

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- THIRD YEAR, 2017

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BUDGET AND FINANCE,
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING CONTINUED U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT FUNDING FOR THE NAVAJO NATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Authorities

- A. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and is empowered to "represent the Navajo Nation at local, state, and federal levels, in cooperation and coordination with the President of the Navajo Nation and the appropriate committee of the Navajo Nation Council on proposed resolutions or actions affecting natural resources; energy resources; economic and community development; road and transportation matters; capital improvement projects, including recommending approval of the annual capital improvement projects budget of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Services and other departments or agencies of the United States; and housing development." 2 N.N.C. § 501(B)(5); CO-45-12.
- B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. 301(B)(5), the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council "coordinate[s] and review[s] all fiscal, financial and investment activities of the Navajo Nation and its enterprises, as well as other agencies, federal, state, regional and private, expending or seeking to expend funds within the Navajo Nation or for the benefit of the Navajo People."
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council "coordinate[s] all federal, county and state programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most efficient delivery of services to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(4); CO-45-12.

Section Two. Findings

- A. The mission of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination, and transform the way HUD does business." <https://www.hud.gov>. With

respect to funding Indian housing, the role of the Office of Public and Indian Housing within HUD "is to ensure safe, decent, and affordable housing; create opportunities for residents' self-sufficiency and economic independence; and assure fiscal integrity by all program participants." *Id.*

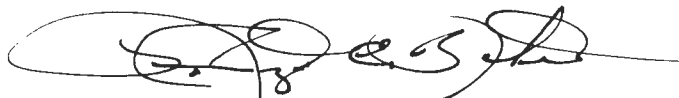
- B. The territory of the Navajo Nation covers approximately 27,425 square miles, extending into three states - Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. The unemployment rate is 42%, and 43% of the residents live below the poverty level. Decent housing continues to be a problem. For example, over 40% of Navajo homes lack electricity and more than 50% lack plumbing and a sanitary long-term reliable water system. See Exhibit "C," *Impact Statement* prepared by the Navajo Nation Community Development Block Program.
- C. Funds from HUD for the Navajo Nation Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) support infrastructure projects, such as powerlines and waterlines. Currently, \$3,420,000 is needed for powerline service for 60 households and \$12,500,000 for waterlines for 50 households. To properly administer these services, funding in the amount of \$17,193,600 is also necessary.
- D. It is crucial that HUD continues funding Indian housing programs, including the Navajo Nation ICDBG.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Navajo Nation supports continued U.S. Housing Urban Development funding for the Navajo Nation Community Development Block Grant Program. The Navajo Nation further supports the *Impact Statement* prepared by the program marked as Exhibit "C."

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the 23rd 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 11 in favor and 00 oppose, this 6th day of July, 2017 .



Honorable LoRenzo C. Bates, Chairperson
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

Motion: Honorable Lee Jack, Sr.
Second: Honorable Walter Phelps
Chairperson not voting

(10)

23rd Navajo Nation Council
Naabik'iyati' Committee

Date: July 6, 2017

Legislation No. 0158-17

Motion: Lee Jack, Sr.

Second: Walter Phelps

ALL DELEGATES:

| | Yea | Nay |
|----------------------|-----|-----|
| BATES, LoRenzo C. | | |
| BEGAY, Kee Allen Jr. | | |
| BEGAY, Norman M. | | |
| BEGAY, Steven | | |
| BEGAYE, Nelson | | |
| BENNETT, Benjamin L. | | |
| BROWN, Nathaniel | | |
| CHEE, Tom T. | | |
| CROTTY, Amber K. | | |
| DAMON, Seth | | |
| DANIELS, Herman | | |
| FILFRED, Davis | | |
| HALE, Jonathan L. | | |
| JACK, Lee Sr. | | |
| PERRY, Jonathan | | |
| PETE, Leonard H. | | |
| PHELPS, Walter | | |
| SHEPHERD, Alton Joe | | |
| SLIM, Tuchoney Jr. | | |
| SMITH, Raymond Jr. | | |
| TSO, Otto | | |
| TSOSIE, Leonard | | |
| WITHERSPOON, Dwight | | |
| YAZZIE, Edmund | | |


BY COMMITTEE:

| | Yea | Nay | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| BFC: | | | |
| CHEE, Tom T. | ✓ | | |
| DAMON, Seth | | | |
| JACK, Lee Sr. | ✓ | | |
| SLIM, Tuchoney Jr. | | | |
| WITHERSPOON, Dwight | | | |
| TSOSIE, Leonard | | | 2 |
| HEHSC: | | | |
| BEGAY, Norman M. | ✓ | | |
| BEGAY, Steven | | | |
| BEGAYE, Nelson | | | |
| BROWN, Nathaniel | | | |
| CROTTY, Amber K. | ✓ | | |
| HALE, Jonathan L. | | | 2 |
| LOC: | | | |
| BEGAY, Kee Allen Jr. | | | |
| DANIELS, Herman | ✓ | | |
| SMITH, Raymond Jr. | ✓ | | |
| TSO, Otto | ✓ | | |
| YAZZIE, Edmund | ✓ | | 4 |
| RDC: | | | |
| BENNETT, Benjamin L. | ✓ | | |
| FILFRED, Davis | | | |
| PERRY, Jonathan | | | |
| PETE, Leonard H. | | | |
| PHELPS, Walter | ✓ | | |
| SHEPHERD, Alton Joe | ✓ | | 3 |
| SPEAKER: | | | |
| BATES, LoRenzo C. | 11 | 0 | |
| (Votes only in a tie) | | | 11 |

GRAND TOTAL

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

CERTIFICATION:



Honorable LoRenzo C. Bates

Speaker




THE NAVAJO NATION

RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT
JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT

June 08, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO : Honorable Speaker Lorenzo Bates
NAABIK'IYATI' ("NAABI") COMMITTEE MEMBERS
THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

FROM : 
James Adakai, Programs and Project Specialist
Community Development Block Grant/CHID

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION NO. 0158-17: Supporting Continued U.S. Housing and Urban Development Funding for the Navajo Nation Community Development Block Grant Program

The Navajo Nation Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program is in support of the NAABI Legislation to request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") to continue funding the ICDBG under FY 2018 and beyond.

The Navajo Nation has applied for ICDBG funding for approximately 41 years, primarily for low-moderate income Navajo families. The ICDBG funds have been used to match infrastructure projects across the Navajo reservation. The outcomes and outputs of ICDBG funding have tremendously benefitted Navajo families in many respects, from alleviating or reducing the health conditions to improving lighting for School-Age children in very remote communities.

The following are exhibits to support NAABI Legislation No. 0158-17:

1. **Exhibit "A" - CDBG Program Brochure.**
2. **Exhibit "B" - NAABI PowerPoint Presentation**
3. **Exhibit "C" - Impact Statement**
4. **Exhibit "D" - CDBG Program Clean HUD Review**

In summary, the NAABI Legislation No. 0158-17 will definitely aid to capture the attention of U.S. Congress and the Trump administration regarding the urgent need to continue the ICDBG funding in order to improve the quality of life to the remaining, over 40 percent Navajo families who are lacking powerline and waterline service.

The passage of this legislation will address the need for a long-term, reliable, sanitary water and power line service in the future. In addition, ICDBG as a catalyst will continue to support future community and economic development in Navajo land.

Division of Community Development

Carl Smith, Executive Director
Division of Community Development

CDBG PERSONNEL

James Adakai, Programs and Projects Specialist
Patrick Dalgai, Field Supervisor
Vacant, Field Supervisor
Orlinda Cleveland, Accountant
Brenda Notah, Senior Office Specialist
Saraphina Curley, Office Assistant

Resources & Development Committee

Alton Shepherd, Chair
Fort Defiance Agency

Benjamin Bennett, Vice Chair
Ft. Defiance Agency

Leonard Tsosie
Eastern Navajo Agency

Davis Filfred
Nothorn Agency

Leonard Pete
Chinle Agency

Walter Phelps
Western Agency

CHECKLIST FOR PROPOSALS

1. Eligible Activities outlined inside the brochure.
2. The proposed activity is determined feasible by cooperating agencies (NTUA, IHS, DES, etc.). The activity is on the priority list for implementation. An agency is committed to assume maintenance & operation (M&O) where appropriate. Otherwise, applicant must provide viable M&O plan.
3. Firm cost estimate is provided by cooperating agency for the construction activity.
4. Pre-construction tasks are cleared or completely financed & project only needs construction funds to achieve the intended purpose of the overall project.

NOTE: Pre-construction pertains to archaeological clearance, environmental assessment, rights-of-way, design & engineering, etc.

5. Applicant has secured contributions (non-CDBG) matching equal to at least 25% of the cost of activity being undertaken. Pre-incurred contributions are ineligible for matching.
6. The activity is realistic and achievable within two (2) year period from the date funded.
7. The proposal is completed based on criteria of latest NOFA and supported by the applicable documents listed below:
 - Chapter Resolution
 - CDBG Form B or demographic survey (income data)
 - Letters (including commitment of contributions) from organizations and committee supporting the project.
 - Map of project location, floor plan, schematic drawings, etc.



THE NAVAJO NATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

P.O. Box 2365
Window Rock, Arizona 86515
Phone: (928) 871-6564 Fax: (928) 871-7418
Email: admin@nnchid.org

Marlon Stevens, Department Manager II
Community Housing &
Infrastructure Department
(CHID)
(928) 729-4290

Website: www.nnchid.org

Division of Community Development
Website: www.nndcd.org



HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

The Navajo Nation Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) began its operation in 1976 under the Office of Program Development, which is now called the Division of Community Development. In 1978, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established CDBG program exclusively for Indian Tribes. In 1981, ceiling limits were imposed on CDBG funding based on the population of Tribes. The maximum eligibility for the Navajo Nation is currently \$5.5 million per grant year.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The Program objective is to develop viable Navajo Communities principally for persons of low and moderate income. Viable communities include decent housing, suitable living conditions, and economic opportunities for the Navajo people.

ROLE OF THE PROGRAM

The CDBG Program serves as a liaison between HUD and the Navajo Nation and is responsible for administering the program consistently with applicable guidelines and standards. The CDBG recommends proposed funding considerations, monitors the approved projects, interprets HUD rules and regulations, and provides technical assistance on proposal writing, etc.

NATURE OF THE PROGRAM

CDBG is competitive in nature. The demand for funds and needs far exceeds the amount of funds available. Thus, only quality and eligible projects are selected for funding consideration.

CDBG assists projects on community basis to serve multiple citizens. Individual assistance is ineligible. Leveraging is one of the key factors in the success of the proposal. Applicants are advised to secure non-CDBG sources equal to at least 25% of the total project cost. Leveraging points assigns up to a

maximum of (8) points on a (100) point rating system. Other components of the selection criteria are addressed in Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) guide for each eligible activity.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HUD has awarded approximately \$139.4 million to the Nation since the CDBG program began operation. The Program has assisted 255 projects, which included: waterlines, powerline extensions, clinic building facility, housing rehabilitation and economic development.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All 110 Chapters and other nonprofit entities of the Nation may submit proposals for CDBG funding consideration.

APPLICATION PROCESS

There is no yearly set schedule on CDBG funding process. HUD issues NOFA at least (30) days prior to the application due date. NOFA contains the deadline dates, selection criteria, and availability of CDBG grant funds for the upcoming funding round.

Public Hearings are scheduled to include the five agencies. The public is informed of the date, time and location of the hearings on local radio station, newspapers and correspondences. The public hearings provide the opportunity to the public to obtain views and comments on community development and housing needs. Also, proposal requirements and guidelines are provided. The deadline for chapters to submit proposals to CDBG Office is announced publicly and at the hearings.

CDBG strongly encourages interested persons or applicants to attend one of the hearings that are scheduled annually at the agencies.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Public facilities and Improvements *Infrastructure (i.e. powerline, water/wastewater, solid waste facilities and road projects); buildings, (i.e., multipurpose, preschool, senior centers, etc.).* NOTE: Chapter houses & other facilities used for governmental or political purposes are ineligible activities.
- Land Acquisition – such as real property that is for any public purposes.
- Public Services – Counseling; employment, crime prevention, health, child care, drug abuse, education, fair housing counseling, energy conservation, homebuyer development assistance or recreational needs.
- Economic Development
- Micro Enterprise Assistance

Rating Factors for eligible proposals are rated on a 100 pt system based on the following components:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Capacity | 30 pts. |
| 2. Need/Extent of Problem | 19 pts. |
| 3. Soundness of Approach | 33 pts. |
| 4. Leveraging Resources | 8 pts. |
| 5. Comprehensive and Coordination | <u>10 pts.</u> 100 pts |

**COMMUNITY HOUSING AND
INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT**
Community Development Block Grant Program



Budget & Finance (B&F) Committee Presentation
June 8, 2017

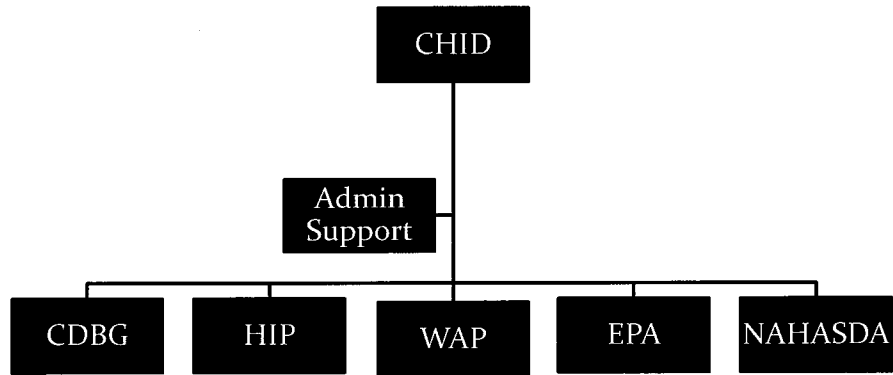
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ESTABLISHMENT

- **Community Housing & Infrastructure Department (CHID)** is under the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development and was established in 2008.
- Plan of Operation GSCO-27-08
- To promote and develop improved living conditions for Navajo families and strengthen communities throughout programs for community housing, utility services, public facilities and economic development improvements.

2

Organizational Chart



3

Definitions

1. **CHID = Community Housing & Infrastructure Department**
2. **HUD = U.S. Housing & Urban Development**
 - Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)
 - (Infrastructure, public facilities, econ dev)
 - 24 CFR 1003
 - 24 CFR Part 58

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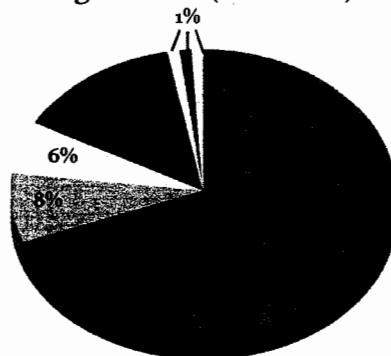
Strategic Plan Statement

- **Vision:**
"PROMOTING VIABLE COMMUNITIES THROUGH NAVAJO VALUES"
- **Mission:**
"SUSTAIN THE QUALITY OF LIFE: BY INTEGRATING CULTURAL VALUES THROUGH PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT IN NAVAJO COMMUNITIES"

5

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Funding Sources (2010-2016)



■ HUD (ICDBG): \$22,008,577
 ■ NTUA: \$2,236,617
 ■ I.H.S.: \$2,963,000
 ■ Chapters: \$2,264,502
 ■ EPA: \$3,889,000
 ■ SRP: \$912,806
 ■ UNTF: \$141,061
 ■ NN UUFB: \$251,807
 ■ NAHASDA: \$228,221
Total: \$34,895,591

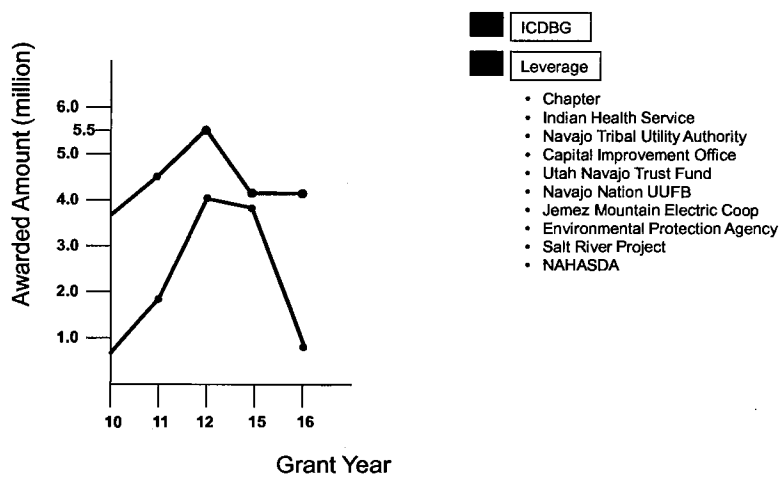
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ICDBG Funding (2010-2016)

| Fiscal Year | Budget Allocation | Number of Projects | Number of Homes | Number of People |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2010 | 3,722,153 | 5 | 89 | 494 |
| 2011 | \$4,506,720 | 7 | 158 | 650 |
| 2012 | \$5,500,000 | 10 | 228 | 893 |
| 2015 | 4,121,557 | 6 | 124 | 452 |
| 2016 | 4,158,147 | 9 | 95 | 456 |
| Total: | 22,008,577 | 37 | 694 | 2,945 |

7

ICDBG Dollars to Other Sources



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ICDBG Number Of Miles for Infrastructure (2010-2016)

Powerline

- Main Trunk Line and Service Line: 250.45 miles

Water/Wastewater

- Main Truck Line and Service Line: 100.12 miles

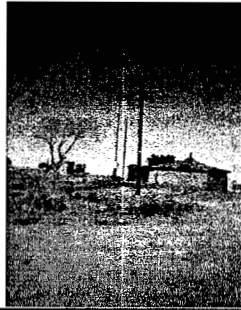
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ICDBG Special Projects

1. Shiprock Sewer Project
 - Installed a new "state of the art" sewer system for residence in the farm area.
 - Sewer is vacuumed to a treatment center, liquefied, pumped to a water treatment and discharged back into the river.
2. Dennehotso Substation Upgrade
 - Upgraded to a three phase line capacity for future development.
3. Rock Point Sub-station Upgrade
 - Upgraded the entire Chinle valley with three-phase powerline.
4. Four Corners Waterline
 - Provided water into the Four Corners Monument for the first time.
5. Chinle Water Treatment Project
 - Purified water system and clear the discoloration.

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Powerline Projects



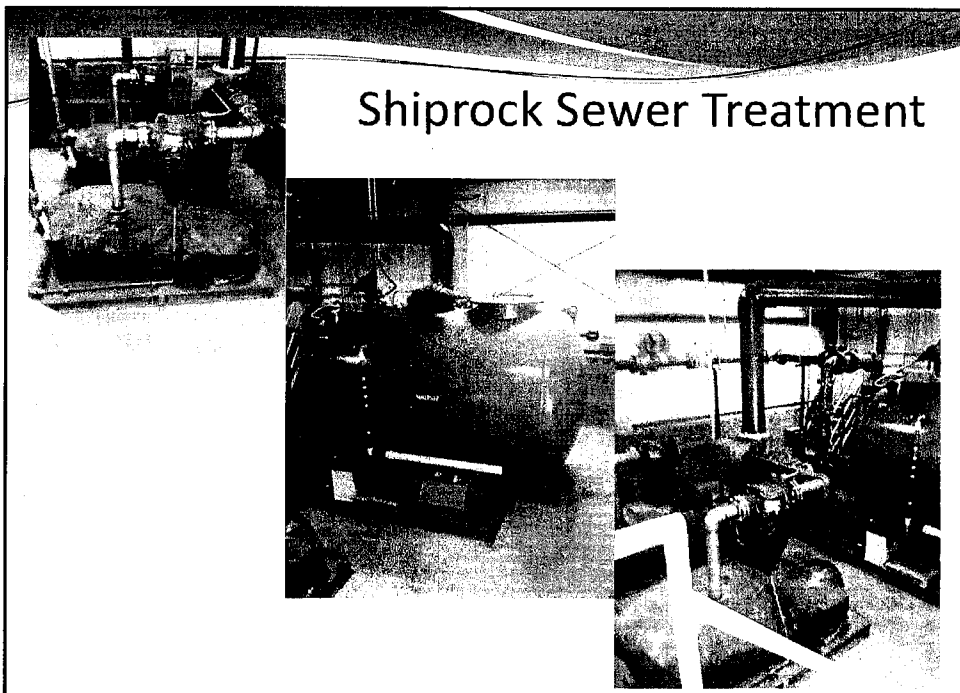
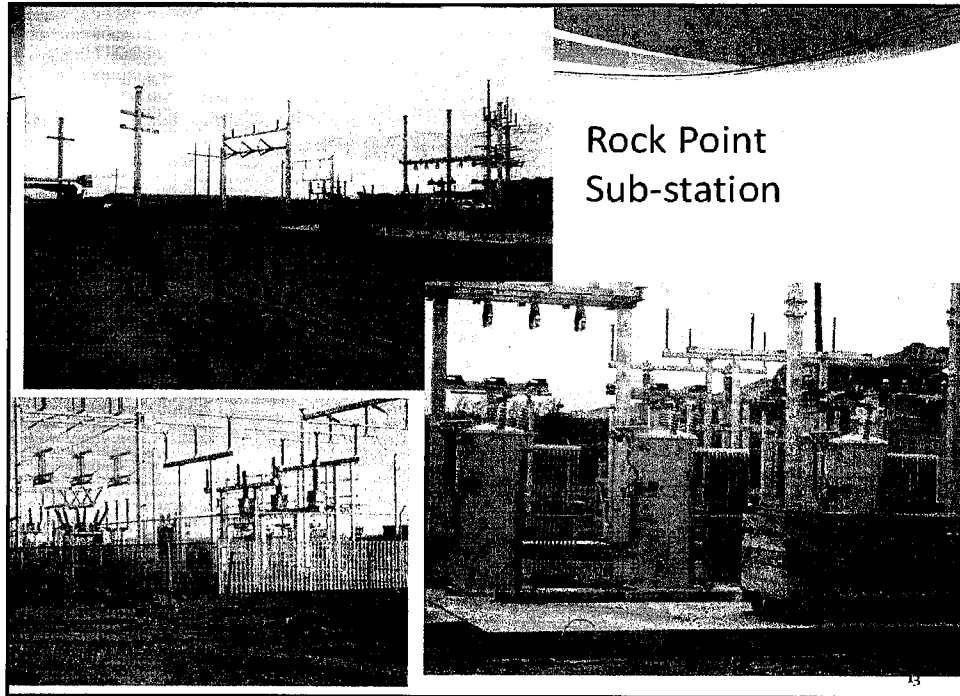
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Water/wastewater

- Bathroom Additions is done prior to construction



12



Thank You.

Navajo Nation
Community Development Block Grant
P.O. 2365
Window Rock, Arizona 86515
Phone: (928) 729-4442
Fax: (928) 729-4452
Email: admin@nnchid.org
Website: www.nnchid.org

15

Navajo Nation Community Development Block Grant Program**Impact Statement**

April 6, 2017

Division of Community Development**Community Housing & Infrastructure Department**

The Navajo Nation Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program has been applying and receiving ICDBG funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on a cost-sharing basis for over a period of nearly four decades. This funding source mostly helped finance the infrastructure projects like powerline and waterline. The Nation has been consistently meeting HUD's main objective to develop viable Navajo communities with decent housing, suitable living conditions, and providing economic opportunities.

It is vitally imperative to continue promoting this critical joint effort in order to address the unmet needs by serving Navajo families with much needed infrastructure service in rural communities. The CDBG projects encompasses the vast Navajo reservation land, which is approximately 27,425 square miles and it extends into three states, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah.

Since the inception of ICDBG in 1978, HUD has awarded approximately \$140 million and assisted approximately 230 projects in Navajo. It is therefore, essentially important for HUD continue providing essential services to low income families in a very socio-economically distressed community in stifled economy with 42% unemployment rate and 43% lives below poverty rate. In addition, over 40 % of Navajo homes still lack electricity and more than 50 percent lacks plumbing, a sanitary-long term-reliable water system.

The current need is for \$3,420,000 to serve approximately 60 households with powerline service and \$12,500,000 to serve 50 households with waterline service, which are mostly occupied by the elders and children. See cost breakdown on second page.

The negative impact due to zero funding would bring much less partnership with CDBG on infrastructure development projects. The impact, without doubt, would be tremendous and devastating in several factors.

- Without the needed resources, the Nation will not be able to provide funds for families who direly need powerline or waterline service and have been without such basic necessities all their lives.
- Chapters have paid the right-of-way costs as a commitment to provide their contributions. Local Utility companies will be responsible for Operation and Maintenance costs including their in-kind contribution of \$1,500 per home.

- Without leveraging these planned projects, will complicate and prolong the process of realizing service delivery. Much needed benefits to Navajo families will not be available.
- Lack of supplemental funding for powerline and waterline service will cause hardships, i.e., health problems, academic deficiencies among children, discourages orderly development and economic growth.
- 110 infrastructure projects are ready for construction. The projects will be implemented within a two-year period.

Currently, the Nation depends on the unmet needs funding request to serve Navajo families with much needed infrastructure which otherwise may not be available.

Infrastructure Cost - Current Need:

----- Navajo Nation Wide

| | # Homes: | Amount: |
|------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1. Powerline Extension | 60 | \$3,420,000 |

Subtotal:

----- Navajo Nation Wide

| | | |
|------------------------|----|--------------|
| 2. Waterline Extension | 50 | \$12,500,000 |
|------------------------|----|--------------|

Subtotal:

PROJECT TOTALS: 110 \$15,920,000

Administration Budget

----- 3. General Operations / Staffing

In-Direct Cost Expense 17.1 % \$74,133

Personnel, Travel, Supplies, Repair/Maintenance \$1,199,467

Administration Total: \$1,273,600

Grand Total: \$17,193,600

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Division of Community Development Newsletter

Newsletter

This is the April 2017 issue of the DCD newsletter. The newsletter is meant to be a resource for DCD employees to stay informed on DCD events, issues, and resources.

Did You Know...

That Navajo textiles shifted from blankets that could be worn to rugs based on the popularity of Oriental rugs in the 1890's. Early Indian Traders encouraged Navajos to weave their own version of Oriental rugs. The traders started selling them and were so successful that ultimately, all the Navajo weavers began making rugs for non-Indian homes.

www.arizonahighways.com/blog/qa-something-you-might-not-know-about-navajo-blankets

Upcoming Events

April 17-21: Navajo Nation Council Spring Session

April 22: Earth Day

April 18: Tax Day

April 24: HOLIDAY - Navajo Nation Sovereignty Day



CDBG Scores a Clean HUD Program Review

On Thursday, April 13, DCD staff from CHID, CDBG, and DCD Admin met with representatives from HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) and NNOMB, NNOOC, NTUA and IHS, for an exit conference. The three HUD officials (David Southerland, Deputy Administrator; Don Sam, Grants Evaluation Specialist; and Ann Gonzales, Grants Evaluation

Division of Community Development • P.O. Box 1904,
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www.nndcd.org



Specialist) came from the Phoenix and Albuquerque offices and had been on the Navajo Nation since Monday, April 10, doing an assessment on the CDBG Program.

The HUD team met with the Navajo Nation team, including OPVP, on Monday the 10th for an entrance conference. On Tuesday, the HUD team met with CDBG and OMB staff to review documentation for financial, environmental, Indian preference, and other compliances that CDBG needed to ensure they were following.

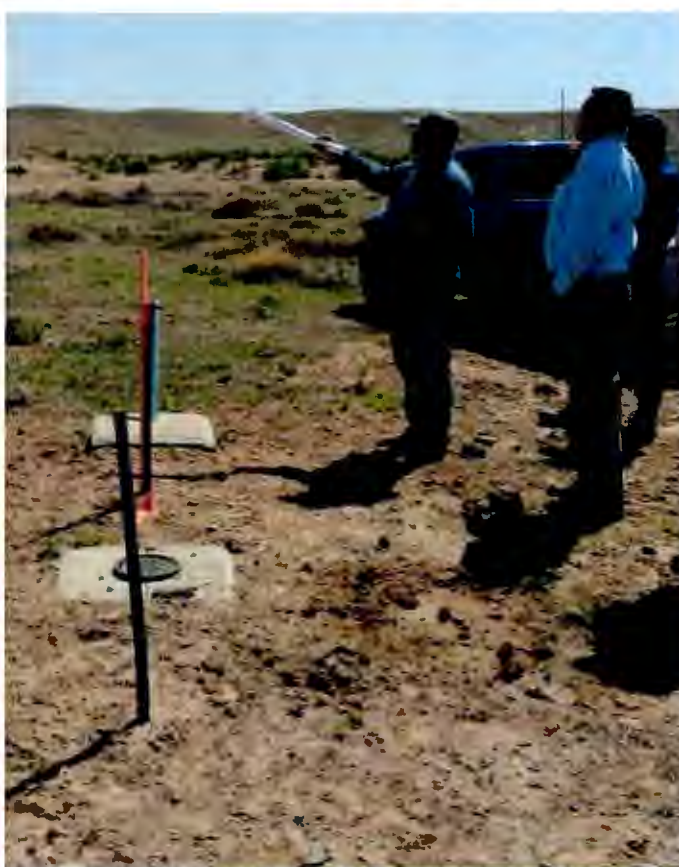
On the following day, the group performed site visits for the Chinle powerline and Many Farms waterline projects. Ms. Gonzales from the Albuquerque HUD office exclaimed, "I'm glad we got a chance to do the site visits. It really lets



you see how much need there is out there." The HUD team also encountered another reality that Navajo Nation residents face on a daily basis, driving on dirt roads. One of the vehicles got a flat tire.

At the end of the 4 days, the HUD team concluded that they did not find any issues with CDBG's performance and record-keeping, resulting in a clean review. The last time the CDBG program had a program review was in 2010, where the reviewers found a few issues. However, the CDBG program quickly addressed these issues. It is apparent that since that time, the staff have made it a point to master management of their program.

The significance of the review results should not be understated since this is a





major achievement. Congratulations go out to the CDBG staff for doing a great job and running such an effective and competent operation!

The CDBG Program is run very consistently and the staff are knowledgeable and competent. Mr. James Adakai, CDBG Program & Projects Specialist, reflected that most federal programs follow the same process that CDBG follows, including NHA, but many have negative reviews.

The tried and true operational approach that the CDBG program uses could be a model that the Navajo Nation incorporates into other similar programs to improve their effectiveness and efficiency.

DCD TRASH CLEANUP ACTIVITIES ALONG N-12



On Tuesday, April 18, the Division of Community Development departments went out to Ft. Defiance for the annual trash clean-up activities along Navajo Route 12, from the turn-off to the hospital for a stretch of about 2-3 miles to the north. DCD staff makes it a point of pride to participate in the annual trash clean-up activities, which coincide with Earth Day activities.



CDBG Program Completes Waterline Project



The CDBG Program recently completed the Ramah Water Line Project which will serve 29 homes. The amount of the project was \$1,267,000 and was completed in June 2016. The CDBG Program has been steadily pushing out these water line and power line projects over the years and when driving through the Navajo Nation at night, there are signs that power lines are reaching more and more people. Places that were completely dark at night, now have points of light where the security lights are now shining.



The Pagan Roots of Easter

by Heather McDougall

The Guardian (<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2010/apr/03/easter-pagan-symbolism>)



Hot cross buns: pagan symbols? Photograph: Alamy

Easter is a pagan festival. If Easter isn't really about Jesus, then what is it about? Today, we see a secular culture celebrating the spring equinox, whilst religious culture celebrates the resurrection. However, early Christianity made a pragmatic acceptance of ancient pagan practises, most of which we enjoy today at Easter. The general symbolic story of the death of the son (sun) on a cross (the constellation of the Southern Cross) and his rebirth, overcoming the powers of darkness, was a well worn story in the ancient world. There were plenty of parallel, rival resurrected saviours too.

The Sumerian goddess Inanna, or Ishtar, was hung naked on a stake, and was subsequently resurrected and ascended from the underworld. One of the oldest resurrection myths is Egyptian Horus. Born on 25 December, Horus and his damaged eye became symbols of life and rebirth. Mithras was born on what we now call Christmas day, and his followers celebrated the spring equinox. Even as late as the 4th century AD, the sol invictus, associated with Mithras, was the last great pagan cult the church had to

overcome. Dionysus was a divine child, resurrected by his grandmother. Dionysus also brought his mum, Semele, back to life.

From Ishtar to Eostre, the roots of the resurrection story go deep. We should embrace the pagan symbolism of Easter

In an ironic twist, the Cybele cult flourished on today's Vatican Hill. Cybele's lover Attis, was born of a virgin, died and was reborn annually. This spring festival began as a day of blood on Black Friday, rising to a crescendo after three days, in rejoicing over the resurrection. There was violent conflict on Vatican Hill in the early days of Christianity between the Jesus worshippers and pagans who quarrelled over whose God was the true, and whose the imitation. What is interesting to note here is that in the ancient world, wherever you had popular resurrected god myths, Christianity found lots of converts. So, eventually Christianity came to an accommodation with the pagan Spring festival. Although we see no celebration of Easter in the New Testament, early church fathers celebrated it, and today many churches are offering "sunrise services" at Easter – an obvious pagan solar celebration. The date of Easter is not fixed, but instead is governed by the phases of the moon – how pagan is that?

All the fun things about Easter are pagan. Bunnies are a leftover from the pagan festival of Eostre, a great northern goddess whose symbol was a rabbit or hare. Exchange of eggs is an ancient custom, celebrated by many cultures. Hot cross buns are very ancient too. In the Old Testament we see the Israelites baking sweet buns for an idol, and religious leaders trying to put a stop to it. The early church clergy also tried to put a stop to sacred cakes being baked at Easter. In the end, in the face of defiant cake-baking pagan women, they gave up and blessed the cake instead.

Easter is essentially a pagan festival which is celebrated with cards, gifts and novelty Easter products, because it's fun and the ancient symbolism still works. It's always struck me that the power of nature and the longer days are often most felt in modern towns and cities, where we set off to work without putting on our car headlights and when our alarm clock goes off in the mornings, the streetlights outside are not still on because of the darkness.

What better way to celebrate, than to bite the head off the bunny goddess, go to a "sunrise service", get yourself a sticky-footed fluffy chick and stick it on your TV, whilst helping yourself to a hefty slice of pagan simnel cake? Happy Easter everyone!

CHICHILTAH CHAPTER HOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT



The CPMD department recently completed the renovation of the Chichiltah Chapter House. The project included the interior and exterior renovation of the building; interior improvements of ADA entry to offices and the conference/assembly area; new finishes applied to the floors, walls, and ceilings; and expansion of the existing kitchen. Exterior improvements included ADA sidewalks and handrails.

Mr. Andy Thomas was the Project Manager from CPMD. The architect was Indigenous Design Studio + Architecture (IDS+A) from Albuquerque, NM. They were responsible for the design, construction documents, and construction administration. The design and construction administration phase went from June 2015 to December 2016. The general contractor was LAM Corporation from Gallup, NM. The construction activities started in August 2016 and were completed in January 2017.





DCD PROVIDES ORIENTATION TO CHAPTERS

On Monday, April 17 at Red Rock Chapter and April 19, 2017 in Chinle, representatives from the DCD Departments gave presentations to the incoming Chapter Officials on the various programs that DCD oversees and on various policies and procedures. The sessions were also recorded by the Office of Broadcast Services and the resulting videos will be uploaded to the Internet and made available for any official or chapter staff to view later at their leisure. Thanks to everyone that helped make this a success!

“DINÉ NATION” LEGISLATION FAILS TO PASS

On the second day of the 2017 Spring Council Session, Legislation No. 0395-16 failed to get enough votes from the Navajo Nation Council to pass. The bill sought to amend Title II of the Navajo Nation Code for the purpose of changing the designated name of the Navajo Nation to “Diné Nation.”

Navajo Nation Census Information Center News

Census Bureau Training Opportunities

Webinars are available on a regular basis to help the public access and use Census Bureau statistics. These free sessions, lasting 60 to 90 minutes, show how to use census databases and mapping tools and how to find demographic and economic statistics at a local or national level. They also provide quick links for answers to frequently asked questions about accessing statistics.

The following courses are offered:

Census Business Builder: Small Business Edition (Tuesday, April 18, 12-1 p.m., EDT)

Veterans by the Numbers (Tuesday, April 18, 1-2:30 p.m., EDT)

Census Business Builder: Small Business Edition (Tuesday, April 18, 2-3 p.m., EDT)

Statistics for Reporters: Find the Stories that Matter and Get Them Right (Tuesday, April 18, 2-3 p.m., EDT)

Statistics in Schools: Resources for Teaching and Learning (Wednesday, April 19, 10-11 a.m., EDT)

Hispanics by the Numbers (Wednesday, April 19, 1-2:30 p.m., EDT)

Using American Community Survey Estimates and Margins of Error (Wednesday, April 19, 2-3 p.m., EDT)

Creating Custom Tables and Colorful Maps Using American FactFinder (Thursday, April 20, 12-1 p.m., EDT)

Creating Custom Tables and Colorful Maps Using American FactFinder (Thursday, April 20, 2-3 p.m., EDT)

Quick Data Tools (Thursday, April 20, 2-3:30 p.m., EDT)

What's With the Pop Clock? — and Other Insights of the Population Estimates Program (Tuesday, April 25, 2-3 p.m., EDT)

Statistics of Schools: Resources for Teaching and Learning (Tuesday, April 25, 5-6 p.m., EDT)

The American Community Survey (ACS) & Your Community by the Numbers (Thursday, April 27, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., EDT)

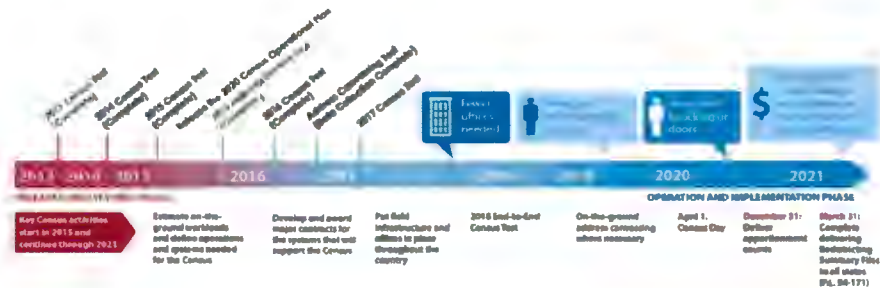
On the Map – Employment Dynamics (Thursday, April 27, 2-4 p.m., EDT)

Descriptions for each of the upcoming sessions are available on the Census [educational resources](#) page. No registration is needed to join a webinar. Login details will be provided one week before a webinar.

Road to the 2020 Census

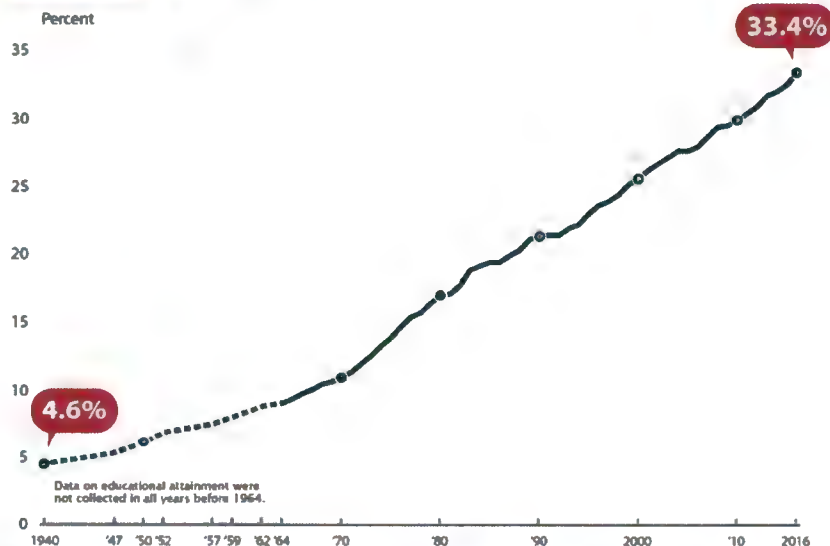
Three Years Until Census Day

2020 Census Lifecycle



Highest Educational Attainment Levels Since 1940

Adults 25 Years and Older With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher



United States
Census
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Source: 1940-2010 Censuses and
Current Population Survey
www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.html
www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html

PERSONNEL NEWS

DCD OPEN POSITIONS

Chapter Community Services

Coordinators:

Hardrock, AZ

Klagetoh, AZ

Sawmill, AZ

Coppermine, AZ

Tolani Lake, AZ

Chapter Accounts Maintenance

Specialists:

Tsaile, AZ

Forest Lake, AZ

Standing Rock, NM

Lake Valley, NM

Iyanbito, NM

Pinedale, NM

Whitehorse Lake, NM

Jeddito, AZ

Tsayatoh, NM

Oak Springs, AZ

Red Valley, AZ

Kaibeto, AZ

Navajo Mountain, AZ

Tolani Lake, AZ



Welcome to Wilfreda Stewart!

DCD welcomes Ms. Wilfreda Stewart, the new Senior Office Specialist for the Community Housing and Infrastructure Department. Ms. Stewart previously worked for the Navajo Area Indian Health Service Disease Prevention Program in St. Michaels. Prior to that, she had also worked for about 15 years with the Navajo Nation and in the private sector. Ms. Stewart is originally from the Ft. Defiance area.

Welcome aboard Wilfreda!



Be Wary of Tech Support Scams!



There have been an increasing number of attempts to trick unsuspecting computer users into calling a fake tech support phone number after bringing up a fake warning message about possible malware or viruses such as the examples provided in this article. Here are some guidelines to help you to avoid getting caught by this scam.

If you see one of these warning messages on your computer screen or if someone calls you claiming that they are from a reputable software company and tell you that your computer is infected:

- 1) Do not call the number listed on the message;**
- 2) If you receive a call, do not purchase any software or services from them;**
- 3) Never give control of your computer to a third party unless you can confirm that they are a legitimate company that you are doing business with;**

- 4) Close the fake message windows and if there are additional messages that show up, close those and don't act on any suggestions in the messages;
- 5) Never give out your personal information, financial information, or other types of private information about yourself to these callers;
- 6) Practice safe computing, meaning don't download or click on email attachments from people you don't know, don't download software from unknown companies, and don't visit any questionable websites;
- 7) When in doubt, contact DCD Tech Services staff.



Google Keep

Capture ideas in Google Keep, bring them to life in Google Docs

Mario Anima

PRODUCT MANAGER KEEP

Great ideas can surface in unexpected places. We created Keep to capture your thoughts anytime, anywhere—with smart tools to help you easily organize your notes, ideas and to dos.

Starting today, you can capture your ideas for work: Keep is now a part of G Suite. You can also take your ideas and notes from Keep and easily add them to Docs for easier brainstorming.



Get started by recording your notes, lists and drawings in Keep on Android, iOS, Chrome or the web. While in Docs on the web, access the Keep notepad via the Tools menu. Your Keep notes will appear in a side panel within Docs.

Here are a few ways you can now work better with the integration between Keep and Docs:

- Drag your notes from Keep directly into your work documents
- Easily search your notes in Keep while in Docs to find the information you need to complete your project
- Add a new note in the Keep notepad or select text from inside of your document and easily add it to a new note (just right click and select "Save to Keep notepad"). When you open that note in Keep, we'll include a link back to the source document so you can always refer back to it.
- Use Keep to capture your ideas and thoughts wherever you are, whenever inspiration strikes. And now, quickly turn those thoughts into action – right in Docs.



NEW TOOL MAKES LOW MOUNTAIN BASE POST INSTALLATIONS GO FASTER

By: M. C. Baldwin

Today, we focused on just the base post installation at centerline intersections of N-60 (going by the school) and N-67 (by the Chapter House). Thanks to the purchase of the gas-powered base post hammer by Low Mountain Chapter, we knocked off over 20 base post installation in one day.

Manual pounding of base posts (like we did in Tóhajiilee) results in six to eight base posts per day and with soft ground, about 10 to 12 base posts. If the field crew is able to get started at 8 am and work until 5pm, over 30 base post installations are possible using the \$2,500 gas-powered tool and as long as gas and oil is available. Thanks to the assistance of Vicki and Ashley (Chapter staff), who made the base post installation activities possible. This project will continue next week with the continued installation of all intersection signs.

Sanostee already has about ten signs installed, but they are doing it manually. They do not have a gas-powered hammer like Low Mountain does. Mr. Wilbert Morgan has been selected to be the lead technician for this project with Low Mountain and Sanostee. After the completion of the road/street sign installations, the physical address centerline configuration will begin.

Local Governance Certified Chapters

| Chapter | Agency | LGA Cert. Date | Chapter | Agency | LGA Cert. Date |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------|----------------|
| 1 Nahata Dzul | Ft. Defiance | 8/16/02 | 1 Newcomb | Northern | 6/18/04 |
| 2 Steamboat | Ft. Defiance | 5/30/03 | 2 San Juan | Northern | 3/7/07 |
| 3 Cornfields | Ft. Defiance | 7/14/10 | 3 Tse'Daa'Kaan | Northern | 6/21/07 |
| 4 Naschiti | Ft. Defiance | 11/22/10 | 4 Sheepsprings | Northern | 8/24/07 |
| 5 Lupton | Ft. Defiance | 11/24/10 | 5 Tolikan | Northern | 11/29/10 |
| 6 Dilkon | Ft. Defiance | 12/21/10 | 6 Toadlena/Two Grey Hills | Northern | 1/10/11 |
| 7 Greasewood Springs | Ft. Defiance | 12/21/10 | 7 Burnham | Northern | 7/11/11 |
| 8 Kinlichee | Ft. Defiance | 12/29/10 | 8 Beclabito | Northern | 1/10/12 |
| 9 Teesto | Ft. Defiance | 7/11/11 | 9 Mexican Water | Northern | 2/7/12 |
| 10 Ganado | Ft. Defiance | 12/2/14 | 10 Upper Fruitland | Northern | 2/28/12 |
| 11 Houck | Ft. Defiance | 12/2/14 | 11 Aneth | Northern | 3/31/15 |
| 12 Ft. Defiance | Ft. Defiance | 1/15/16 | 12 Cove | Northern | 4/5/15 |
| TOTAL: 12 | | | TOTAL: 12 | | |

| Chapter | Agency | LGA Cert. Date | Chapter | Agency | LGA Cert. Date |
|-------------------|---------|----------------|------------------------|--------|----------------|
| 1 Shonto | Western | 9/22/99 | 1 Chinle | Chinle | 12/21/10 |
| 2 Tuba City | Western | 12/27/04 | 2 Pinon | Chinle | 2/21/12 |
| 3 Kayenta | Western | 8/6/10 | 3 Whippoorwill Springs | Chinle | 12/2/14 |
| 4 Bodaway/Gap | Western | 12/21/10 | 4 Nazlini | Chinle | 2/17/15 |
| 5 Birdsprings | Western | 7/11/11 | TOTAL: 4 | | |
| 6 Chilchinbeto | Western | 7/11/11 | | | |
| 7 Leupp | Western | 7/11/11 | | | |
| 8 LeChee | Western | 1/31/12 | | | |
| 9 Dennehotso | Western | 2/14/12 | | | |
| 10 Tonalea | Western | 12/2/14 | | | |
| 11 Ts'ah Bii' Kin | Western | 6/24/16 | | | |
| TOTAL 11 | | | | | |

| Chapter | Agency | LGA Cert. Date |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|
| 1 Littlewater | Eastern | 11/15/07 |
| 2 Baashaali | Eastern | 12/24/08 |
| 3 Whiterock | Eastern | 12/21/10 |
| 4 Ojo Encino | Eastern | 3/6/12 |
| 5 Baca/Prewitt | Eastern | 12/22/14 |
| 6 Casamero Lake | Eastern | 4/15/15 |
| TOTAL: 6 | | |

TOTAL CERTIFICATION 45

