Intergovernmental Relations Committee approves $3.6 million to improve road conditions in Navajo communities

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the 21st Navajo Nation Council passed Legislation No. 0107-10; thus, approving $3.6 million to address road maintenance of dirt roads impacted by the recent wintry weather experienced on the Navajo Nation.

The communities of Birdsprings, Kaibeto and Leupp, Ariz. and Counselor, Mariano Lake and Naschitti, New Mex. have been identified to receive funding for road maintenance. From the funding, two snow plows, two bull dozers, three fuel trucks, one transportation trailer and one vehicle will be purchased to maintain these communities' roads. Additionally, 21 senior equipment operators, heavy equipment operators and laborers will be hired to maintain these roads.

The source of funding comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ (BIA) Indian Reservation Road System Construction Fund, which will provide services to maintain roads for nine months.

This legislation also extends the memorandum of agreement, an exchange of services for maintaining dirt roads, between the BIA and the Navajo Department of Transportation to Dec. 31, 2011.

Legislation No. 0107-10, sponsored by Johnny Naize (Tselani/Cottonwood/Nazlini), passed the committee with a 10-0 vote.

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