



25th Navajo Nation Council

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Budget and Finance Committee approves amendment to Greasewood Springs Sihasin Project Plan adding a building renovation project



PHOTO: The Budget and Finance Committee approved a project change to the Greasewood Springs Sihasin Projects Expenditure Plan, removing the Master Tract Plan and adding the Greasewood Springs Building Renovation.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Tuesday, March 5, the 25th Navajo Nation Council Budget and Finance Committee (BFC) passed Legislation No. 0042-24, approving a project change to the Greasewood Springs Sihasin Projects Expenditure Plan, to remove the Master Tract Plan and add the Greasewood Springs Building Renovation.

According to Greasewood Springs Chapter President Arthur Hardy, the Chapter still plans to move forward with the Master Tract Plan but getting the infrastructure needed for that project is costly and will take time.

“The Budget and Finance Committee appreciates the Greasewood Springs Chapter staff and legislation sponsor Council Delegate Cherilyn Yazzie for presenting the legislation before the Committee,” said BFC Chair Council Delegate Shaandiin Parrish (Chilchinbeto, Dennehotso, Kayenta). “The proposed renovations address safety issues like bringing the current building to ADA compliance and other occupancy requirements. It renovates a vacated building for community usage, including a proposed senior center.”

Prior to the legislation being brought before the BFC, the Chapter submitted a “Sihasin Project Amendment Certification” form requesting that the Greasewood Springs Building Renovation

replace the Master Tract Plan, to provide tangible renovations to a vacated preschool building. The project is construction ready.

Legislation No. 0042-24 amends Greasewood Springs Sihasin Projects Expenditure Plan, according to Council Resolution CAP-35-18, which provides that a “chapter project, powerline, or waterline project maybe changed, including the year funded, with the concurrence of the Delegate representing the chapter’s Council District and the approvals of the Resources and Development Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee, as long as the project has been certified as construction ready by the Navajo Nation Capital Projects Management Department or the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority.”

The amendment splits the funding amounts previously allocated to the Master Tract Plan within the chapter’s Sihasin Project Expenditure Plan and places \$433,333 to Year 2 funding for the Master Tract Plan and \$433,333 to Year 3 funding for the Greasewood Springs Building Renovation.

Council Delegate Lomardo Aseret suggested that the committee consider how they can monitor the chapter’s utilization of funding for this project so that funds don’t lapse.

“What if funds are not being used again? Does BFC have to take action to take the money back?” he asked. “We need to include creative ways to assess project responsibility within the resolution.”

Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Yazzie thanked the Committee for considering the legislation and emphasized the need for infrastructure projects across the Navajo Nation.

“We need infrastructure. We need to move these projects forward,” Yazzie said. “Often my chapters don’t have much to work with, but we need to utilize the funding we have to improve the livelihood of our community members.”

Legislation No. 0042-24 was approved with a vote of five in favor and zero opposed with the Budget and Finance Committee being final authority.

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