President Shelly announces return of $1.2 million in FET funding

More than 60 of the projects have been completed since that time, allowing Navajo Division of Transportation to begin soliciting for new proposals.

“Completing the Fuel Excise Tax projects that were left in limbo was a priority for our administration,” President Shelly said. “I’m happy to report that we’ve done our job and completed most of this work.

“Beyond that, we have been successful for the return of tribal FET dollars from the state of Arizona,” he added.

President Shelly said servicing school bus routes has been the priority and that the new Huerfano bridge was testament to the work of his administration.

Over the past decade, FET dollars have averaged more than $13 million annually on the Navajo Nation. From that amount, $4 million goes to the state of Arizona, $2 million is deposited into the Permanent Trust Fund, $3 million is for the tribal road fund and $3 million is utilized for road maintenance.

NDOT has followed the directives of President Shelly.

“President Shelly’s directive was very clear: finish the outstanding FET projects,” said Paulson Chaco, director of NDOT.

Chaco said his other priority was working with tribal legislators in the state legislature to begin recouping FET funds going into the state coffers.

“We are excited with the news that $1.2 million will be returned to the Nation from Arizona for transportation infrastructure. This would not have been possible without the help of Senator Carlyle Begay,” he said.