



The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**President Nez approves the transfer of the Navajo  
Transit System to the Navajo Division of Transportation**



**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – On Thursday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer signed Resolution CO-59-21 into law, approving the transfer of the Navajo Transit System from the Navajo Nation Division of General Services to the Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT) to improve the overall efficiency of the Navajo public transportation system, which provides services to thousands of Navajo people on a daily basis.

The Navajo Transit System currently provides safe and reliable public transportation within 41 chapters for Navajo citizens and improves the quality of life by increasing access to health care, education, employment, recreation, entertainment, and essential shopping and services.

“Transferring the transit program to the Navajo Division of Transportation will strengthen the program’s effectiveness, service delivery, and funding opportunities. Public transportation and fixed-route transit services continue to be much more efficient and beneficial in getting Navajo people from one place to another. Other benefits include reducing air pollution, increasing fuel efficiency, reducing traffic, saving money, encouraging healthier habits, and ensuring that elders and disabled people have this transportation option. It has been our administration’s priority to re-evaluate programs to make them more efficient for our Navajo citizens,” said President Nez, who also thanked the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council for their support of the legislation and Council Delegate Carl Slater for sponsoring the bill.

Navajo Division of Transportation Executive Director Garrett Silversmith stated that his staff members are confident that they will build on the success of the program and increase the Nation’s public transportation systems. Public transportation plays an essential role for people who are unable to drive, including students, individuals with disabilities, and elders.

“The transition will not affect the service delivery of the current routes operating across the Navajo Nation. With the expertise and guidance of NDOT professionals, the transit system will only get better. Transportation and mobility are key factors in the struggle for equal opportunity, and reliable transportation can increase access to education, employment, healthcare, housing, and community involvement for our Navajo people,” said Vice President Lizer.

Council Delegates Carl Slater, Raymond Smith, Jr., and Kee Allen Begay, Jr. were also in attendance for the signing of the resolution and offered their support for the transit program.

The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council, Navajo Division of Transportation and Division of General Services, and many others who supported the successful efforts. The legislation was approved by the Council by a vote of 22-0 on Oct. 20. For more information on the Navajo Transit System or current routes, please visit their website at: <https://www.navajotransit.com/about-us.html>.

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