



25th Navajo Nation Council

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Speaker Curley advocates for the Navajo Nation at the Department of the Interior Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee meeting



The Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee is a forum that ensures the Navajo Nation's voice is heard when it comes to the federal budget priorities.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — 25th Navajo Nation Council Speaker Crystalyne Curley, alongside Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, advocated on behalf of the Navajo Nation at the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting hosted by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland in Washington, D.C.

The two-day meeting with federal agencies brought tribal representatives from each of the Bureau of Indian Affairs 12 regions together to a range of priorities including infrastructure, the federal budget, public safety, transportation needs, and others.

In 2021, Secretary Haaland announced the formation of the Department's first-ever Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee, to ensure tribal leaders have direct and consistent contact and communication with the officials to facilitate discussions on intergovernmental responsibilities, exchange views, share information and provide advice and recommendations regarding Departmental programs and funding.

In April 2023, Secretary Haaland appointed President Nygren to serve as a STAC primary member and Speaker Curley as the alternate, representing the Navajo Area Region.

"We carry the concerns and priorities of our people and communities on our shoulders when we meet with our federal partners. The Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee is one forum to ensure that our voices are heard and that the Navajo Nation has a seat at the table when it comes to the federal budget priorities, missing persons discussions, and many other critical issues," said Speaker Curley.

During this week's discussions, Speaker Curley and President Nygren each spoke about the importance of supporting the Navajo Nation water rights claims and infrastructure development and the streamlining of road and transportation processes to improve thousands of miles of roadways on the Navajo Nation.

On Tuesday, Speaker Curley also called on the Department of the Interior to support the Navajo Nation's laws and efforts to stop the recent transportation of uranium ore through the Navajo Nation by an outside uranium development company.

"As the Biden-Harris Administration enters its final months in office and as the transition to the next administration occurs, it's critical that we continue to make our voices heard on these issues," added Speaker Curley.

On behalf of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, Speaker Curley thanks the Department of the Interior for hosting the meeting and providing a platform for tribal leaders to voice their issues and recommendations.

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