



# NAVAJO DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION

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March 4, 2017

## NAVAJO RESERVATION WIDE QUARTERLY REPORT December 2016 – February 2017

### I) NDOT EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- 1) **Long Range Transportation Plan** . The Resources and Development Committee (RDC) approved the 2016 Navajo Nation Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) on October 25, 2016. Pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 170.410 (a), the purpose of long range transportation planning is to clearly demonstrate a tribe's transportation needs and to fulfill tribal goals by developing strategies to meet these needs. These strategies should address future land use, economic development, traffic demand, public safety, and health and social needs. The LRTP was approved by the RDC and submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on November 29, 2016. The LRTP is available for review on NDOT's website: [www.navajodot.org/](http://www.navajodot.org/)
- 2) **Navajo Nation Tribal Transportation Improvement Program** . The RDC approved the FY2017 Navajo Nation Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (NNTTIP) on November 1, 2016. The FY2017 NNTTIP outlines a five-year program regarding how the Navajo Nation will use its Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funds to plan, design, build, maintain and operate Tribal and BIA-owned roadways and transportation facilities within the Navajo Nation. The FY2017 NNTTIP was submitted to the FHWA. The FY2017 NNTTIP is available for review on NDOT's website: [www.navajodot.org/](http://www.navajodot.org/)
- 3) **Gravel Pit Study** . Wilson and Company and its sub-contractor, AMEC Wheeler continue to work with the NDOT to develop the Greasewood Springs, AZ site and will require further subsurface investigations to determine quality and quantity of gravel material. Other sand and gravel pits are being evaluated to provide resources strategically across the Navajo Nation for use in gravel road improvements.
- 4) The Grand Falls Highway Final Feasibility Report was completed on October 4, 2016. The NDOT identified and evaluated alternatives for the addition of a 65-mile highway connecting I-40 near Twin Arrows, AZ and traveling north-northwest direction to its intersection with SR 64 in Cameron, AZ. This proposed highway would provide access to the former Bennett Freeze area, connect I-40 with N15, provide access to Grand Falls, and promote tourism.
- 5) **N9345(2)2&4 Wide Ruins, AZ** . NECA has completed 1.5 miles of grade, drain, retaining walls, and paving construction for \$6.3 million using the Nation's Federal Funds along N9345 in the community of Wide Ruins, AZ. All work of the project has been completed and is currently going through the final close-out process. A final acceptance letter will be forthcoming.
- 6) **N55(3)1,2&4 Alamo, NM** . Meridian Construction has completed 8.68 miles of grade, drain, precast box culverts and paving construction for \$20.8 million using the Nation's Federal Funds along N55 in the community of Alamo, NM. A final inspection was held on December 16, 2016 and the BIA issued a substantial completion on December 19, 2016. Contractor has completed all the work with exception of the seeding, which will be applied in Spring 2017.
- 7) BIA 2016 Bridge Inspection Exit Meeting was held on January 17, 2017 at NDOT in Tse Bonito, NM. The meeting covered the latest round of bridge inspections conducted by BIA's consultant and a review of the condition of the Navajo Region's bridges.



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- 8) BIA Realty Training on New 25 CFR Part 169 was held on February 17, 2017 at NDOT in Tse Bonito, NM. The training provided insight to DOT on the new process for submitting right-of-way applications for tribal trust and Indian Allotment lands for highway projects.

### **EASTERN AGENCY NNTTIP PROJECT UPDATES:**

- 9) N7054(1)1,2&3 Pinedale, NM . Design plans are 65% complete to construct 3.5 miles of grade, drain and gravel on the east end of the loop road. BIA is scheduling a field meeting with the gas line owners to identify any conflicts and several utility lines will need to be relocated or protected in-place. All NEPA documents are completed and right-of-way applications for the Indian Allotment and Trust lands have been submitted to the NN Land Department and BIA Realty in Crownpoint for actions. A meeting was held on January 31, 2017 at the Pinedale Chapter to brief the officials and community members on the status. Project is programmed to receive \$3.5 million for construction of the east end by FY2018.
- 10) N7119(1)/N481(1)2,3 Little Water, NM . Design plans are 95% complete and a comment review meeting will be held at NDOT on March 13, 2017. All NEPA documents are completed and right-of-way applications for the Indian Allotment and Trust lands have been submitted to both the NN Land Department and the BIA Realty in Crownpoint for actions. Project has received \$4.7 million for construction.
- 11) N11(1a)1,2&4 Mariano Lake, NM . Design plans are 99% complete to construct 6.2 miles of grade, drain, paving and bridge construction. All NEPA documents are completed and right-of-way applications for the Indian Allotment and Trust lands have been submitted to both the NN Land Department and the BIA Realty in Crownpoint for actions. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2019 at a cost of \$12.0 million.
- 12) N46(4)/N474(4)2&4 Counselor, NM . Design plans are 35% complete to construct 7.6 miles of grade, drain and pavement construction. Survey work has been completed and final alignment is pending outcome of meeting with BLM and oil pipeline owners and pending archaeological surveys which may result in adjustments. NEPA work will be completed by NDOT and testing on one archaeology site along N474 is required. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2020 at a cost of \$14.8 million.

### **NORTHERN AGENCY NNTTIP PROJECT UPDATES:**

- 13) N8008(1)1,2,3 Round Rock, AZ - Weeminuche Construction Authority (WCA) is 42% completed to construct 1.18 miles of grade, drain and gravel and six span bridge over the Lukachukai Wash for a cost of \$5.1 million near Round Rock, AZ. WCA has completed placing and erecting the steel structure of the bridge and installation of wire-enclosed riprap around Abutments No. 1 and No. 2. The contractor is currently on winter shutdown.
- 14) N101(1)2&4 Ojo Amarillo, NM . Design plans are 95% complete to construct 0.67 miles to provide grade, drain and paving construction. BIA continues to finalize plans, coordinate utility adjustments with utility owners and finalize ROW documents. NDOT has completed archaeology and BIA amended EIS and submitted to BIA NEPA office for concurrence on December 14, 2016. Once environmental clearance is received, BIA will submit the ROW package to the NN Land Department. Project will receive \$1.67 million in construction funds by FY2017.
- 15) N5012(1)1,2&3 Sanostee, NM . Design plans are 25% complete to construct 1.2 miles of grade, drain, gravel and bridge construction improvements. Issues concerning land status, consents, and grazing rights may affect the project work and eventual application of right-of-way for construction



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of a bridge and access road tying into BIA Routes N34 to the south and N5010 to the north. The project will require re-staking of the alignment for geotechnical work, field reviews and archaeology work. There have been some objections to portions of the alignment which needs to be addressed before commencing further work. Project is scheduled to receive \$3.7 million in construction funds by FY2018.

- 16) N35(8)/N5045(1)1,2&4 Sweetwater, AZ . Design plans are 25% complete to construct 7.1 miles of grade, drain, pavement and bridge construction improvements. All survey data and preliminary alignment are completed. BIA is working on drainage design for each wash crossing. NDOT will review and update archaeology report to include N5045 bridge crossing and N5047 & N351 access to new chapter house. BIA will update the environmental assessment report. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2018 at a cost of \$10.296 million.
- 17) N5001(1)(2)1,2&4 Toadlena, NM . Design plans are 80% complete to construct 6.1 miles of grade, drain, paving and bridge construction improvements. Design of an arch structure and asphalt surface type is ongoing. The archaeology and BE are completed. The EA will be converted to new FHWA Categorical Exclusion (CE) format before submitting to FHWA for compliance. BE will need to be updated and ROW plats are in draft form awaiting the final design construction limits. Several waterlines and underground telephone lines will need to be adjusted. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2020 at a cost of \$10 million.

### **CENTRAL AGENCY NNTTIP PROJECT UPDATES:**

- 18) N251(3-2)1,2&3 Tselani/Cottonwood, AZ . BIA Force Account Section (FAS) continues with culvert and riprap installation and all installations are completed from Beginning of Project (BOP) to Station 10+663. FAS has completed gabion installation at Station 9+741 on the outlet side. Earthwork operations is ongoing at Station 9+471 where earthwork is needed to access the culvert for Sikadur and culvert end sections. The box culvert at the BOP which was installed by others, has been backfilled. FAS is under winter shutdown for earthwork operations.
- 19) N12(19-4)1,2&4 Wheatfields Lake to N64 Junction Tsaile, AZ . The design plans are 99% complete to construct 10 miles of grade, drain, pavement and bridge construction. NDOT completed archaeology work for two bridge detours, received approval on Zuni Bluehead Sucker Mitigation Plan, and received compliance on the Biological Evaluation Report. NDOT will prepare and submit the CE document to FHWA to complete the NEPA requirements. ROW is in place but need to submit for temporary construction easements to cover work outside the existing ROW. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2017 at a cost of \$19.4 million.
- 20) N27(4-2)(2-3)(2-2)/N7(2-3)/N105(1-1)2&4 Nazlini North to Chinle, AZ . The North Phase design plans are 99% complete to construct 5.4 miles of grade, drain and pavement construction, which includes roundabout at N7/N27. Environmental assessment is complete and a Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued. Some of the utilities have already been relocated and others utility relocations are ongoing. RDC approved the ROW for entire 11.1 mile corridor but due to the new ROW regulations, there have been subsequent legislative actions needed to finalize the ROW. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2017 at a cost of \$16.7 million.
- 21) N27(2-2)(2-3)1,2&4 Nazlini to Chinle, AZ The South Phase design plans are 99% complete to construct 5.7 miles of grade, drain and pavement construction. Environmental assessment is complete and a Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued. RDC approved the ROW for entire 11.1 mile corridor but due to the new ROW regulations, there have been subsequent



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legislative actions needed to finalize the ROW. Project is currently programmed for construction in FY2017 at a cost of \$15.7 million.

- 22) N8031(1)(2)(3)/N4(5)1,2&3 Pinon to Hardrock, AZ . Design plans are 99% for N8031(1)(2)/N4(5), which is 12 miles of grade, drain, structures and gravel construction on the Navajo Nation portion of the project. Archaeology report is completed and has compliance. NDOT has completed the BE and is working on the CE to submit to FHWA for environmental clearance. BIA NRDOT has developed draft plats for the easements but still lack the environmental clearance documents to submit the right-of-way application.
- 23) N8031(3)1,2,3 design plans are 99% complete to construct 3.8 miles of grade, drain, structures and gravel construction, of which 2.2 miles is on Hopi Lands. BIA NRDOT will contract with the Hopi NEPA Office to complete the archaeology. BIA NRDOT will include the archaeology through the Hopi portion with the environmental assessment being prepared by NDOT.
- 24) N8084(1)(2)(3)(4)1,2&4 Many Farms, AZ . Design plans are 95% complete from US 191 (Many Farms) to N64 for total length of 19 miles. NDOT has completed archaeology survey and submitted to HPD and BIA for review and compliance. NDOT will prepare and submit the CE document to FHWA once the Cultural Resources Compliance Form is received. Only the N8084(1) project is programmed for construction in FY2021 for \$12.187 million to construct 3.5 miles of grade, drain, gravel and bridge construction.
- 25) N8066(3)/N8065(1)1,2&4 Black Mesa, AZ - Design plans are 50% complete, geotechnical report is complete, and drainage report is ongoing. The bridge design over the Oraibi Wash is at the preliminary stage and will be reviewed during the final PIH field review. NDOT completed archaeology survey for the spur road across Oraibi Wash tying into N8065 and access road to the Chapter. The EA/BE is completed and a FONSI was issued but will need to be updated to include the new bridge crossing and access road to the chapter. Project is programmed for construction in FY2021 for \$17.0 million to construct 6.8 miles of grade, drain, pavement and bridge construction.

### **WESTERN AGENCY NNTTIP PROJECT UPDATES:**

- 26) N6331(2)2&4/N6330(1)/N21(1A) Kaibeto, AZ: Design plans are 99% complete. BIA NRDOT took their environmental assessment and converted it into a FHWA CE format. NDOT reviewed the CE and submitted to FHWA for environmental clearance. The ROW application will be submitted to the Navajo Nation Land Department once environmental clearance is received. Project is programmed for construction in FY2017 for \$13.8 million to construct 3.5 miles of grade, drain, pavement and bridge construction.
- 27) N71(2)2&4/N15/Little Singer School Access Birdspings, AZ: Design plans are 99% complete. NDOT completed archaeology work with no impact to sites. NDOT received compliance on archaeological report from HPD. NDOT has completed the Biological Evaluation Report and has received compliance. NDOT will prepare a CE and submit to FHWA for environmental clearance. Application for right-of-way will be submitted when environmental clearance is issued. Project is programmed for construction in FY2017 for \$12.3 million to construct 7.5 miles of grade, drain and pavement construction.
- 28) N6461(1-2)/N6460(1)2&4 Dennehotso, AZ: NDOT consultant has completed surveys, established an alignment, and 60% plans for 5 miles of grade, drain and paving project. Archaeology report was completed by NDOT and FHWA submitted the report to NN Historic Preservation Department. NDOT is working with HPD to develop mitigation plans to address archaeology sites within the new roadway.



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The CE is ongoing and will be submitted to FHWA for an environmental clearance once a cultural resources compliance form is received.

### **FORT DEFIANCE AGENCY NNTTIP PROJECT UPDATES:**

- 29) N12(19-3) Tsaile, AZ & N9(12A)(12B)2&4 Pueblo Pintado, NM . Project was awarded to BIA Force Account Section (FAS) to provide grade and paving construction to address bad sections of pavement along N12 and N9 for \$2.33 million. BIA FAS has completed pavement cutout sections on N12 and has moved on to N9 to begin work to address bad sections of pavement. Project is under winter shutdown.
- 30) N31(4)1,2&4 Navajo, NM . NECA is 90% completed to construct 5.5 miles of grade, drain, bridge and paving construction for \$17.9 million. The contractor completed the guardrail installation and placed the remaining asphalt pavement on the mainline. The project is under winter shutdown. The contractor will complete erosion control matting, pavement markings, seeding, and performing corrective action items on the bridge block-out, columns and aprons when the weather permits in the Spring of 2017.
- 31) N2007(1-1)1,2,4 New Lands, Navajo, AZ . NECA was awarded a PL 93-638 construction contract for \$15.46 million to construct 1.1 miles of grade, drain, pavement and bridge construction. NECA is working with BIA to complete all construction submittals prior to BIA issuing a Notice to Proceed for construction. NECA will not begin to work within the BNSF railroad ROW until April 2017.
- 32) N15 Fencing Project from Burnside to Greasewood Springs, AZ . NDOT consultant has completed plans for 23 miles of fencing, cattleguards and gates. NDOT has completed archaeology and has received an Environmental Clearance from FHWA. NDOT has submitted a pre-advertisement for construction package to FHWA on February 27, 2017 for review and approval. Once NDOT received approval from FHWA, the project will be advertised for construction.
- 33) N15(2-2)(3-1)(4-1)2&4 Burnside to Cornfield-Sunrise, AZ - Design plans are 99% complete and all technical reviews are completed for all three phases. FHWA submitted the archaeology report to the Navajo Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (NN THPO) on June 2016 for review and issuance of compliance . to date no response has been received from the THPO. NDOT has received a Biological Evaluation Compliance. NDOT will submit the CE to FHWA once the cultural resources compliance form is received. BIA NRDOT is looking for borrow pits along the route to cut down on the cost of borrow. These pits will need to be surveyed, archaeologically cleared, and tested by a materials consultant. Project is programmed for construction in FY2018 for \$16.0 million to construct 7.1 miles of grade, drain and pavement construction.
- 34) N9073(1)(2)1,2&4 Fort Defiance, AZ - Design plans are 60% complete and under technical reviews for both phases. BIA NRDOT is also working on the canyon rock and wash stabilization requirements. There are several utilities that will need to be relocated. Archaeology surveys have been completed along the existing road. NDOT will need to provide an archaeology survey along the areas where the new alignment deviates from the existing roadway. NDOT will update the BE and prepared a CE for the project. The N9073(1) project is programmed for construction in FY2019 for \$18.0 million to construct 6.5 miles of grade, drain, pavement and bridge construction.