



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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Navajo Division of Transportation begins Navajo Route 57 Phase II Road Improvement



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, and Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT) Executive Director Garrett Silversmith announced the start of Navajo Route 57 Phase II Road Improvement project in Tohajilee, N.M. The N57 project includes nine miles of aggregate base course placement, asphalt placement, striping, and signage.

The project is funded by the Navajo Nation’s Fuel Excise Tax Roads Fund, Sihasin Fund, and the State of New Mexico Transportation Funds in the amount of over \$5.6 million. President signed off on the contract to allow Phase II to proceed.

“The road improvement helps address safety concerns and improves access to school, work, health, and emergency responses for the community of Tohajilee. Many students, first responders, and tribal employees rely on this route daily. We thank the collaboration of local leaders, residents, and community organizations who voiced the need for this project. Transportation infrastructure is a top priority for our administration, and under the leadership of

Navajo Nation Division of Transportation Executive Director Garret Silversmith, we are seeing progress on many projects in our rural communities,” said President Nez.

NDOT continues with construction and maintenance projects throughout all weather conditions and is adamant about remaining on schedule to complete as many projects throughout the Navajo Nation, including N57.

“Navajo DOT and Arrow Indian Contractors continue to advance this project towards final completion. With warmer temperatures now, the construction contractor, Arrow Indian, will increase their Scope of Work responsibilities, such as earthwork, aggregate base course lay down, and others. We are looking at a late summer completion date. At that point, nine miles of N57 will have been asphalt paved, along with drainage improvement features. Within FY2022, N57 Tohajilee is one of many projects Navajo DOT has scheduled. With the input of President Nez and Vice President Lizer, we have strategically planned various projects for improvements, such as newly paved highways, bridges, and improved earth dirt roads,” said Director Silversmith.

The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President appreciates the community member’s patience during traffic stops while contractors finish the pavement. NDOT also discourages all interstate traffic to detour on residential streets within the community.

“Transportation infrastructure improvements to highways, bridges, dams, and dirt roads are priorities in rural Navajo communities. The improvements to N57 and other roads will bring significant benefits to elders, students, families, and first responders. We appreciate the community members’ and travelers’ patience,” said Vice President Myron Lizer.

The N57 project is expected to be completed at the end of Summer 2022.

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