



The 21st Navajo Nation Council

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Speaker Morgan, Public Safety and Judicial Committees invite Navajo people to groundbreaking of Tuba City Judicial Public Safety Facility

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan and the Navajo Nation Council’s Judiciary and Public Safety Committees invite the Navajo people to the groundbreaking ceremony of a \$30.5 million Judicial and Public Safety Facility in Tuba City, Ariz., on Friday, Sept. 24.

The groundbreaking facility is for a 144,000 square foot complex that will house the district court, public safety programs and correctional facilities in three different buildings. The event is scheduled to begin at 10:00 am on Main Street in Tuba City.

“We are very excited about this event as it is a special day that marks the beginning of a stronger justice system for our people,” said Councilwoman Hope MacDonald Lone Tree, a strong advocate for public safety since taking her oath of office. “The celebration of a new jail facility is bittersweet. For victims of crime, police officers, prosecutors and judges this signals a new era of law and order. For those who break our laws, this signals an end to holding our communities hostage to crime.”

The complex is funded through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) and financed by a Key Bank Loan that was signed in June. The Navajo Nation Council’s Budget and Finance Committee played an integral role in securing the KeyBank Loan after a two year effort and also passed a fund management plan for a one cent tax-set aside to help finance the complex.

“I also want to thank President Obama for making public safety in Indian Country a top priority and providing the necessary resources through ARRA for the construction of new facilities,” added MacDonald Lone Tree.

The Tuba City complex received the largest ARRA grant for a public safety facility from the U.S. Department of Justice. The new court and police department are financed by the Navajo Nation Key Bank loan.

The Public Safety and Judiciary Committees also played key roles along with the Navajo Division of Public Safety and Navajo Department of Corrections in creating the master plan and selecting Arcadis as the project manager, Dyron Murphy Architects as the lead designer and Arviso/Oakland as the construction company.

“The partnership between the executive and legislative branches was important to the progress of this much needed facility on the Navajo Nation,” Delores Greyeyes, director for Navajo Department of Corrections, said, who wrote the ARRA grant. “As a result of the joint effort, I see light at the end of the tunnel.”

The Judicial Public Safety Facilities Executive Committee, Attorney Dave Razem, Coconino Supervisor Lena Fowler, Tuba City Chapter Government, Tuba City Juvenile Detention Staff, Tuba City Adult Detention Staff, Kayenta Township and Kayenta Chapter are some of the groundbreaking event sponsors.

For more information on the design, please visit Dyron Murphy Architects at <http://dm-architects.com/projects.php>.

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