 days, ensuring the legality of each sale and verifying the customer's identification. The requirement for payment to be made through an electronic platform or mobile point-of-sale system also adds an extra layer of security, further reducing the risk of theft.

I appreciate the proposed regulations' consideration of the requirements and restrictions imposed by local governments; this shows the MCB's commitment to responsible regulation and respect for local communities and their concerns. The City of Nome and its elders have also shown their support for this regulation, demonstrating the importance of this proposed change.

All this being said, I do think that 3 AAC 306.380 (e) needs to be adjusted, "Prior to completing a sale at a walk-up or drive-through exterior window, the licensee or the employee shall physically view and inspect the consumer's photo identification" – this part is 100% acceptable however, "Each person in a vehicle at the drive-through exterior window must be 21 years of age or older unless the person is the consumer's own child, grandchild, or ward who is not older than seven years of age seated or otherwise required by local or state law to be seated in a car seat or booster seat." First and foremost, adding this to the proposed regulation completely defeats the purpose. Parents do not want to leave their children in unattended running vehicles in the long cold Alaskan winter. The board hears this, so we get a reg project drafted only for the regulation to say that only parents of children in car seats can use the drive through, all other parents need to leave their children unattended in a running vehicle or get a babysitter to run to the retail marijuana store, and this should not be the case. Also, not many parents carry ID for their children, so how does a parent of a tall or large child and not in a booster or car seat prove their age? Not only does this pose a problem, but it is a bit of a government over-reach over a product that, under 3 AAC 306.345(a)(3) at the point of sale, marijuana or a marijuana product sold is packaged in resealable, child-resistant packaging designed to be constructed to be significantly difficult for children under five years of age to open, but not normally difficult for adults to use properly; and (4) unless already packaged by the cultivation facility or the manufacturing facility in an opaque package for final retail sale, any marijuana or marijuana product purchased by the consumer is placed in an opaque package by the retail marijuana store or the consumer before the consumer exits the retail marijuana store. Parents can drive through a pharmacy drive-through with a van load of children and pick up hundreds or thousands of milligrams of opiates without question or take their children into a liquor store where children can clearly see every item for sale, but a parent can't drive through a pot shop drive through and pick up "some weed" that's in an opaque container because their over-seven child is in the car is non-sensical. . Allowing parents to make their own choices for their families is a human right and may open up the conversation they all need to have with their families.

In conclusion, the proposed regulation, 3AAC 306.380, Walk-up or Drive-through Exterior Window Pick-up for Retail Marijuana Stores, with some minor changes, is a positive step forward for the retail marijuana industry in Alaska. It will provide customers with more convenient and safe access to marijuana and marijuana-related products while also ensuring the legality and security of each transaction.

Thank you for considering my comments and for your commitment to the responsible regulation of the retail marijuana industry. I strongly support the proposed regulation and hope it will be implemented soon.

Sincerely,

Greg Smith



Jana D. Weltzin
 Licensed in Alaska & Arizona
 901 Photo Ave.
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503
 Phone 630-913-1113
 Main Office 907-231-3750
 JDW, LLC
 jana@jdw-counsel.com

March 17, 2022

Re: MJ14 request for Nome Grown Retail License

Dear: Honorable Marijuana Control Board,

As a background refresher on this MJ14 request, this Board denied a previous submission of a MJ14 for Nome Grown Retail License at the October 2021 MCB meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. The Board provided feedback to the applicant to review in detail Enforcement's Memo authored by Chief Hoelscher that outlined regulatory concerns and considerations as the applicant also recognized that there were some regulatory issues identified by Chief Hoelscher that needed further clarification. The Board then directed the applicant to re-apply with a plan that addressed all items identified by Chief Hoelscher. Please see below for a detailed outline of Nome Grown's plan to address each regulatory concern raised by Chief Hoelscher and the Enforcement Team:

1. "Approval of this diagram would not be in accordance with 3AAC 306.705, the "conex" is separate and may be considered adjacent if the fence is taken into consideration. Even with that consideration the "conex" would be a restricted access area." Nome Grown response to this concern is that the term "conex" was a simplified way to denote a structure and to convey its approximate size and added security to the facility. The building that houses the drive-up window is a traditional wood structure that was originally part of the cultivation building. Access to the restricted access area of the drive-up window work area is through the cultivation building. We are unsure why this item was listed as a concern for enforcement. This building structure has been approved by the local government and a connecting sight-obscuring fencing enclosure shown on the diagram set increases security for the entire facility and ensures no marijuana is seen by the public outside the licensed premises.
2. "Would be an act prohibited as a retail marijuana store may only sell marijuana or a marijuana product to a consumer who is physically present on the licensed premises." Nome Grown addressed this regulatory concern by including a slight additional expansion of the licensed premises area directly outside the pick-up window as part of the licensed premises. As you can see on the attached MJ14 diagram set, an area measuring in size of 6 feet by 8 feet has been added to the walk-up/drive area as licensed premises area. Per 3AAC 306.990(23), a licensed premises may include outdoor areas. Additionally, part of



Jana D. Weltzin
 Licensed in Alaska & Arizona
 901 Photo Ave
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503
 Phone 630-913-1113
 Main Office 907-231-3750
 JDW, LLC
 jana@jdwconsult.com

the drive-up/walk-up plan is to clearly mark the outside licensed premises area with barriers. These 6' x 8' barriers will be in place when the walk-up/drive-up is not open to the public.

3. Enforcement also noted concerns that it would be difficult to assess if a person was under the age of 21 in this walk-up/drive-up model. However, we disagree – to our knowledge, during the emergency declaration period when the 3 AAC 306.995 were in place, there were no incidents of underage sales made to walkup/drive-up consumers. Additionally, unlike the emergency declaration regulations, Nome Grown will require all persons in the vehicle be 21. This will be required as the space right outside of the window will be licensed premises. Therefore, Greg shall have additional signage on the exterior of the building clearing stating, “No persons under the age of 21 years old past this point” and “Area under surveillance” to defer attempts by persons under 21 years of age from entering the outside licensed area. There will also be cameras monitoring the area of the walk-up/drive-up area and the drive way before the window to ensure the staff knows how many persons are in the vehicle so they know if any under age person is hiding when the vehicle drives up to the window.
4. Moreover, Nome is a small community, the folks that work at Nome Grown have been there on average for over 2 years. The staff at Nome Grown have lived in Nome for at least 5 years, but most were born and raised in Nome. Hence, Nome Grown staff knows its customers, its community, and they are uniquely situated to quickly identify any persons attempting to make a purchase who are not under the age of 21. Additionally, the idea that its more difficult to assess a person’s identity and age just because it’s a drive up model is inconsistent with the use of drive-ups in other *highly* regulated industries such as banking and pharmacies.
5. Another point raised by Enforcement is the concern that it’s difficult to assess whether a person is under the influence of an intoxicating substance if that person is in a vehicle vs. coming into the store. To address this concern, Greg has added extra training and protocols for his staff to make a purposeful effort to engage in conversation with each person in the vehicle and exchange in dialogue to watch for signs of inebriation. Greg is a highly trained drug and alcohol addiction health provider and whom as an adjunct faculty of UAF to this endeavor has the knowledge, the training, and the skill set to create protocols and procedures for staff who do work the window to purposefully engage with customers and watch for telltale signs of inebriation. Additionally, during the emergency declaration period, there were no incidents of increased marijuana sales to inebriated persons or an increased rate of retail stores having to refuse to sell to consumers because they tried to go through drive-ups inebriated. Presumably, if a person is intoxicated and driving a vehicle



Jana D. Weltzin
 Licensed in Alaska & Arizona
 901 Photo Ave
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503
 Phone 630-913-1113
 Main Office 907-231-3750
 JDW, LLC
 jana@jdw-counsel.com

through a narrow driveway, its going to be easier to tell if they are drunk then it would be if they were just having to walk into the store.

6. Another concern raised by enforcement is that because there may be minors in the vehicle that all occupants would need to show valid ID proving that they are all over the age of 21. We agree and have modified the plan to ensure all occupants of any vehicle that goes through the driveway show valid identification proving they are 21 years of age or older.
7. Enforcement, recognizing the rural nature of Nome, voiced concerns about how staff would ensure that the identification a customer provides to them is actually their own identification in the event that customer traveled to the store on a four-wheeler or snow machine and was wearing facemasks, hats, helmets, etc. This is a good point, but this is already addressed in the Nome Grown procedures for the store as it currently is operated and would extend to the window walk-up/drive-up outside licensed premises as well. Currently, folks drive their snow machines and 4-wheelers to Nome Grown all the time. Customers know that they still have to remove their facemasks and helmets and show their face when they have their ID checked by the retail staff in order to purchase marijuana from the retail facility. This is currently the practice and will remain the practice.
8. Lastly, Enforcement's memo rightfully pointed out that the plan for the drive-up/walk-up did not address the requirement for posting the required consumer notices within the licensed premises area. The revised MJ15 and MJ14 attached clearly address this regulatory component and all consumer notices will be posted on the exterior of the building. The postings will be of such size to ensure clear visibility at all times to all consumers who utilize the walk-up/drive-up area.

Additionally, please see the list of elders who have indicated that they would very much like to have a drive through option when coming to Nome Grown. Given that the Nome Grown plan has addressed all regulatory and safety concerns raised by Enforcement, we respectfully request the Marijuana Control Board consider this unique proposal, the rural nature of the community, and the intent to provide ease of access to person over the age of 21 who chose to consume tested and regulated marijuana products.

Truly and Sincerely Yours,

Jana D. Weltzin, Esq.

NOME GROWN ELDER SUPPORT SIGNATURES ---- WALK-UP / DRIVE-UP WINDOW

PRINT FULL NAME

SIGNATURE

1	Daniel Komok	Daniel Komok	12/1/21
2	Richard Okinello	Richard Okinello	
3	Sterling Gologergen, Sterling Gologergen		
4	Hilda Sacher	Hilda Sacher	
5	SERN Edward Long	SERN Edward Long	
6	Kenneth Waltz	Kenneth Waltz	
7	Evelyn Omrak	Evelyn Omrak	
8	Elijah Ortega	Elijah Ortega	
9	Amyssa Gray	Amyssa Gray	
10	Andreas	Andreas	
11	Sandra Annogiuk	Sandra Annogiuk	
12	Andrew Durigo	Andrew Durigo	
13	Eileen R Beechbl	Eileen Beechbl	
14	Shakira	Shakira Amiyerson	
15	Mikal Henry	Mikal Henry	
16	William Kier	William Kier	
17	Debra Seetok	Debra Seetok	
18	Nancy Iyapana	Nancy Iyapana	
19	Carol Henry	Carol Henry	
20	Garb Gray	Garb Gray	
21	Jeanne KOST	Jeanne KOST	
22	Norma Todd Hoag	Norma Todd Hoag	
23	David Kowley	David Kowley	
24	Cheryl Kowchec	Cheryl Kowchec	
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			

RECEIVED

Item A.

SEP 22 2023

DATE RECEIVED:
CITY OF NOME
CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

CITY OF NOME
Variance Application

PERMIT NO.
2023-03V

NCO 5.10.090 (Building Code) – Variances – It is recognized there are special cases where unusual physical features (including small lot size), location within a commercial or historic district, special design features which can be incorporated into the structure, and the limited building season which make strict application of the foregoing regulations unreasonable. Variances are intended to allow a relaxation of the terms of these regulations in such cases. A variance shall not be granted merely for reason of financial hardship or inconvenience. An applicant may request a variance from the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission must meet within fourteen days from the time a completed application is received in the Clerk's Office. Upon receipt of a completed application, the City Clerk shall provide notice of the application and the date of the Planning Commission meeting at which the application will be heard by regular mail to all adjacent property owners.

Denials may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment.

The Planning Commission may impose restrictions and conditions as necessary to assure complete compliance with the foregoing regulations is reasonable.

The Planning Commission may grant a variance only if the Planning Commission believes, based upon the facts placed before the Commission by the applicant, the City, and members of the public, that **all** of the following are true:

- 1) The variance is needed in order to provide the applicant or property owner rights to commonly enjoyed by other similarly situated properties in the same district or neighborhood;
- 2.) The applicant or property owner did not cause the condition that requires the variance;
- 3.) The variance is not requested simply to save the applicant or property owner money;
- 4.) The variance is not requested merely because complying with the regulations is inconvenient;
- 5.) Unusual physical features make strict application of the applicable regulations unreasonable;
- 6.) The variance requested is the minimal variance needed in order to alleviate the hardship to the applicant or property owner resulting from strict application of the applicable provisions of ordinance or regulation;
- 7.) Granting of the variance will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, create nuisances, cause fraud on or victimization of the public or conflict with existing local laws, ordinances or regulations;
- 8.) The variance will not permit a land use in a district in which that use is prohibited.

Subdivisions - General Provisions 70.012 - The following process shall apply to variances.

The City Clerk shall give notice of the public hearing in the following manner:

- a. By publication of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the City not less than five (5) days nor more than twenty (20) days prior to the date of hearing
- b. By sending notices by mail at least five (5) days but not more than twenty (20) days prior to the date of hearing to the property owners and residents of property who are not owners of property adjacent to the exterior boundaries of the property involved. The names and addresses of owners as shown in the records of the tax assessor and land use maps of the City will be used for this purpose. Where mailing addresses are not available, the notice will be delivered directly.
- c. **Failure to send notices to persons specified in this section or failure of a person to receive a notice shall not invalidate the proceedings.**

Applicant: Charles Marble

Phone #: 907 434 2101

I am requesting the Planning Commission consider a variance in reference to a:

(Please check one)

Preliminary Plat/Subdivision Application _____

Building Permit Application X

Merbok

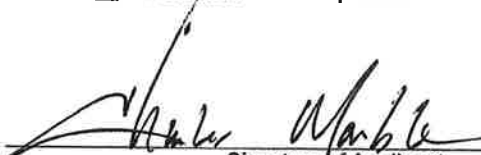
Block #: 07 Lot #: 05A Tax Lot #: 001.142.05B

For the following reason(s):

- Set Back from Lot Line
- Lot Size
- Off Street Parking
- Permitted Work Suspended

Other reason(s):

Due to merbok we repositioned the corner to the front next to our shed. It sits about 2' in the 10' setback of street side.


Signature of Applicant

9-22-23
Date

Proof of notice will be provided to the Planning Commission with this application. A copy of this variance request shall be posted in the Office of the City Clerk for public information purposes and shall remain posted until the variance is acted upon by the Planning Commission.

This request will be heard before the Nome Planning Commission on October 3, 2023. Applicant or representative attendance is required.

Planning Commission Additional Variance Restriction or Conditions:

A variance hearing on this permit was held by the Planning Commission at a meeting held

_____ and this permit was / was not approved.

BUILDING PERMIT REFERENCE NO: N/A - City performed move of structure from property, merbok.

Chairman, Planning Commission

Date

City Clerk's Office

Date

FEES: REGULAR MEETING : \$200.00
SPECIAL MEETING: \$300.00

Receipt #: CR 3.010030

Date Paid: 9/25/23

Fee \$: 200.00

From: [Charles Marble](#)
To: [Jeremy Jacobson](#)
Subject: Re: 407 E. Front St. (B7 L5A - NT) - Connex in ROW setbacks
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 11:21:21 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

Hi Jeremy,

Attached are the photos of the south side where the back used to be. Also included what it used to look like.

Cole Cushman was one of the guys that came to move the connex and I believe Jim West Jr was in the loader and they moved it over to the college campus as the gravel was being taken away and the connex was beginning to move towards the house.

After the storm I asked John Handeland about placing the connex where it sits now, and he said to make sure it sat in the property boundary but did say it would be addressed at some point in the near future.

Thanks,
Charles













On Thu, Sep 7, 2023 at 10:35 AM Jeremy Jacobson <JJacobson@nomealaska.org> wrote:

Hi Charles,

Expanding on our call earlier, regarding the connex at 407 E. Front St. (block 7, lot 5A) in the right-of-way setbacks.

Prior to requesting a variance, photos of the southside of the lot (water-facing) for more context will assist everyone, presumably you as well. I've attached a screenshot of Variance criteria, used by the Nome Planning Commission.

It would be worthwhile to view Variations in the NCO's, 5-minute read. Included are intent & reason, provide property owners rights commonly enjoyed by other similarly situated properties in the same district/neighborhood.

Once the photos are received, short description as mentioned earlier, Cole Cushman & Jim

West Jr. relocating the connex during Merbok, and the washed away southside lot, we will be in contact.

Best regards,

Jeremy Jacobson

Deputy City Clerk

City of Nome

(907) 443-6612

PO Box 281, Nome, AK 99762

Website: www.nomealaska.org



DISCLAIMER: If you are not an intended recipient of this eMail message, please notify the sender, delete it and do not read, act upon, print, disclose, copy, retain or redistribute it. Please note that eMail is susceptible to interference.

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City manager's report

September 21, 2023

ATV Safety Enforcement Month:

Starting October 1, the NPD will begin enforcing safety rules and regulations for city and state roads. Alaska has the highest Traumatic Brain Injury cases in the United States. Flyers were distributed to tribal governments, Alaska Native corporations, the school district and businesses. The flyer was also posted to the city Facebook page and the Nome Nugget advising residents and visitors the rules of the road when operating an ATV.

Cruise Ships:

The past two weeks businesses have seen hundreds of visitors touring Nome. The Carrie M. McLain Museum was opened special hours to host the visitors. In addition, the Richard Foster Building Community Room hosted a local craft fair for the visitors. The Visitor Center attracted hundreds of visitors with their new improved visitor experience.

The last two cruise ships of the season, unfortunately, will only transport their passengers directly to the airport with no planned local activities.

U.S. Coast Guard:

The Local Sector Coast Guard Commander, Captain Culpepper visited Nome this past Wednesday. Joy then hosted a familiarization tour of the Port for the sector command staff.

U.S. Corps of Engineers:

All of the paperwork has been submitted to the Corps. The PPA has been signed.

Tax Conference:

I will be attending a two-day tax conference being held by the AML on Thursday and Friday this week.

Nome Fall Clean-up:

The Fall Clean-up saw 124 visits to Mono-fill by homeowners, 42 pick-ups of household bulk items from homes through the U-Call, We-haul service, 11 vehicles removed and two dump truck loads dropped off at OSJ.

Public Works Building:

Estimated losses from the fire are expected to be more than \$800,000. Repairs to the building will not start until then next summer. Because of this the top floor of the building will be buttoned up for the winter. Staff will continue to use the first floor and continue to work out of the snow dump facilities. Iron Dog also will be able to use the building for their event

Snow leases:

Snow leases, that need to be renewed, have been sent out to the property owners asking for renewal.

Right of ways:

The annual notices to property owners to move their vehicles out of the city right of way has begun. This will allow better snow removal and improved vehicle passage way.

Contracts to Vendors for Snow Removal:

The annual contract to our third-party vendors to assist in snow removal in the city have been issued to the local contractors. The rate, which is based on the State of Alaska contract rates, did not increase from last year.

Permafrost Mapping:

The University of Alaska Fairbanks and the Alfred-Wegener-Institute (Germany) are partnering to conduct Permafrost fieldwork next summer in Nome and the region. They will be using LIDAR to measure what is happening to the Permafrost in the region.

I met with the researchers and advised them to reach out to our Tribal Communities, Alaska Native Corporations and the local college staff. As more information becomes available, I will keep you informed.

Indigenous Peoples Day:

This holiday is recognized by the City of Nome and is part of the Union Agreement. All city facilities will be closed that day excluding the Nome Police Station. The Rec Center is being rented out for a private event in the afternoon and evening by NSHC.

The council meeting scheduled for that night will be postponed to Tuesday night, October 10.

City Morgue:

Despite the poor weather this summer, the exterior of the building has finally been power sanded and stained. The next step is putting sealant on it. Over the winter an interior refresh to the building will begin to make it more welcoming for family members to prepare and view loved ones.

Tribal Justice Summit:

Kawerak sponsored a Tribal Justice Summit at the Mini last week for three days. While I was only able to attend for a few hours, it's sad to see our local surrounding communities are facing the same challenges as Nome. One of the issues the summit members recognized was curfews for young people. Other issues included domestic violence, sexual assault, lack of VPSO services, Elder service needs and more.

Delays:

There has been a delay in the planned meeting with our city property assessor to develop the model for the landing tax and anticipated revenue.

There is a delay in proposing amendments in the curfew ordinance. It is more convoluted than I thought and other portions look like they were lifted from a template. For instance, the current ordinance mentions "interstate motor vehicles".