

## **Navajo Nation Washington Office**

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## Navajo Nation to Receive \$20M Grant for Road Infrastructure

WINDOW ROCK, AZ – The Navajo Nation is proud to announce that it has been awarded a \$20 million grant under the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program by the United States Department of Transportation. This transformative grant will be used to reconstruct and improve approximately seven miles of Navajo Route 15, stretching from Sunrise Springs, Ariz., to Cornfields, Ariz.

The RAISE program aims to invest in transportation projects that enhance the country's infrastructure and promote sustainability, equity, and safety. The Nation's successful grant application highlights the essential need to improve Navajo Route 15, a critical transportation artery for the community, which has faced challenges due to limited funding and resources.

"The bipartisan infrastructure law is supporting long-overdue infrastructure investments for the Navajo Nation and tribal communities across Arizona. Navajo Route 15 is a vital transportation corridor on the Navajo Nation, and this investment will both improve connectivity and spur economic development. I'll continue working alongside President Nygren and Navajo Nation leaders to ensure these investments provide lasting impacts for the Navajo people," said Senator Mark Kelly.

The project will include widening the roadway, widening the existing shoulders, elevating the roadway to improve safety, enhancing drainage structures to better manage stormwater, and installing livestock underpasses to mitigate vehicle-animal collisions. These improvements will significantly enhance the safety and reliability of the route, providing a smoother and more efficient travel experience for residents and visitors alike.

"We would like to thank our partners in Congress and the US Department of Transportation for recognizing the importance of Navajo Route 15 and for its commitment to supporting infrastructure improvements in tribal communities," **said President Buu Nygren**. "This grant will not only boost the Navajo Nation's transportation system but will also create jobs, improve access to essential services, and promote economic development throughout the region."

The reconstruction and improvement of Navajo Route 15 will help address some of the unique transportation challenges faced by the Navajo people, fostering a more connected and resilient community. This project is a testament to the power of collaboration between the Navajo Nation and the US Department of Transportation, and we look forward to the positive changes it will bring to our people.