



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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**Navajo Transit System receive 39 new hybrid buses to
provide more transportation services and reduce emissions**



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer were joined by Navajo Nation Division of General Services Executive Director Tom Platero, Navajo Transit System Manager Marcus Tulley and transit staff members at Navajo Veterans Memorial Park in Window Rock, Ariz. on Thursday, to mark the arrival of 39 new hybrid buses to the Navajo Nation. In 2020, the Navajo Transit System was awarded a \$6 million grant to acquire the new hybrid buses through the Federal Transit Administration and in partnership with the New Mexico Department of Transportation.

“This is symbolic of the resilience and will of the Navajo people during the COVID-19 pandemic to overcome the challenges we have faced and move forward together. It serves to not only benefit our communities, but to instill more hope and pride in our people. The additional hybrid buses will allow Navajo Transit System to continue providing safe and reliable public transportation for Navajo elders, students, employees, and families. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, their services were paused for the safety of staff members and the general public. The Navajo Transit team will

soon resume their services and incorporate the new buses in their daily routes to help with the overflow of commuters due to lower capacity levels on the buses to promote social distancing. Increasing the accessibility to services provides the need for health care, education, employment, recreation, entertainment, and essential shopping and family errands,” said President Nez.

Navajo Transit System will begin transit services on the Navajo Nation on Monday, June 7. Bus fare will be waived during the COVID-19 pandemic and seats will be limited due to the COVID-19 protocols.

The hybrid buses save fuel and reduce emissions through regenerative braking. Electric motors make it easier for the bus operators to control the buses. Each bus is also handicap accessible.

“It’s wonderful to see our Nation taking gradual steps to reopen our Nation while encouraging our people to continue taking precautions to stay safe and healthy. The staff is excited to begin transporting passengers once again. Many of our people rely on the Navajo Transit System for work, school, essential services and items, and much more so this will certainly be very beneficial for all of our communities,” said Vice President Lizer.

According to Navajo Transit System Manager Marcus Tulley, transit services will have soft reopening routes beginning June 7. All passengers must adhere to all COVID-19 preventative guidelines, such as wearing a face mask and practicing social distancing. Additional routes will be available after July 6.

For more information regarding available bus routes or questions regarding the new COVID-19 safety protocols, contact (928) 729 – 4002 or visit navajotransit.navajo-nsn.gov.

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