

LEGISLATION SUMMARY SHEET

TRACKING NO. 0258-21

DATE: November 17, 2021

TITLE OF LEGISLATION: AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING CAP-19-16 TO TRANSFER THE RESPONSIBILITY AND PERMANENT TRUST FUND INTEREST FUNDING FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT FROM THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE TO THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE; ALLOCATING \$11,400,000 FROM THE SÍHASIN FUND TO THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT AND APPROVING THE NNHE'S SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT EXPENDITURE PLAN PURSUANT TO 12 N.N.C §§2501 – 2508

PURPOSE OF THIS LEGISLATION: to amend CAP-19-16 to transfer responsibility and allocated PTF funds for the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant Project from NNGE to NNHE; to allocate an additional \$11,400,000 of Síhasin Funds to NNHE for the Project and approve the Project Expenditure Plan.

OLC No. 21-485-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 18 Red Home
Website Posting Time/Date: 11-30-2021 @ 5:08 PM
Posting End Date: 12-05-2021
Eligible for Action: 12-06-2021

Resources & Development Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year, 2021

Introduced by:



(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0258-21

AN ACTION

**RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BUDGET AND FINANCE,
AND NABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
AMENDING CAP-19-16 TO TRANSFER THE RESPONSIBILITY AND
PERMANENT TRUST FUND INTEREST FUNDING FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-
RESTAURANT PROJECT FROM THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE
TO THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE; ALLOCATING
\$11,400,000 FROM THE SÍHASIN FUND TO THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY
ENTERPRISE FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT AND
APPROVING THE NNHE'S SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT
EXPENDITURE PLAN PURSUANT TO 12 N.N.C §§2501 – 2508**

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council empowered to exercise oversight over the operations of the Navajo Nation enterprises, including the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise and the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise. 2 N.N.C. §501(B)(4)(e).
- B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council authorized to “appropriate, allocate, cancel, re-appropriate and review the use

1 pursuant to a Fund Expenditure Plan consistent with the purposes set forth in §2502 of
2 this Chapter and adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Navajo Nation
3 Council.” 12 N.N.C. §2505(A).

4 5 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 6 A. In April of 2016, the Navajo Nation Council passed Resolution No. CAP-19-16 that
7 approved two payments from the Navajo Nation’s Permanent Trust Fund income to the
8 Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise (“NNGE”) in the amount of \$5,500,000 in the 2nd
9 Year and \$2,800,000 in the 3rd Year of the “PTF 5-Year Plan.” These two payments,
10 totaling \$8,300,000, were intended to allow the NNGE to construct a Hotel-Restaurant
11 Project in the Shiprock community (“Shiprock Project”). **Exhibit A.**
- 12 B. The NNGE prepared a status report for the Shiprock Project on February 7, 2017.
13 **Exhibit B.**
- 14 C. In Resolution No. RDCJY-79-17, dated July 25, 2017, the Resources and Development
15 Committee approved a 5-Year Plan for the Division of Economic Development, which
16 Plan included an allocation of \$2,805,000 (from the Navajo Nation’s Sales Tax Fund)
17 for the “Shiprock Hotel” project. RDCJY-79-17 did not specifically provide the
18 \$2,805,000 to any particular entity, but simply approved the funds for the project.
19 **Exhibit C.**
- 20 D. In July of 2018 the NNGE and the Division of Economic Development (“DED”) entered
21 into a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) for cooperation on the Shiprock Project,
22 and for the Navajo Nation/DED to provide to NNGE the approved \$2,805,000 for the
23 design, infrastructure, and development costs for the Shiprock Project. **Exhibit D.** The
24 NNGE’s acceptance of the MOA and the \$2,805,000 for the Shiprock Project was pre-
25 approved by the NNGE Board of Directors in June of 2018. **Exhibit E.**
- 26 E. Since then, the NNGE has negotiated with the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise
27 (“NNHE”) to take over construction and management of the Shiprock Project. In May
28 2021, the NNHE Management Board passed a resolution accepting the transfer of the
29 Shiprock Project. **Exhibit F.** In June 2021, the NNGE Board of Directors also passed a
30 resolution approving the transfer of the Shiprock Project to the NNHE. **Exhibit G.**

1 F. The NNHE has prepared a funding request, dated August 30, 2021, indicating that, after
2 previous allocations of funds and the transfer of the \$8,300,000 requested in this
3 Legislation, the Shiprock Project still needs \$11,400,000 for the Project to be completed.

4 **Exhibit H and Exhibit I.**

5 G. The NNHE has provided a proposed Expenditure Plan detailing how all requested funds
6 will be spent on the Shiprock Project. **Exhibit I.**

7 H. The requested allocation of the \$11,400,000 for the Shiprock Project meets the criteria
8 for Síhasin expenditures because the Project involves “infrastructure” and “community
9 development” such as “commercial buildings,” as mentioned in 12 N.N.C. §2502(A)(1).

10 I. As shown in the attached Exhibit C, the Shiprock community and the Navajo Nation as
11 a whole will greatly benefit from this major economic development project, in terms of
12 jobs creation, tourism, tax revenue, and other significant economic benefits.

13
14 **SECTION THREE. AMENDING CAP-19-16 TO TRANSFER RESPONSIBILITY**
15 **AND \$8,300,000 IN FUNDS FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT**
16 **PROJECT TO THE NNHE; APPROVING REALLOCATION OF \$2,805,000 IN**
17 **FUNDS UNDER RDCJY-79-17 TO THE NNHE FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-**
18 **RESTAURANT PROJECT**

19 A. The Navajo Nation hereby amends Exhibit A of CAP-19-16 (attached as Exhibit A) to
20 transfer responsibility for the construction, completion, and operation of the Shiprock
21 Hotel-Restaurant Project, from the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise to the Navajo
22 Nation Hospitality Enterprise.

23 B. The Navajo Nation further amends CAP-19-16 to transfer the approved \$8,300,000 in
24 Permanent Trust Fund interest income from the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise to
25 the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise for use in the planning and construction of the
26 Shiprock Project.

27 C. The Navajo Nation further approves the reallocation of the \$2,805,000 approved in
28 Resolution No. RDCJY-79-17 (Exhibit C), to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise
29 for use in the planning and construction of the Shiprock Project.

1 **SECTION FOUR. ALLOCATION OF \$11,400,000 IN SÍHASIN FUNDS TO THE**
2 **NNHE FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT**

- 3 A. The Navajo Nation hereby allocates \$11,400,000 in Síhasin Funds to the Navajo Nation
4 Hospitality Enterprise for use in the planning and construction of the Shiprock Project.
5 B. The Síhasin Funds allocated for the Shiprock Project may be further leveraged by bond
6 or loan financing pursuant to the Navajo Nation Bond Financing Act, at 12 N.N.C.
7 §1300 *et seq.* as amended, using Síhasin Fund earnings for repayment and financing
8 costs, upon the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee and approval by
9 a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Navajo Nation Council.

10
11 **SECTION FIVE. APPROVAL OF THE NNHE'S SHIPROCK HOTEL-**
12 **RESTAURANT PROJECT EXPENDITURE PLAN AND ITS ADMINISTRATION**

- 13 A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves the NNHE's Shiprock Hotel-Restaurant Project
14 Expenditure Plan as shown in **Exhibit I**.
15 B. The Navajo Nation hereby approves the administration of the Shiprock Project
16 Expenditure Plan, as follows:
17 1. The Navajo Nation Controller shall determine whether the source of the
18 \$11,400,000 allocation from the Síhasin Fund will be from Fund Principal or Fund
19 Income or a combination of both.
20 2. The funds allocated for the Shiprock Project shall be distributed to the Navajo
21 Nation Hospitality Enterprise pursuant to a construction schedule or other payout
22 schedule agreed to by the Office of the Controller.
23 3. The NNHE shall be responsible for the planning and construction of the Shiprock
24 Project, as well as ongoing operation, maintenance, and repairs for the Project after
25 completion.
26 4. The funds allocated for the Shiprock Project shall be used solely for the planning
27 and construction of the Project, and for the purchase and installation of equipment
28 and facilities as necessary for the Project once construction is completed.
29 5. Any and all cost-savings shall be returned to the Síhasin Fund once the Shiprock
30 Project Expenditure Plan is completed.

- 1 6. The funds allocated for the Shiprock Project shall revert to the Síhasin Fund
2 principal if not spent or encumbered within one hundred twenty (120) days of
3 distribution to the NNHE, unless recommended otherwise by the Resources and
4 Development Committee and approved by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee.

5
6 **SECTION SIX. DIRECTIVES**

- 7 A. Immediately upon the effective date of this Legislation, the NNGE shall return to the
8 proper accounts all unspent funds, out of the \$8,300,000 approved in CAP-19-16 and
9 the \$2,805,000 approved in RDCJY-79-17, that NNGE has taken out of the Permanent
10 Trust Fund or the Sales Tax Fund for the Shiprock Hotel-Restaurant Project. The
11 Controller shall then promptly close out the Fund Management Plans for each of the
12 funding allocations to the NNGE for the Shiprock Project.
- 13 B. Within thirty (30) calendar days following the effective date of this Legislation, the
14 NNGE, the NNHE, and the DED shall terminate the June 2018 MOA (attached as
15 Exhibit C), and the NNHE and the DED shall enter into a new Memorandum of
16 Agreement that provides for the NNHE to receive the \$2,805,000 in Sales Tax Fund
17 monies for NNHE's use in the planning and construction of the Shiprock Project.
- 18 C. By the end of each Quarter of FY2022, the NNHE shall provide to the Naabik'iyati'
19 Committee a written and verbal report on the status of its expenditures and progress with
20 the Shiprock Project, which report shall include a copy of the new NNHE/DED
21 Memorandum of Agreement for the Shiprock Project.

22
23 **SECTION SEVEN. EFFECTIVE DATE**

24 This Legislation and the Shiprock Hotel-Restaurant Project Expenditure Plan shall become
25 effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(17) and 12 N.N.C. §2505.

26
27 **SECTION EIGHT. SAVING CLAUSE**

28 If any provision(s) of this Legislation is determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme
29 Court or by a District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation
30 Supreme Court, the remainder of this Legislation shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

CAP-19-16

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2016

AN ACTION

RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCE AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND
THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING THE NAVAJO NATION PERMANENT
FUND INCOME FIVE YEAR EXPENDITURE PLAN AND WAIVING 12 N.N.C.
\$1162(B) FOR A LIMITED TIME PERIOD

BE IT ENACTED.

Section One. Authority

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 102 (A).
- B. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(9), reviews proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council.
- C. The Budget and Finance Committee is empowered to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment, and management of all funds. 2 N.N.C. §300(B)(2).
- D. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §300(C)(3), the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council shall exercise oversight authority, including but not limited to, budget, finance, investment, bonds, contracting, insurance, audits, accounting, taxes, loans, chapter budget and finance for the purpose of recommending to the Navajo Nation Council the adoption of resolution designed to strengthen the fiscal and financial position of the Navajo Nation and to promote the efficient use of the fiscal and financial resources of the Navajo Nation.

Section Two. Findings

- A. The Navajo Nation Permanent fund, established in 1985, made available certain funds after a 20 year period and such funds have been available for use since 2005;

however, the fund income of the Navajo Nation Permanent fund continues to be reinvested in the Permanent Fund.

- B. The Navajo Nation Permanent Fund was established for the purpose of creating reserves for future generations after finding that the Navajo Nation's General Reserve Fund had been declining. See CJY-53-85, Whereas Clause Two and Six.
- C. The Navajo Nation Permanent Fund defines fund income as consisting of all earnings generated by the principal of the Fund. 12 N.N.C. §903(B).
- D. The Navajo Nation Permanent Fund sets out the procedures for expenditure of fund income by stating "[n]o Fund income shall be expended, except as set forth in §§903 and 909 of this Chapter, for a period of 20 years from date of the first Navajo Nation contribution to the Fund. Thereafter, ninety-five percent (95%) of the Fund income may be expended in accordance with a plan for its use covering at least a five-year period adopted by resolution of the Navajo Nation Council provided that the expenditure of income in any fiscal year shall not exceed the income earned during that year. The remaining five percent (5%) of the Fund income shall be reinvested in the Permanent Fund." 12 N.N.C. §905.
- E. As stated above, the permanent fund income has been available for use since 2005 and a prospective plan for the use of the permanent fund income covering a 5-year period, attached as Exhibit A, includes major waterline projects throughout the Navajo Nation and economic development projects in regional centers across the Navajo Nation and is generally described as:
 - 1. Navajo Nation Waterline Projects, Total: \$68,250,000, detailed in Exhibit B;
 - 2. Regional Economic Development Projects, Total: \$81,750,000, detailed in Exhibit C;
- F. The Navajo Nation Local Governance Trust Fund is established with an appropriation that "Beginning in Fiscal Year 2007, the Fund shall annually receive fifty-percent (50%) of the income available from the Navajo Nation

Permanent Fund pursuant to 12 N.N.C. §905; However to accomplish the essential Navajo Nation waterline and regional economic development projects it is necessary to lessen the appropriation to the Local Governance Trust Fund for the five year period of the expenditure plan. See 12 N.N.C. §1162 regarding annual appropriation and Exhibit A for Fund appropriation over the five year period.

- G. The Navajo Nation finds it in the best interest of the Nation to approve the Permanent Fund Income Five Year Expenditure Plan.

Section Three. Waiving 12 N.N.C. §1162(B)

The Navajo Nation hereby waives 12 N.N.C. §1162(B) for the period of the Permanent Income Five Year Expenditure Plan and approves the reduced annual appropriation to the Navajo Nation Local Governance Trust Fund to Confirm with the Permanent Income Five Year Expenditure Plan.

Section Four. Recommending and Approving


The Navajo Nation hereby recommends and approves the expenditure of the permanent fund income pursuant to the Permanent Income Five Year Expenditure Plan described as:

A. Navajo Nation Waterline Projects, Total: \$68,250,000;

B. Regional Economic Development Projects, Total:
\$81,750,000

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona) at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 18 in favor and 4 opposed, this 19th day of April 2016.




LoRenzo Bates, Speaker
Navajo Nation Council

April 27, 2016
Date

Motion: Honorable Jonathan Perry
Second: Honorable Amber Kanazbah Crotty

ACTION BY THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT:

1. I hereby sign into law the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (C)(10), on this 7th day of May 2016.



Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (C) (11), this _____ day of _____ 2016 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

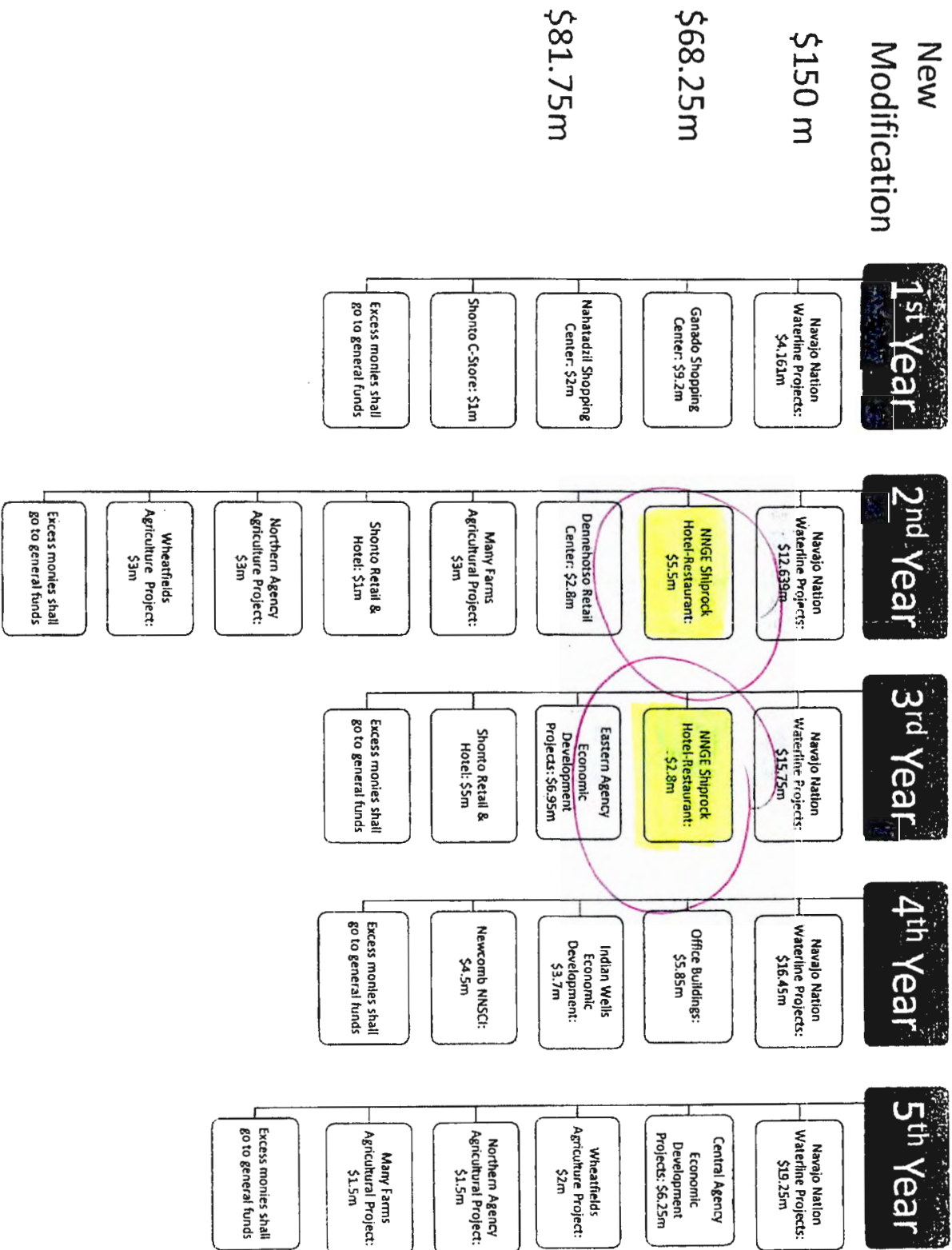
3. I hereby exercise line item veto pursuant to the 2010 certified Initiative, over the supplemental appropriations approved herein by the Navajo Nation Council; on this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

PTF – 5 Year Plan = \$150m Over 5 Years

Exhibit A \$30m \$30.939m \$30.5m \$30.5m \$30.5m

New
Modification



\$81.75m

\$68.25m

\$150 m



Shiprock Hotel Project Status Report - Update Permanent Trust Fund Expenditure Plan Meeting

By Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
February 7, 2017



Discussion Outline

- Project Background
- New Information Since January 17th Update
- Independent Analysis of Standalone Hotel



Project Background

April 19, 2016

Council passes legislation

- CAP-39-16
- Council passed legislation approving Permanent Trust Fund Income Plan (PTFIP)
- Includes partial funding for a hotel & restaurant in Shiprock, Navajo Nation



Project Background

- CAP-39-16
- President signs the legislation into law
- \$8.3 million toward a hotel
 - \$5.5 in Year 2 (2018)
 - \$2.8 in Year 3 (2019)

May 10, 2016

President signs legislation



Project Background

September, 2016
NNDED and NNGE partner

- NNDED invited NNGE to partner & integrate the hotel project into a comprehensive economic development plan for Shiprock



Project Background

October, 2016
NNDDED Master Plan begins

- Joint meeting of NNDDED and NNGE executive management took place to learn about NNDDED's master planning objectives and schedule



Project Background

January 7, 2017

Report to BFC

- Informed BFC about NNGE market study
- Projected new information available by February 6
- BFC requests a new report to BFC February 7



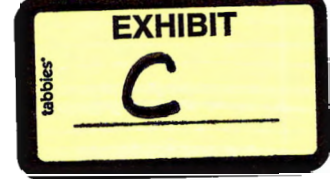
Project Background

January 11, 2017

NNDED commits \$3 million

- NNDED updated NNGE on their Shiprock master planning, funding for infrastructure, and site evaluations (4).
- NNDED confirmed approximately \$3 million has been reserved for future hotel infrastructure.





RDCJY-79-17

RESOLUTION OF THE
RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
23rd Navajo Nation Council --- Third Year, 2017

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, APPROVING THE
NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FIVE (5) YEAR
PLAN FOR 2016- 2021

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Resources and Development Committee has oversight over economic development on the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 500(C)
- B. The Resources and Development Committee has the authority to grant final approval for the overall economic development plan for the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 501 (B) (2) (b)

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development has submitted its Five (5) Year Plan (Plan) for 2016-2021. See Exhibit "A".
- B. The Plan is composed of projects for development in the Commercial, Industrial and Tourism Sectors of the Navajo Nation and will reduce the leakage of Navajo dollars to off-reservation markets and create a multiplier effect generating future economic and community development.
- C. The projects in the Plan are to create jobs and business opportunities, provide convenient access to goods and services for local communities and generate revenue through lease rental, sales tax, fuel tax and possessory interest tax.
- D. The Plan list projects as submitted by the Division of Economic Development's Small Business Development Department, the Regional Business Development Offices, the Project Development Department and the Tourism Department, Chapters and legislators.
- E. The Plan, if approved, will support the Division of Economic Development's efforts to develop projects and to seek services and project funding from the Navajo Nation, Federal and State programs, financial institutions and other such sources.

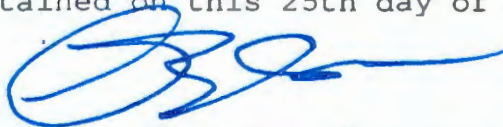
F. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to approve the Division of Economic Development's Five (5) Year Plan for 2016-2021.

SECTION THREE. APPROVAL

The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development's Five Year Plan for 2016-2021 as found at Exhibit "A".

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the following resolution was duly considered by the Resources and Development Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort, Twin Arrows, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained on this 25th day of July, 2017.



Alton Joe Shepherd, Chairperson
Resources and Development Committee
of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Davis Filfred
Second: Honorable Benjamin Bennett



DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FIVE YEAR PLAN

2016 – 2021

Post Office Box 663
Window Rock, Arizona
(928) 871-6544

www.navajobusiness.com

2003

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**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE
AND
THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

ESTABLISHING THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE AND THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN FURTHERANCE OF THE SHIPROCK HOTEL AND RESTAURANT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$2,805,000 FROM THE NAVAJO NATION TO THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS CONSISTENT WITH RESOLUTION NOS. CAP-19-16 AND RDCJY-79-17

This Memorandum of Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise ("Enterprise") and the Navajo Division of Economic Development ("DED") establishing the partnership between the two entities in furtherance of the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant development project ("Development Project"); and authorizing the transfer of \$2,805,000 from the Navajo Nation to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise for the infrastructure costs related to the project.

WHEREAS, the Enterprise is established as a legal entity wholly owned by the Navajo Nation with authority to conduct gaming operations within the Navajo Nation pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the Navajo Nation Gaming Ordinance, gaming compacts between the Navajo Nation and the States of Arizona and New Mexico, and regulations and policies related thereto; and

WHEREAS, the DED is established to promote and support an environment that is conducive to business development in the commercial, small business, tourism, industrial and other sectors of the Navajo Nation economy thereby improving the quality of life for the Navajo people; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CAP-19-16 (attached hereto and marked as Attachment "A"), the Navajo Nation approved the Navajo Nation Permanent Fund Income Five-Year Expenditure Plan. The Plan authorizes expenditures for water and economic development projects, including a total of \$8,300,000 to the Enterprise to design and construct a hotel and restaurant in Shiprock, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resources and Development Committee ("RDC") Resolution No. RDCJY-79-17, (attached hereto and marked as Attachment "B"), the RDC approved the Navajo Nation DED Five-Year Plan for 2016-2021. The Plan includes \$2,805,000 ("Project Funds") for the facility design and infrastructure development costs for the Development Project.

WHEREAS, pursuant to a letter dated October 20, 2017, (attached hereto and marked as Attachment "C"), the former Division of Economic Development Director, affirmed the Division's funding commitment and support of the partnership between the Division and Enterprise in furtherance of the Development Project.

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2018, by Resolution No. NNGEJUN-003-18, (attached hereto and marked as Attachment "D"), the Enterprise Board of Directors approved the Tribal Grant Agreement to secure the \$8,300,000 for the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, it is the mutual desire of the parties hereto that the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant development project move forward in an expeditious manner; and

WHEREAS, it is the mutual desire of the parties hereto to establish respective responsibilities to ensure effective cooperation and coordination of the development project:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the following:

1.0. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES:

A. The DED shall:

1. Upon execution of the Agreement, submit the necessary paperwork to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") and the Office of the Controller ("OOC") to wire transfer the total \$2,805,000 from the Navajo Nation to the Enterprise; and
2. Initiate and coordinate all required meetings among the Navajo Nation, Shiprock Chapter and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to identify land suitable for development including completing Phase 2 testing and sampling of potential hazardous materials of the Shiprock Administrative Reserve (SAR). The BIA shall be responsible for remediation of the SAR, if necessary;
3. Assist in completing all required clearances necessary to issue a Business Site Lease for the development project based upon a mutually agreed upon location between the DED and the Enterprise. The required clearances, studies, and surveys for the Business Site Lease shall be paid for by the DED; and
4. As part of the larger economic development vision for the Shiprock community, complete the Shiprock Master Plan, which will include the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant development. Completion of the Master Plan shall be done within 9 months following execution of the Agreement; and
5. Support and assist the Enterprise, as needed, with all infrastructure planning, coordination and participation in all necessary meetings with the Shiprock community and Navajo Tribal Utility Authority.

6. Financially commit up to the Project Funds and other funds associated with subsection (3) and (4) of this section.

B. The Enterprise shall:

1. Provide complete oversight, management and responsibility for the Development Project; and
2. Complete its market studies, traffic impact study, and hotel and restaurant program design, including calculations of utility loads for NTUA's planning purposes.
3. Provide to the DED, the OMB and the OOC, quarterly expenditure reports related to infrastructure planning, design and development, within 30 days after the quarter; and
4. Provide to the DED, the OMB and the OOC a final expenditure report within 120 days of issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.
5. Own, operate and manage the hotel and restaurant facility upon completion of the development project.

C. The Navajo Nation, DED and Enterprise shall consider the following:

1. If the Enterprise determines that it requires more funds than the Project Funds for infrastructure of the Development Project, the Enterprise and DED may cooperatively work together to identify new funds to cover the short fall of the infrastructure.
2. Working cooperatively to develop a Navajo design and brand concept for this Project and future Projects as deemed appropriate.

2.0 EFFECTIVE DATE, TERM, AND TERMINATION

- A. The term of this Agreement shall become effective on the last date signed by all Parties.**

This Agreement shall remain in effect until the Development Project is completed.

- B. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party with sixty (60) days written notice of intent to terminate the Agreement. Notice to DED shall be forwarded to the Executive Director of DED via certified mail, return receipt requested at the Navajo Division of Economic Development, P.O. Box 663, Window Rock, Arizona 86515. Notice to the Enterprise shall be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer via certified mail, return receipt requested at Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise, P.O. Box 1700, Church Rock, New Mexico 87311, or such other address as either Party may designate in writing to the other at some future date.**

3.0 SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST

The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of all Parties to the Agreement and the respective successors and assignees, regardless of any change in Navajo Nation or Enterprise administration, unless the Agreement is terminated as provided in the Agreement.

4.0 AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY APPLICABLE LAWS

The Parties and their employees and agents agree to abide by all laws, regulations, and ordinances of the Navajo Nation, (including, but not limited to the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act, 5 N.N.C. §201 *et. seq.* and the Navajo Preference in Employment Act, 15 N.N.C. §601 *et. seq.*) and all applicable laws, regulations and the New Mexico Gaming Compact now in force or as may be hereafter in force and effect, while performing under this Agreement.

5.0 GOVERNING LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Except as expressly prohibited by applicable federal law, the laws of the Navajo Nation shall govern the construction, performance and enforcement of this Agreement. The Parties shall endeavor to resolve claims, disputes and any other matter in question between them by informal good faith negotiation. In the event the Parties are unable to reach informal resolution, either Party, or both, may notify the other in writing of intent to terminate the Agreement in accordance with Section 2.0 of this Agreement and any and all obligations encumbered through the termination date shall be honored.

6.0 NO WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

Nothing set forth in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver, express or implied, of the sovereign immunity of the Navajo Nation including the Enterprise.

7.0 NOTICES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

All correspondence, reports, invoices and other notices shall be delivered to the following addresses:

To ENTERPRISE:	Chief Executive Officer
	Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
	P.O. Box 1700
	Church Rock, NM 87311

Executive Director of Development
Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
P.O. Box 1700
Church Rock, NM 87311

To DED: Executive Director
Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development
P.O. Box 663
Window Rock, AZ 86515

8.0 FORCE MAJEURE

No Party to this Agreement shall be held responsible for delay or default caused by fires, riots, acts of God and/or war which is beyond the reasonable control of the Parties.

9.0 SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement is declared unlawful, invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining terms and provisions shall remain in effect and the rights and obligations of the Parties shall be construed as valid and enforced.

10.0 AMENDMENTS

The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be waived, altered, modified, supplemented, or amended except upon written approval of the Parties.

11.0 THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY

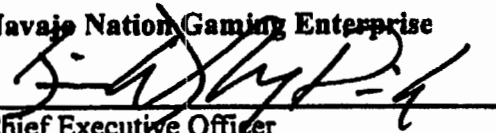
This Agreement does not and is not intended to create rights in any person(s) or entities other than the Parties to this Agreement.

12.0 ANNUAL REVIEW

The Parties will conduct a mutual, good faith annual review of this Agreement to evaluate compliance with the agreement terms. The review will be done annually from the execution date of this Agreement.

This Agreement shall take effect on the date the last signature is affixed as indicated below. This Agreement may be executed by up to three counterparts; each to be treated as the original.

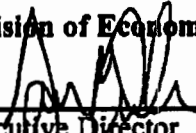
Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise



Chief Executive Officer

7/17/18
Date

Division of Economic



Executive Director

7/17/18
Date

NAVAJO NATION



President

7/31/2018
Date



NNGEJUN-002-18

**RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE; ESTABLISHING THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE ENTERPRISE AND THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN FURTHERANCE OF THE SHIPROCK HOTEL AND RESTAURANT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT; ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF \$2,805,000 FROM THE NAVAJO NATION FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS CONSISTENT WITH RESOLUTION NOS. CAP-19-16 AND RDCJY-79-17; AND APPROVING THE PROJECT CHARTER IDENTIFYING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RESPECTIVE PARTIES

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise (the "Enterprise") is a wholly-owned enterprise of the Navajo Nation established pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1701 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1707(A), the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Enterprise is the governing body of the Enterprise responsible for establishing the overall policies and objectives for the management of the Enterprise, and for overseeing the business and affairs of the Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1708, the Interim Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO") of the Enterprise executes the general policies formulated by the Board and is the active, operating executive of the Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1705(E), the Enterprise has the power and authority to enter into, make, assign, and take assignments of any and all forms of contracts for any purpose that is reasonably related to the lawful purposes of the Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CAP-19-16 (attached hereto and marked as Attachment "A"), the Navajo Nation approved the Navajo Nation Permanent Fund Income Five-Year Expenditure Plan. The Plan authorizes expenditures for water and economic development projects, including a total of \$8,300,000 to the Enterprise to develop, design, construct, start-up and operate a hotel and restaurant in Shiprock, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation allocated an additional \$2,805,000 of Navajo Nation Sales Tax revenues for this project. Pursuant to Resources and Development Committee Resolution No. RDCJY-79-17 (attached hereto and marked as Attachment "B"), the Committee approved the Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development Five Year Plan for 2016-2021. The Plan authorizes \$2,805,000 to design, develop and construct the infrastructure for the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant development; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant development project is carried out in partnership with the Navajo Nation and the Division of Economic Development; to ensure that the Enterprise receives, in total, the \$2,805,000 for Sales Tax revenue allocated for the project; and to ensure compliance by the respective parties of the Project Charter, a Memorandum of Agreement ("Agreement") Between the Navajo Nation and the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise is necessary. The Agreement is attached hereto and marked as Attachment C.

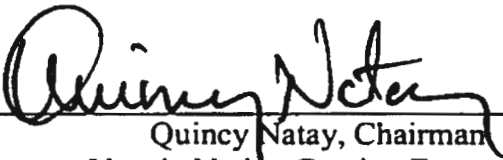
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Navajo Nation and the Division of Economic Development and the Project Charter, incorporated and referenced herein. Attachment C.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors hereby accepts the Sales Tax revenue of \$2,805,000 identified and dedicated for this project pursuant Resources and Development Committee Resolution No. RDCJY-79-17. Attachment B.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors hereby directs the Chief Executive Officer to submit all required documents related to this approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors at a duly called meeting, at which a quorum was present, and the same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstained, this 2nd day of June, 2018.



Quincy Natay, Chairman
Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
Board of Directors

Motion: Melinda Tomchee
Second: Leah Claw

**RESOLUTION OF THE
MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE
NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE**

Resolution No. 2021-4

Supporting Transfer of Funds from the Permanent Trust Fund of 8.3 Million to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise. The Funds would only be used for the Development and Construction of a Shiprock Hotel. Additional Funding of Approximately 12 Million from the Navajo Nation to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise is Required to Complete Construction of the Shiprock Hotel.

WHEREAS, The Navajo Nation Council is considering a transfer of funding and responsibility for development and construction of a Hotel and Restaurant in Shiprock, NM. The funding and responsibility for development and construction currently resides with the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise. That funding and responsibility would be transferred to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise.

WHEREAS, The Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise ("NNHE") is an enterprise organized and duly formed pursuant to Title 5, Subchapter 9 of the Navajo Nation Code, is owned entirely and exclusively by the Navajo Nation and is in good standing; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to NNHE's Plan of Operation, as amended, which has been authorized by the Navajo Nation Tribal Council by Resolution CD-79-02 dated December 30, 2002, all in accordance with applicable law, NNHE's Management Board is empowered to act on behalf of NNHE; and

WHEREAS, The Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise has the experience and expertise to undertake the development and construction of the Shiprock Hotel Project. Additional funds of approximately 12 Million are estimated to be needed in order to complete the Project. NNHE does not sufficient funds to complete the Project and these additional funds would have to be granted by the Navajo Nation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Management Board hereby supports the transfer of funds from the Permanent Trust Fund and assignment of responsibility for development and construction of the Shiprock Hotel Project subject to receipt of additional funds from the Navajo Nation of approximately 12 Million, which is necessary to complete the Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That any funds received are to be used solely for the development and construction of the Shiprock Hotel Project and that if the additional funding of approximately 12 Million is not made available within the next 12 months then

any unexpended funds directly related to the Project shall be returned to the Permanent Trust Fund.

**NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE
MANAGEMENT BOARD**

By: 

Lorenzo Max

Chairman, Management Board

CERTIFICATION

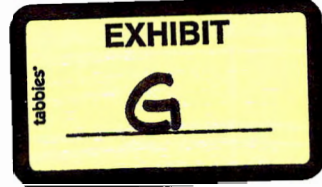
The above resolution was duly adopted by the Management Board of the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise by vote conducted on the 11th day of May, 2021, at a meeting of the Management Board at which a quorum voted:

4 FOR, -0- AGAINST, -0- ABSTAIN.

Certified by: 

Otto Tso

Secretary, Management Board



NNGEJUN-002-21

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF THE SHIPROCK HOTEL AND RESTAURANT
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO NO. CAP-19-16 TO THE
NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE**

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise ("Enterprise") is a wholly-owned enterprise of the Navajo Nation established pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1701 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1707(A), the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Enterprise is the governing body of the Enterprise responsible for establishing the overall policies and objectives for the management of the Enterprise, and for overseeing the business and affairs of the Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1708, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Enterprise executes the general policies formulated by the Board and is the active, operating executive of the Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1705(E), the Enterprise has the power and authority to enter into, make, assign, and take assignments of any and all forms of contracts for any purpose that is reasonably related to the lawful purposes of the Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CAP-19-16, the Navajo Nation approved the Navajo Nation Permanent Fund Income Five-Year Expenditure Plan that authorizes expenditures for water and economic development projects, including a total of \$8,305,000 to the Enterprise to develop, design, construct, start-up and operate a hotel and restaurant in Shiprock, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation allocated an additional \$2,805,000 of Navajo Nation Sales Tax revenues for this project pursuant to the Resources and Development Committee's, (Resolution No. RDCJY-79-17) approval of the Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development Five Year Plan for 2016-2021. The Plan authorizes \$2,805,000 to design, develop and construct the infrastructure for the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant development; and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2021, the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council convened a Permanent Trust Fund meeting to discuss the transfer of the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant project from the NNGE to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise (NNGE). Attached hereto and incorporated for reference is the June 23, 2021 agenda – see EXHIBIT A; and

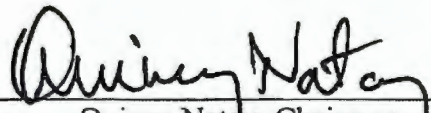
WHEREAS, although no formal action was taken, the general consensus of the meeting participants and several others who spoke on the record, support the transfer of the project from NNGE to NNHE.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise hereby approves the transfer of the Shiprock Hotel and Restaurant project to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors hereby directs the Interim Chief Executive Officer to submit all required documents related to this approval, including transfer of initial funds back to the Navajo Nation and termination of any and all related agreements between the Navajo Nation and the NNGE.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors, at a duly called meeting, at which a quorum was present, and the same was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstained, this 27th day of June 2021


Quincy Natay, Chairman
Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
Board of Directors

Motion: Kristina Haskell
Second: Robert Winter



NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE



August 30, 2021

Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton
Via Electronic Mail: echarles-newton@navajo-nsn.gov

RE: Shiprock Hotel: Additional Funds Request

Dear Honorable Charles-Newton:

We have completed a review of the estimated current cost to complete the construction of the hotel and restaurant in Shiprock, NM. Our construction cost estimates are based on known costs for similar types of construction and development projects.

Total Estimated Construction and Development Costs \$21,700,000

Utility upgrade needed: (by NTUA) 800,000

Total Estimated Costs to Complete 22,500,000

Less: Funds Previously Authorized:

Permanent Trust Fund 8,300,000

Sales Tax Fund – Division of Economic Development 2,805,000

Total Previously Authorized 11,105,000

Additional Funds Requested (Rounded)

\$11,400,000

per EXH A -
Reso. No.
CAP-19-16
\$5.5 m
+ \$2.8 m
= \$8.3 m

Please let us know if you need additional information as part of requesting the additional funding to complete the Shiprock Hotel Project.

Sincerely,

Stan M. Sapp
Chief Executive Officer



NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE

November 16, 2021

Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton
 Via Electronic Mail: ECharles-Newton@Navajo-NSN.GOV

RE: Shiprock Hotel: Expenditure Plan Including Sihasin Fund Expenditures

Dear Honorable Charles-Newton,

We have completed the sources and use of funds to complete the construction of a hotel and restaurant in Shiprock, NM. The currently planned Hotel and Restaurant includes the following characteristics:

- AAA 3 Diamond Property
- 80 Rooms; Navajo Design
- Full Service Themed Restaurant
- Indoor Pool, Meeting Rooms

The Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise is requesting Sihasin Funds of \$11,400,000 to be a grant and accordingly, would not be repaid.

Source of Funds:

Sihasin Funds (Grant Requested)	\$11,400,000
Permanent Trust Fund	8,300,000
Sales Tax Fund – Division of Economic Development	<u>2,805,000</u>
Total Source of Funds	<u>\$22,505,000</u>

Use of Funds:

Architecture and Design	\$970,000
Site Improvements	700,000
Utility Relocation and Upgrade Required; (by NTUA)	800,000
Building(s) Construction	17,985,000



NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE

Furniture and Equipment – Hotel	1,500,000
Furniture and Equipment – Restaurant	<u>550,000</u>
Total Use of Funds	<u>\$22,505,000</u>

Development Timeline

The following timeline is based upon a start date of when funds are first made available.

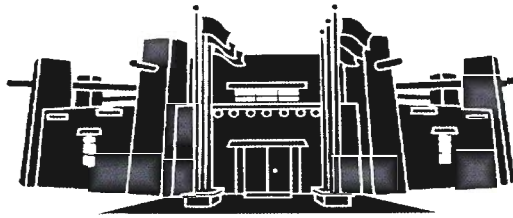
Months

3	Completion of Site Layout and Building Architecture Design
1.5	Bidding and Selection of General Contractor
3-4	NTUA Completion of Utility Relocation and Upgrade
12	Hotel and Restaurant Building Construction; Site Work Portion of Construction Concurrent With Utility Relocation and Upgrade
3	Equipment and Furnishing Installation

Please let us know if you need additional information for the Shiprock Hotel Project.


Sincerely,

Stanley M. Sapp
Chief Executive Officer



MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Delegate Eugenia Charles-Newton, Chairperson
Law and Order Committee
24th Navajo Nation Council

FROM: 
Lurafene D. Tapahe, Principal Advocate
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: November 17, 2021

SUBJECT: **AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING CAP-19-16 TO TRANSFER THE RESPONSIBILITY AND PERMANENT TRUST FUND INTEREST FUNDING FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT FROM THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE TO THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE; ALLOCATING \$11,400,000 FROM THE SÍHASIN FUND TO THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE FOR THE SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT AND APPROVING THE NNHE'S SHIPROCK HOTEL-RESTAURANT PROJECT EXPENDITURE PLAN PURSUANT TO 12 N.N.C §§2501 – 2508**

Per your request, the Office of Legislative Counsel has prepared the above-referenced proposed legislation and related summary sheet. Based on existing Navajo Nation law and other applicable laws, and upon review of all supporting documents submitted to OLC, this legislation as drafted is legally sufficient. However, as with any action of government, this legislation may be subject to review by the Navajo Nation courts in the event of proper legal challenge.

Please ensure that this legislation is precisely what you want. You are encouraged to review this proposed legislation to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction.

OLC has reviewed the appropriate standing committees' authorities to consider this legislation, based on the standing committees' powers and responsibilities set forth in Title 2 of the Navajo Nation Code. Based on its review, OLC has listed those committees in the title of this legislation. Nevertheless, the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council may assign this legislation to committee(s) other than those shown in the title, pursuant to his authority under 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

If you find this document unacceptable for any reason, please immediately contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel (at extension 7166) and advise me of the changes you would like made to this proposed legislation. Thank you.

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0258-21_

SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending CAP-19-16 to Transfer the Responsibility and Permanent Trust Fund Interest Funding for the Shiprock Hotel Restaurant Project From the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise; Allocating \$11,400,000 from the Síhasin Fund to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise for the Shiprock Hotel-Restaurant Project and Approving the NNHE'S Shiprock Hotel Restaurant Project Expenditure Plan Pursuant to 12 N.N.C. §§2501-2508

Date posted: November 30, 2021 at 5:08PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*