



The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

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**Navajo Nation applauds \$25 million grant  
for road repairs and improvements for U.S. 64**



**PHOTO:** (left to right) Navajo Division of Transportation Executive Director Garret Silversmith, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, and Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez in Phoenix, Ariz. on July 15, 2021.

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer are pleased with the U.S. Department of Transportation’s approval of \$25 million in grant funding to repair and improve a 21-mile stretch of the U.S. 64 corridor that runs through Shiprock, N.M., located in the northern portion of the Navajo Nation.

The project will include massive improvements including widening and new pavement of the entire 21-mile stretch of highway, bridge replacements, drainage improvements, new safety lighting, and the installation of new fiber optic cable to help manage and operate the roadway.

“On behalf of the Navajo Nation, we thank the Biden-Harris Administration, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs Arlando Teller, our

Congressional representatives, and many other partners for continuing to uphold their commitment to working together with the Navajo Nation. Many individuals helped to secure this much-needed grant funding that will benefit thousands of our Navajo people who rely on U.S. 64 on a daily basis. Infrastructure development is the foundation of our Nation and we must continue to work closely with our local, state, and federal partners to advance more improvements for our people,” said President Nez, who spoke specifically about the need to improve U.S. 64 with New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and others over the last few years.

Vice President Lizer said the project will improve the overall transportation system in the region and help to create more economic opportunities by creating a safer and more reliable road for residents and businesses to utilize.

“We truly appreciate the great collaboration and support from all entities and individuals who laid their hands to this effort. U.S. 64 is a primary route for many Navajo people, tourists, businesses, and first responders. We look forward to seeing this project completed,” said Vice President Lizer.

The \$25 million in funding is made available through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The roadway stretches from Shiprock, N.M. westbound to the Arizona border.

U.S. Deputy Asst. Sec. for Tribal Affairs Arlando Teller stated, “The improvements to U.S. 64 will not only provide safe travels to all, but addresses infrastructure issues we deserve. Partnerships with all DOT’s and agencies continue to provide innovation.”

The Nez-Lizer Administration also thanks U.S. Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.), and U.S. Rep. Teresa Leger Fernández (D-N.M.) for their support for the project and grant funding that will benefit the Navajo Nation.

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