



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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25th Navajo Nation Council accepts Speaker's Report highlighting legislative accomplishments



Speaker Crystalyne Curley (right) was joined by members of the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council while providing the Speaker's Report during the opening day of the 2026 Fall Session.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — On Monday, during the opening session of the 2026 Fall Session, the 25th Navajo Nation Council voted to accept the Speaker's Report, which highlighted the Council's accomplishments and ongoing efforts to protect Navajo Nation sovereignty, strengthen communities and address the needs of Diné citizens.

During her report, Speaker Curley was joined by members of the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council (NNYAC), who provided an oral report on their work and advocacy.

Speaker Crystalyne Curley highlighted legislative actions and investments involving water rights, uranium exposure compensation, senior centers, language preservation, transportation, broadband infrastructure, youth leadership and voting rights.

"The work of the 25th Navajo Nation Council reflects our shared responsibility to protect our people, uphold our sovereignty and prepare for future generations," Speaker Curley said. "These accomplishments represent the work of my colleagues to address longstanding needs in our communities and strengthen the foundation for the next 100 years."

The report highlighted the Council's efforts to advance Navajo water rights, including its unanimous approval of the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement on May 23, 2024. The agreement addresses the Nation's claims to Colorado River water in Arizona and provides a pathway for funding essential water delivery infrastructure. The Council

also advanced legislation establishing the Nation's priorities for Colorado River operations beyond 2026.

The report also recognized continued advocacy for uranium workers, downwinders and families affected by radiation exposure through support for the reauthorization of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act. The Council has emphasized the importance of helping eligible individuals navigate the claims process and supporting efforts to address uranium contamination and protect public health.

Investments in elders and community services were another focus. In October 2024, the Council approved Legislation No. 0135-24, committing approximately \$148 million from the Síhasin Fund for improvements to senior centers, including renovations, accessibility upgrades and new facilities. In April 2026, the Council approved more than \$7.4 million for construction of the Ramah Navajo Senior Citizens Center. The Council also approved \$6 million in March 2026 to help all 110 chapters provide emergency assistance and prepare for events such as flooding and drought.

The report highlighted a cultural milestone achieved in December 2024, when the Council passed legislation sponsored by Council Delegate Shawna Ann Claw formally recognizing Diné Bizaad as the official language of the Navajo Nation. President Buu Nygren signed the legislation into law on Dec. 24, 2024. The action established a foundation for continued language preservation, education and use throughout Navajo Nation government and communities.

Transportation and broadband infrastructure also remain priorities. In April 2026, the Council approved \$120 million from the Síhasin Fund for transportation improvements. The investment supports road rehabilitation, safety improvements and long-term transportation planning. In July 2026, the Council approved a \$244.6 million broadband infrastructure investment intended to expand connectivity throughout all 110 chapters and improve access to education, telehealth, public information and economic opportunities.

The report further highlighted youth participation in government through the NNYAC. In March 2026, the Naabik'íyáti' Committee approved legislation confirming 12 members selected from 41 applicants, representing the Nation's five agencies and Navajo youth living off the reservation. The NNYAC presented its oral report and responded to questions from the Council.

During the report, the Council thanked the NNYAC for continuing to learn and speak Diné Bizaad, advocating on issues affecting their peers and leading by example.

"When you give the youth the power and opportunity to speak, it builds confidence," said NNYAC Chairwoman Aryiah C. R. James. "One of our priorities is to provide space to Navajo youth through youth conferences and to let them be leaders."

Speaker Curley's report emphasized the Council's continued responsibility to listen to community concerns and work collaboratively across the Legislative Branch.

The Council voted 18 in favor and none opposed to accept the Speaker's Report, including the NNYAC report.

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