FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Law and Order Committee receives update on Dilkon Justice Center

WINDOW ROCK – On Monday, the Law and Order Committee received an update report regarding the Dilkon Justice Center, which will include a correctional facility, juvenile services, law enforcement and patrol, and criminal investigations.

According to the report provided by the Navajo Nation Department of Corrections director Delores Greyeyes, schematics are completed for the Dilkon Justice Center, which allows the design and planning phase to begin.

“We will need about $2 million to complete the planning and design phase of the 54,000 square foot building,” said Greyeyes. “It will cost an estimated $38 million to complete the project in its entirety.”

Greyeyes added that the high-price is due to the construction of the correctional facility, which will require additional building material and metal components, as compared to a standard office building that does not require such.

LOC vice chair Council Delegate Alton Joe Shepherd (Jeddito, Cornfields, Ganado, Kin Dah Lichii, Steamboat) expressed support for the Dilkon Justice Center project and inquired as to when construction will begin.

Greyeyes said that once the $2 million is secured to complete the planning and design phase, the project will be construction-ready. In the meantime, NNDOC is seeking additional funding to begin construction.

LOC member Council Delegate Elmer Begay (Dilkon, Greasewood Springs, Indian Wells, Teesto, Whitecone) who represents the Dilkon community, requested the committee’s involvement in the efforts to obtain the $2 million.

“Is there a way we can involve the LOC with this project? This justice center is being built in my district and I want to help get funding so construction can begin,” said Delegate Begay.

Delegate Shepherd recommended that the committee seek funding from the Navajo Nation’s Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance. He added that the NNDOC and NNDDE should begin the SAS process to initiate the legislation process.

LOC members voted 3-0 to accept the report.

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