



RDC approves Houck Chapter's request to utilize leftover funds for bathroom additions

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WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Today, the Resources and Development Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council approved Legislation No. 0206-22, changing CAP-35-18 for Houck Chapter by approving the chapter's use of leftover funds for more bathroom additions and new house wiring projects and moving the leftover funding to funding year three (3).

Sponsored by Hon. Council Delegate Raymond Smith, Jr. (Klagetoh, Wide Ruins, Houck, Lupton, Nahat'á Dził), the legislation would utilize the leftover funds from Resolution No. CAP-35-18 for more bathroom additions and several new housing wiring projects. In total, \$279,912.30 would be moved to Funding Year 3 to accommodate community members such as elders' and veterans' requests for more accessible bathroom facilities.

"I extend my gratitude to my colleagues on the Resources and Development Committee for their votes of approval and look forward to addressing the needs of the families I represent," said Delegate Smith. "Numerous elders and veterans will be able to utilize various facilities in my communities without worry, so I am thankful."

According to Section 4(C) of CAP-35-18, "A chapter project, powerline, or waterline project may be changed, including the year funded, or added to Exhibits A through E with the concurrence of the Delegate representing the chapter's Council District and the approvals of the Resource and Development Committee and Budget and Finance Committee, as long as such project has been certified as construction-ready by CPMD or NTUA and the total Síhasin Funding for the District does not exceed \$4,166,666.67."

In 2018, \$315,000 was approved for the Houck Chapter's "bathroom additions" Project along with \$353,278 for the Chapter's "Powerline" which originally had a projected duration of 18-24 months. After completion, the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development - Capital Projects Management Department (CPMD) submitted a Síhasin Project Amendment Certification Form describing Houck Chapter's requested changes.

"Throughout the Navajo Nation, numerous families deal with the lack of ADA-accessible facilities and through Delegate Smith's advocacy, our elders' and veterans' daily lives in his community will improve," said Hon. Speaker Seth Damon (Bááhaalí, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, Tséyatoh). "I thank Delegate Smith and my colleagues for voting in favor of Legislation No. 0206-22 and prioritizing the needs of our grandparents and warriors."

Overall, out of the \$279,912.30 approved, \$258,367.42 would be used towards more bathroom additions and \$21,544.88 for several new house wiring projects in Funding Year 3. In addition, no changes in the original funding amounts approved in the Resolution would be made.

The Budget & Finance Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council has final authority on the legislation.