



## Navajo Nation Council receives update on CARES Expenditures, \$50 million expended as of Oct. 5

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 5, 2020

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — The Navajo Nation Council received was notified Monday by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that \$49,262,819.72 has been expended of more than \$714 million in Coronavirus Aid, Response, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Funding received by the Navajo Nation since May. After line item vetoes issued by the president, more than \$537 million has been authorized by the 24th Navajo Nation Council since June. Of that, \$528 million in CARES Fund projects have been approved for the Navajo Nation Executive Branch and other sub-recipients.

“There is no doubt, the line-item vetoes by President Nez have seriously impacted his ability to spend these funds rapidly,” said Council Delegate Raymond Smith, Jr. (Klagetoh, Wide Ruins, Houck, Lupton, Nahat’á Dził), vice chair of the Budget and Finance Committee (BFC). “The Council approved streamlined budgeting and procurement rules in May, which were line item vetoed. With the December 30 deadline to spend these funds approaching quickly, we need the Navajo People to hold the president accountable for ensuring the funding approved by the Navajo Nation Council is delivered before the federal government takes it back.”

Balances reported by the OMB are summarized in the following table:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Open Comm.</b>	<b>Available Bal.</b>
Judicial Branch	\$9,633,863	\$16,991.61	\$1,182,920.36	\$8,433,951.03
Financial System	\$2,559,530	\$2,559,499	\$-	\$31
Special Duty Pay	\$21,000,000	\$500,553.22	\$-	\$20,499,446.78
Payroll Support	\$42,124,455	\$-	\$-	\$42,124,455
Gaming Enterprise	\$24,600,000	\$24,600,000	\$-	\$-
Bathroom Add.	\$3,500,000	\$-	\$3,500,000	\$-
Solar Projects	\$35,192,000	\$-	\$-	\$35,192,000
Powerline Projects	\$44,220,832	\$-	\$-	\$44,220,832
Art/Business Relief	\$60,000,000	\$1,864,346	\$-	\$58,135,654
Technology	\$2,000,000	\$1,999,993.16	\$-	\$6.84
Facilities Renov.	\$10,000,000	\$-	\$-	\$10,000,000
Broadband Telecom.	\$53,224,989	\$17,147,243.65	\$32,677,744.15	\$3,400,001.20
Care Packages	\$10,000,000	\$574,193.08	\$9,046,300	\$379,506.92
638 Healthcare	\$3,000,000	\$-	\$2,250,000	\$750,000
PPE	\$10,000,000	\$-	\$-	\$10,000,000
Public Health Care	\$75,836,016	\$-	\$50,000,000	\$25,836,016
Water Projects	\$130,005,095	\$-	\$26,857.01	\$129,978,237.99
Parks and Recreation	\$828,637	\$-	\$-	\$828,637
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$537,725,417</b>	<b>\$49,262,819.72</b>	<b>\$98,683,821.52</b>	<b>\$389,778,775.76</b>

On Thursday, Sept. 24, the Council approved Resolution Nos. CS-73-20 and CS-74-20 which authorized the remainder of the Navajo Nation CARES Fund towards the Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan, Hardship Assistance Expenditure Plan, Office of the Controller CARES Expenditure Plan and the Broadband Telecommunications Expenditure Plan in the total amount of \$176,463,214. The president has until Oct. 10 to enact those legislation or issue regular or line item vetoes.

The 24th Navajo Nation Council approved the above expenditures through four legislation, beginning with the creation of the Navajo Nation CARES Fund:

- CMY-44-20, as line item vetoed, called the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Act, no project funds allocated in May;
- CJN-46-20, as line item vetoed, allocated \$41 million for special duty pay, facilities maintenance and personal protective equipment in June;
- CJN-47-20, as line item vetoed, allocated \$21,059,530 for financial system upgrades, bathroom additions, technology upgrades, care packages and health care facility assistance in June;
- CJY-67-20, as line item vetoed, allocated \$476,130,887 for water projects, powerline projects, broadband telecommunications projects, payroll support, economic development relief program, solar projects, gaming enterprise support, Judicial Branch support funding, public health care support funding and vendor support through the Parks and Recreation Department in July.

All approved expenditures and projects are part of the public record and are available through the Navajo Nation Council's legislative tracking system called Diné Bibeel'áanii Binaaltsoos (DiBB) at: <http://dibb.nnols.org/>.

The Office of the Speaker is continuing to coordinate project updates while the Budget and Finance Committee revisits previously approved CARES Fund projects for reallocation in November.

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