



## STATE OF NEW MEXICO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

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Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor  
Lynn Trujillo, Secretary  
Nadine Padilla, Deputy Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **New Mexico Makes Sweeping Investments in Tribal Communities in 2021**

SANTA FE – New Mexico Indian Affairs Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo announced another year of sweeping investments for tribal communities on Wednesday. The Indian Affairs Department received \$49 million in direct capital outlay funds that will go to 148 projects in tribal communities. An additional \$9 million will go to 26 projects in tribal communities through other state agencies. Capital outlay investments made into tribal communities this year will be used to fund projects including the development of makerspaces for economic development, public safety complexes, early childhood centers, and water and broadband infrastructure.

“Under the Lujan Grisham administration, more capital investments have gone into New Mexico’s tribal communities than in the previous two administrations combined,” said Indian Affairs Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo. “Tribes in New Mexico are using this funding to rebuild and recover from the pandemic and this administration is proud to contribute to the effort.”

“My administration is committed to supporting New Mexico’s tribal nations recover from the pandemic,” said Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. “This \$58 million investment will help to strengthen early childhood learning, senior and veterans’ services, and public safety for native nations in our state.”

Governor Brian D. Vallo of the Pueblo of Acoma noted that this year's capital investments included funding to help support the construction of a small business development center in the pueblo. "Capital Outlay funding remains a crucial resource for tribes. This funding has helped us to address infrastructure and to build upon and improve other fundamental needs in our communities. The pandemic highlighted many of the disparities in our tribal communities; this investment will go toward making significant improvements during this time of recovery. I applaud Governor Lujan Grisham for her commitment to tribal communities and for ensuring that we work together to create opportunities that will advance the quality of life for our current and future generations," said Governor Vallo.

President Jonathan Nez of the Navajo Nation commended state investments into infrastructure and public safety in Navajo Chapters throughout western New Mexico. "On behalf of the Navajo Nation, I extend my appreciation to Gov. Lujan Grisham, State Legislators, the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development, and many others who supported these much-needed projects and initiatives for our Navajo communities. I also thank the members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and all of the chapter officials for their advocacy and support during the recent state legislative session. The State of New Mexico continues to support tribal nations on many issues, and this was evident throughout the most recent session. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our partnership with Governor Lujan Grisham, State Legislators, Indian Affairs Department, and all agencies with the state," said President Nez.

Governor Jenelle Roybal of the Pueblo of Pojoaque noted that capital investments into the pueblo will go to projects including broadband deployment and water infrastructure. "The pandemic highlighted many of the disparities in our tribal communities; this investment will go toward making significant improvements for our current and future generations. I applaud Governor Lujan Grisham for her commitment to tribal communities and for ensuring that we are provided the funding we need to help address, build and improve fundamental needs in our communities," said Governor Roybal.

For a complete list of projects funded see [House Bill 285](#).

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