



THE NAVAJO NATION

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PRESIDENT RUSSELL BEGAYE ATTENDS THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE SESSION



President Russell Begaye meet with Governor Susana Martinez and Cabinet Secretary Kelly K. Zunie of the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department during the New Mexico Legislative Session.

SANTA FE – On Wednesday, President Russell Begaye attended the State of New Mexico Legislative session to meet with the Honorable Governor Susana Martinez, State Senators and Representatives.

“We are very appreciative for the State of New Mexico in providing allocations to fund critical infrastructure projects across the Navajo Nation on the New Mexico side,” said President Russell Begaye. “We also appreciate the exemplary government to government relationship we have with the state.”

President Begaye met with state legislators from both the house and the senate that have Navajo Nation chapters in their district.

Items of discussion were capital outlay projects and completing them in a timely manner.

President Begaye updated legislators on the Navajo Division of Community Development that recently reorganized their division to

ensure that the internal project management process was efficient in completing projects from start to finish.

“Thank you to Mark Freeland for his work in helping the Northern and Eastern Chapters. It is great to have someone within your office who will make sure that the Navajo Nation spends the allocations,” said Representative Sharon Clahchischillia.

Executive Staff Assistant Mark Freeland assisted in protecting \$949,759 from being reverted back to the State General Fund in the solvency package.

President Begaye also met with Governor Susana Martinez and Cabinet Secretary Kelly Zunie of the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department on matters related to the Gold King Mine spill, infrastructure projects, bus routes, dual taxation, the death penalty and AMBER Alerts.



President Russell Begaye and Executive Staff Assistant Mark Freeland meet with the New Mexico Legislators that have Navajo Nation Chapters within their district.

President Begaye will be attending the New Mexico American Indian Day at the Legislator on Friday, February 3, 2017.

The Tribal Infrastructure Fund was created by the Tribal Infrastructure Act in 2005. This act recognizes that many of New Mexico's tribal communities lack basic infrastructure, including, but not limited to water and wastewater systems, roads, and electrical power lines. Through this competitive funding, all federally recognized tribes, nations and

pueblos within New Mexico have an opportunity to submit a robust project proposal for their community.

Capital outlay projects are authorized by the Legislature and generally is nonrecurring – one-time – money. Capital Outlay funds are used to build, improve or equip physical property that will be used by the public.

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