

STATE OF NEW MEXICO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor Lynn Trujillo, Secretary Nadine Padilla, Deputy Secretary

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New Mexico Continues to make Significant Investments in Tribal communities

SANTA FE – New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo on Wednesday announced another year of significant amounts of Capital Outlay funding for critical infrastructure projects in Tribal communities. During this legislative session, the Lujan Grisham administration secured an investment of over \$70 million for Tribal governments and Tribal entities.

The funding will be administered by departments across the cabinet including the Indian Affairs Department, Aging and Long-Term Services Department, Department of Transportation, Higher Education Department, and more. This year the IAD was awarded \$53 million in direct capital outlay monies, which will be used to support 142 projects in New Mexico's Tribal communities.

"More capital investments continue to go into New Mexico's Tribal communities under the Lujan Grisham administration than in the previous two administrations combined", said IAD **Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo**. "Tribes in New Mexico are using these funds to address long-standing needs, to recover from the pandemic and create more opportunities."

"Our Navajo people thank Governor Lujan Grisham, the New Mexico State Legislature, and Secretary Lynn Trujillo for supporting these much-needed projects for our communities in the state of New Mexico. During the state's legislative session, our Nation's leaders met with state legislators and the Governor to outline our priorities for capital outlay projects. We are very grateful that our voices were heard and that the Governor did not veto any of the funding for the Navajo Nation. I also thank the members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and all of the Chapter officials for their advocacy on behalf of the communities they represent," said Navajo Nation **President Jonathan Nez**.

"The Pueblo of Pojoaque is extremely thankful and appreciative of the support we received. I commend Governor Lujan Grisham, her administration, and the New Mexico

State Legislature for their dedication to Tribal communities and for ensuring that we have the resources we need to solve, build, and improve our communities. This funding will help our Tribe tremendously," said Pueblo of Pojoaque **Governor Jenelle Roybal**.

For a complete list of projects funded see <u>SB0212FCS (nmlegis.gov)</u>. The IAD will continue to highlight projects throughout the year.

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(pictured: Picuris Pueblo Interpretative Center, funded by Capital Outlay)

Since 2003 the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) has implemented groundbreaking state-Tribal policies intended to improve the quality of life for the state's Native citizens. Our initiatives are designed to strengthen Tribal and state relations and address the challenges we face in our communities; challenges such as economic development, infrastructure improvement, the protection of our cultures and languages, health care accessibility, and educational opportunities for our most precious resource— our children. Learn more at www.iad.state.nm.us.