

KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

AUGUST 2005



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PROPOSED KAYENTA LAND USE PLAN

The Land Use Plan consists of three sections that include (1) a Conceptual Future Land Use Plan; (2) a Visual Preference Survey of development types; and (3) a description of the character and development guidelines for specific Future Land Uses areas.

A Five Year Capital Improvement Program is proposed that connects the Future Land Uses envisioned with the Infrastructure requirements to serve this future development.

CONCEPTUAL FUTURE LAND USE PLAN

Based on the Land Use Inventory completed in Phase 1 report, and subsequent meetings with the Township staff, Steering Committee and community residents, a conceptual future Land Use Plan is proposed that identifies future development in the Township. There is also an area along Highway 163 that is in the Kayenta Chapter that is recommended as a future growth area and has land use recommendations.

The future land use classifications proposed utilize the classifications identified on the Land Use Inventory and include additional land use classifications and Special Character areas. The Future Land Use Plan predominately focuses on the areas that were identified as Undeveloped Land on the Land Use Inventory. The Land Use Classifications identified on the Future Land Use Plan include:

- **Residential**

- a. Low Density (1-3 DU/ac)
- b. Medium Density (3-7 DU/ace)
- c. High Density (7-15 DU/ac)
- d. Live/Work (5-8 DU/ac)

- **Commercial**

- a. Retail
- b. Farmers Market
- c. Artisan Studios

- **Industrial**

- a. Business Park
- b. Light Industrial

- **Civic/Governmental**

- a. Civic Center
- b. Plaza
- c. Cultural/Visitor Center

- **Health-Related**

- a. Hospital
- b. Medical Related

- **Open Space/Recreation**

- a. Park
- b. Open Space Greenbelt/Water courses
- c. Trails
- d. Community-supported Agriculture
- e. Recreation Vehicle (RV) Park

- **Office**

- a. Office
- b. Incubator/Business Center

- **Special Character Areas**

- a. "Old Town Kayenta"
- b. "Main Street"
 - Resort
 - Gateways
 - Historic/Ceremonial Sites

There are also three Special Use areas indicated on the Land Use Plan representing a Residential Rehabilitation/Redevelopment area in the northwest, a Traditional Residential area and a Constructed Wetlands area proposed as part of the sewer lagoons upgrade/expansion.

In addition, 5.5 miles of new collector roadways are proposed to serve the future growth areas.

The following table represents the acreages for all land uses proposed on the Conceptual Land Use Plan (listed alphabetically by land use). There are a total of 1,883 acres of new open space and mixed use development proposed in Kayenta Township based on the build-out scenario of the land use plan. These acreages are in addition to the existing developed identified in the Land Use inventory.



Conceptual Plan Land Use	Acreage
Artisan Studios	5.7
Business Park	155.1
Civic	6.9
Civic Center	43.6
Commercial	77.5
Community College Redevelopment	22.1
Community Supported Agriculture	51.6
Constructed Wetlands WWF	96.7
Cultural Center	2.6
Farmers Market	5.2
Health-Related	86.2
High Density Residential	2.8
Hospital	60.7
Housing Rehabilitation/Redevelopment	165.5
Incubator/Business Center	8.4
Light Industrial	71.4
Live/Work Residential	21.5
Low Density Residential	430.3
Main Street	22.8
Medium Density Residential	156.2
Office	15.3
Old Town	16.3
Open Space	161.6
Park	51.1
Plaza	1.9
Resort	84.8
RV Park	6.6
School	3.7
Traditional Neighborhood	45.6
Visitor Center	3.1
TOTAL PROPOSED LAND USE ACREAGE	1882.7

VISUAL PREFERENCE SURVEY OF DEVELOPMENT CHARACTER

A Visual Preference Survey was conducted with residents of Kayenta at a community meeting on June 30, 2005. The purpose of the survey was to provide a means of determining the residents' preferences for development character of various land uses such as residential, office, commercial, civic and streetscapes. Since traditionally the Navajo culture has not established their living settlements in urban settings such as Kayenta Township, little precedent or examples were available to serve as models for how these towns should look and feel. The survey was one methodology to assist in defining the character appropriate to the Navajo culture.

The methodology involved a slide presentation of 20 photo examples of existing development from both other communities and within Kayenta. The photographs represented examples of residential, civic, office, commercial and streetscapes. The participants were asked to rank each photograph on a scale of 1 (least preferred) to 5 (highest preferred) of the types of development they'd prefer to see in the Kayenta Township. The responses were tabulated and ranged from a high of 4.3 for the most preferred to a low of 1.63 for the least preferred development type. An interesting conclusion of the survey was that the photos of existing developments in Kayenta ranked in the lowest range of preferred developments, representing that the residents were not very satisfied with these development types in their community.

Here are some general conclusions from the survey:

- There is a high preference for development and streets with trees and landscaping.
- The results indicate a preference for southwestern architecture with stucco surfaces over stone or wood.
- There is a strong preference for pedestrian features (walkways and paths) in residential and commercial developments.
- Smaller scale single story buildings seemed to be preferred over multi-story buildings.
- The participants preferred developments with diversity in setbacks and architecture rather than uniformity in the housing and building types.
- There is not a preference for new buildings with a "hogan-type" design.

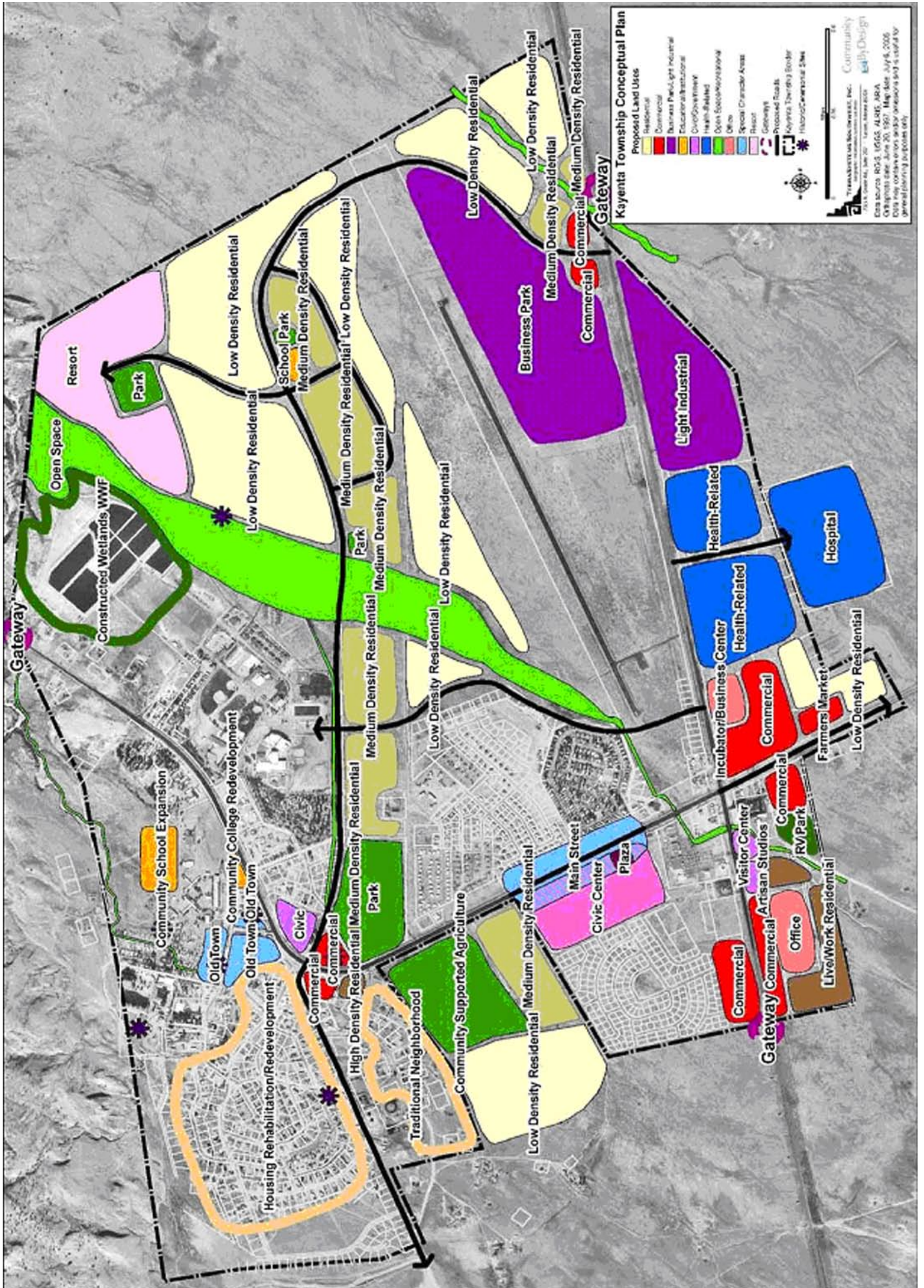
DEVELOPMENT CHARACTER AND GUIDELINES

The following descriptions focus on specific areas within the Future Land Use Plan. Specific land uses and facilities are recommended in these areas as well a guidelines on the character of these future land uses

Residential Rehabilitation Area

This area is an existing residential area that is in need of rehabilitation. Since this area has existing infrastructure it would be cost-effective to redevelop this area prior to expanding new development into areas where infrastructure needs to be expanded. This area is blighted and may have health and safety issues related to inadequate wastewater disposal and dirt streets creating air quality issues, sub-standard design and signage and inaccessibility by emergency service vehicles.





Proposed Residential Land Uses	Acreage	Avg DU/ac	Total DU
High Density Residential	2.8	12	34
Live/Work Residential	21.5	6	130
Low Density Residential	430.3	2	860
Medium Density Residential	156.2	5	780
TOTAL PROPOSED DWELLING UNITS (DU)	610.8		1804

Of the total 1,883 acres of proposed open space and mixed use development, 611 acres is proposed for residential development, for a total of 1,804 new dwelling units.

Kayenta Growth Area

This area represents an enclave of land under the management of the Chapter that has frontage along Highway 163 and is abutting the Township boundary on three sides. This area represents an excellent opportunity for the Chapter and Township to collaborate on development, either through an annexation agreement or a development agreement that outlines land uses, infrastructure and shared revenue opportunities for each jurisdiction.



Land uses proposed in this area include Community Supported Agriculture, managed as a cooperative or non-profit organization, which serves as an economic development tool, preserves the agricultural traditions of the Navajo culture, and provides an open space area along the highway corridor. Medium and low density residential uses are also proposed that take advantage of existing infrastructure and can assist in alleviating the housing shortage in the Chapter and Township.

Civic Center and “Main Street” Character Area

This is the town center of Kayenta and is proposed to include many civic and public facilities such as the Town Hall, Public Safety facility, Adult Day Care/Senior Center, Post Office, Library, Veterans War Memorial and an outdoor performance area. A Cultural Plaza is proposed as the activity center that would be framed by buildings on three sides and have activities such as festivals, events and outdoor performances.

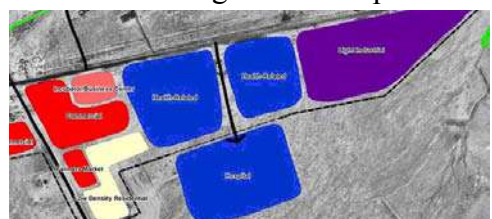


The “Main Street” special character area along Highway 163 is to provide a walkable pedestrian-friendly retail and service area that complements the Civic Center area. This area is intended to have a landscaped street with median and on-street parking. Uses would include restaurants, movie theater, specialty retail, clothing stores, and art galleries. The buildings are to be close to the street with wide sidewalks and on-site parking should be on the side or rear of the buildings.

Southeast Quadrant

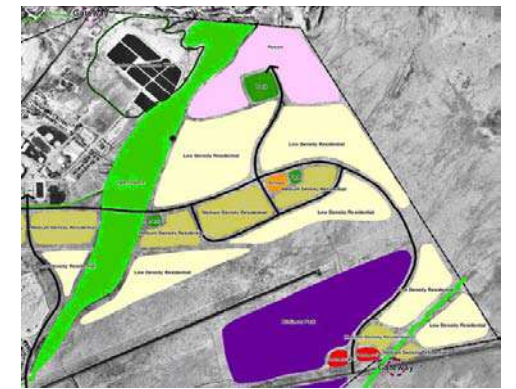
The southeast corner of the two highways is a health-related focus with some commercial, employment and residential uses. The Kayenta Hospital is approved to be located here and is waiting on funding approval. The hospital will be an anchor to additional health-related facilities such as medical offices, dentist, wellness centers, pharmacy, and other health services.

An Incubator/Business center is also proposed in this area that could support entrepreneurial start-up business. There would also be supporting facilities such as a copy center and office supply businesses located here. A residential area is proposed that could be housing for the hospital and



Southwest Quadrant

The southwest intersection of Highways 160 and 163 is proposed as a mixed use center with a strong tourist-orientation with uses such as a Visitor/Cultural Center, Artisan studios and a Recreational Vehicle (RV). There’s also an office, live/work and retail commercial component to provide a walkable area. It is also proposed that a landscaped pedestrian path would be constructed along the drainage channel and that a pedestrian crossing, either with pedestrian-activated signal or a PELICN-type crossing occur where the drainage channel crosses Highway 160. This will allow a safer and stronger connection to the shopping center and civic area.



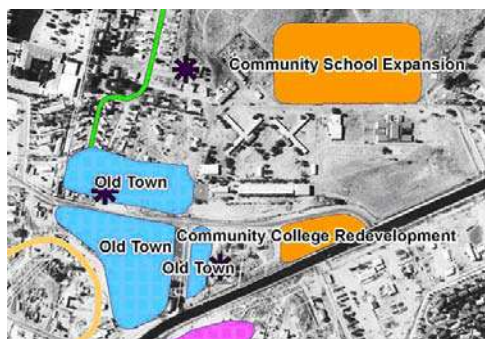
certain land use restrictions around the expanded airport facility that are described in the 2005 Kayenta Airport Master Plan prepared by Armstrong Consultants. An open space greenbelt is proposed that would provide drainage and recreational uses such as trails and multi-use fields This area is seen as the future residential growth area for the Township and is proposed to have mixed density/income neighborhoods with both market-rate and affordable housing products. Housing types include single family detached, single family attached and apartment dwelling units (DU). There was a high preference for homes with a diversity of styles and were pedestrian-oriented.

Old Town Character Area/Education Expansion

The “Old Town” character area represents Kayenta’s past and should be respected and celebrated. This area offers opportunities for historic preservation and rehabilitation of existing structures and ceremonial sites that can serve the residents and provide interpretive opportunities for tourism. Among the historical structures that are significant to Kayenta’s past are the stone BIA office, the ceremonial sweat lodges and the Kayenta Trading Post. There is a pathway proposed from the Old Town to Laguna Creek and along the Creek to the highway. There are educational facilities proposed in this area that include expansion of the Community School on the BIA land, and a Community College Campus located on the existing Health Clinic site. The Health Clinic is to be relocated to the new Hospital when it is constructed, and this will provide an economic means of using this existing setting to be an adaptive reuse of these existing buildings rehabilitated and redeveloped into a college campus facility.

Continued on Page 5

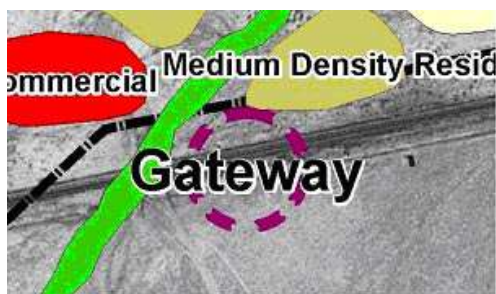
KAYENTA TOWNSHIP JOB ANNOUNCEMENT



north along Highway 163 should be located at the Laguna Creek bridge and provide parking for residents and visitors to stop and appreciate this unique and cultural landscape. There is also a pathway proposed to the Old Town area along the Creek. The Gateways should be of natural material and could represent the cardinal directions of the Navajo culture. It is recommended that a public art competition be conducted to allow local artists an opportunity to design culturally-significant gateway features for entries into Kayenta to provide a unique sense of arrival.

Gateways

Three Gateway features are proposed at the three entrances to the Township along Highways 160 and 163. Each Gateway has a unique character that should reflect its surroundings. For example, the Gateway at the



KAYENTA TOWNSHIP SEEKS NEW TOWN MANAGER

On August 8th, 2005 the Kayenta Township held its monthly town meeting. Among the agenda items was a resolution to reaffirm the July 17th resolution to end Kayenta Township Manager, Gary Nelson's contract with the Kayenta Township. The Commission voted: 2 – 0 – Quorum at the August 8th meeting. The vote reaffirmed the resolution which was passed in a special meeting on July 17th by the Kayenta Township Commission.

the Kayenta Town Manager is filled.

The Kayenta Township would like to express that since the dismissal of Kayenta Town Manager Gary Nelson, the Township will continue with its day to day routine and planned projects.

The Kayenta Township is currently seeking applications for the Kayenta Town Manager position from interested individuals.

Currently, Brenda Saggboy is Acting Town Manager until the position of

For more information, please contact the Kayenta Township (928) 697-8451.



POSITION: TOWN MANAGER

CLOSING DATE: Position is open until filled.

REPORTING RELATIONS: Reports directly to the Kayenta Township Commission.

SALARY: Negotiable

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Provide professional leadership, management, administration, supervision and planning for the Township. The Town Manager is expected to exercise a high degree of independence, initiative, and professional expertise in the overall administration of the Township, including the implementation and enforcement of all Township policies, ordinances, and land use and capital improvement plans established by the Commission.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Inform and advise the Commission on the affairs, activities and functions of the Township and provide recommendations and alternative solutions for Commission consideration.
2. Coordinate Commission and staff effort toward community partnerships (working with groups, boards, councils and public and private agencies and entities) and intergovernmental relationships to pursue policies, services, and goals in the interests of the Township.
3. Develop policies, strategies and plans to facilitate and implement economic development with emphasis on the private economy to attract business and industry.
4. Direct and assist in the preparation, maintenance, and revision of comprehensive plans, policies, services and goals for the Township.
5. Maintain an efficient and effective human resource function through, among others overall supervisory control of the Township staff
6. Represent the Township in all dealings with other governments, private businesses, and the general public on all Township matters:
7. Oversee the preparation of the annual operating budget and its administration.
8. Prepare and monitor capital improvement plans and budgets.
9. Investigate and resolve citizen and business concerns, issues and complaints concerning Township matters.
10. Assist the Chairperson of the Commission in the preparation of the agenda for Commission meetings.
11. Perform other work as required.

MANDATORY QUALIFICATIONS

1. Must live or relocate within the Township boundary;
2. Graduate from an accredited college or university with a degree in planning and management, economics, political science, business administration, education or a related field;
3. Five years actual responsible experience in municipal or other governmental planning and management;
4. Valid Drivers License;
5. Has not been convicted of any offense (criminal or civil) within the last ten (10) years that involved any of the following:
 - A. Deceit, untruthfulness and dishonesty, including extortion, embezzlement, bribery, perjury, forgery, fraud, misrepresentation, theft, conversion, or misuse of public or private funds or property;
 - B. Aggravated assault, aggravated battery or sexual misconduct; or
 - C. Use or possession of illegal drugs.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. Extensive knowledge of the principles, practices, methods and procedures of municipal planning and management and public administration, including the economic, geographic, and demographic factors involved in community development
2. Thorough knowledge of and experience with the general laws and regulations related to community development, including working knowledge of Township, Navajo Nation and federal laws and regulations related to zoning, procurement, personnel, taxation, leasing, bonds and contracting.
3. Ability to direct, supervise and maintain effective working relationship with staff, professionals and technicians of all levels.
4. Ability to effectively mediate and resolve operational and personnel problems.
5. Working knowledge of budget procedures and practices.
6. Ability to develop, negotiate and coordinate Township policies and activities with other governments, public and private agencies and entities, and the general public.
7. Working knowledge of research methodology and statistics with ability to analyze and systematically compile and report technical and statistical information.
8. Ability to research, write and effectively present comprehensive written and oral reports.
9. Ability to make difficult and independent decisions.

Please provide a completed application, resume, four employment references, two personal references, and evidence of certifications, diplomas, etc. Applications and a more detailed job description can be obtained by calling (928) 697-8451. The Kayenta Township reserves the right to reject any and all applications and to re-advertise if necessary.

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Juan J. Aguilar

Vice President
Senior Relationship Manager
KeyBank Native American Financial Services

Juan has over 15 years retail and commercial banking experience and has held several community, economic development and outreach relationship positions. In his new role, he will focus on providing financial services to tribal enterprises in the southwest region (Arizona, Oklahoma and New Mexico) from his Phoenix office.

According to Juan, "The Southwest Indian Nations are increasingly progressive: expanding and creating new enterprises that are creating family-wage jobs and newfound wealth for tribal members. Many are moving to income diversification to insure total self-sufficiency in the years to come."

Juan can be reached at:
**KeyBank Native American
Financial Services**
2390 East Camelback Road, Suite 220
Phoenix, AZ 85016

602-778-4084
Juan_Aguilar@KeyBank.com

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KAYENTA VISITOR CENTER TO HOST "ETHNICOLOGY"

This Saturday, the Kayenta Visitor Center will come to life with a bang! Every year about this time, Kayenta resident Billy Crawley II puts on one of the most anticipated shows on the Navajo Nation, the "Ethnicology - Back to School Music Festival".

The show will feature well over fifteen metal bands from all over the Four Corners Area, Flagstaff, and Phoenix, some of the bands featured are, Breed Apart, Tibus, Third Degree, Styr, and many more. Recently added to the show is an all-girl metal band from Farmington, New Mexico called Undying Hate.

The Kayenta Today caught up with Billy Crawley II and asked him a few questions about the show.

Q: Why did you start "Ethnicology"?

Billy: I wanted to do something for the kids of the community before they had to go back to school, you know, something fun. So I decided to get some bands together to play an all day music festival and called it "Ethnicology". That was four years ago, and the show has gotten bigger and bigger every year. Ethnicology is also a way for different bands to get acquainted and do some networking with each other. But most of all it's all about music and fun for everyone.

Q: Who is sponsoring the show?

Billy: We have a number of sponsors this year that will be at the show showing their support and promoting their products. This year we have RedNations.com, Red Ladee Clothing, Native Outlaw Fightware Clothing, and Dine' Underground. We also have Sheephead Films that will be projecting video on a massive screen behind the main stage, which will add some awesome imagery to the show.

Q: Why the new venue?

Billy: We used to have the show at the Todenshahi Theatre, but we were unable to use it this year. I came across the Kayenta Visitor Center, I heard it re-opened and decided to

see if we could use it for the show. I met Ron Watch who manages the visitor center and asked him if he was interested in hosting the event. Ron was quite excited about it, he said, "This is the kind of event that can get the Kayenta Visitor Center some well deserved exposure." I'm real happy about having the show at the visitor center, I believe the surrounding businesses will benefit from the event as well by drawing customers from the show.



Q: Where do you see "Ethnicology" in the future?

Billy: In the future I would love to take "Ethnicology" on the road, make it a touring show around the Four Corners area, that way, everyone can see their favorite bands play and have some well deserved fun.

Headlining the "Ethnicology" show is Kayenta's own Ethnic De Generation, Although Ethnic De Generation has had a few members of the band come and go, the music remains the same, with the same drive, passion, and up in your face style Ethnic De Generation fans have come to expect from them. EDG has established themselves as one of the most respected and influential Native metal bands to emerge from the heart of the Navajo Nation. They are also known as one of the most hard working Native metal bands, spending much of



their time on the road building their fan base from Kansas to California and all the other states in between.

With all their hard work, EDG has had the privilege to share the stage with other well known metal bands such as, Soulfly, Super Joint Ritual, Devil Driver, Flotsam and Jetsam, and Lamb of God. EDG has been around nearly seven years and continues to attract more fans show after show.

Q: Rumors about EDG, word has it there is a new drummer and possible album?


Billy: Yes, we have a new drummer. He will be doing his first live show with us Saturday night. We're real

excited about playing our first live show with him. We don't want to reveal his name right now, we all want it to be a surprise for everyone at Saturday nights show. With our new band member on board as well as new music in the process, our main focus right now is to do more live shows to expand our fan base and prepare for studio recording for our long awaited "Album".


Tickets for the "Ethnicology - Back to School Music Festival" are \$10 and are available at the door of the Kayenta Visitor Center. The show begins at 12 noon Saturday, August 27 and is an alcohol and drug-free event. For more information, contact Billy Crawley II at edg247@hotmail.com .

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THE LATE NAVAJO TRIBAL CHAIRMAN RAYMOND NAKAI, 86, REMEMBERED AS FIRST MODERN NAVAJO LEADER

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. The late Navajo Tribal Chairman Raymond Nakai, 86, who died Sunday of pneumonia, is being remembered here today as the first modern Navajo leader, a champion of Navajo civil and religious rights, and the man who ushered in the first economic development initiative to the huge, remote Navajo Nation.

Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., expressed his condolences to the family of Chairman Nakai on behalf of the Navajo people.

“I want to express my appreciation to the family for sharing the Honorable Chairman with the people at the time he was Chairman of the Navajo Nation Council”, President Shirley said. “The contribution Mr. Nakai has made has served to have the Navajo Nation rise to a different level of being and awareness. With his leadership, our evolving Nation has continued to grow. I know he has left the world we live in but his influences will long be remembered.”

David Clark, president of Azeé Bee Nahagha of the Diné Nation and the first president of the Native American Church of Navajoland, called chairman Nakai one of the backbones to Navajo economic development.

“He advocated for the civil rights of the Navajo. He wanted to have a constitution established. That was his platform during the time he was campaigning.”

Mr. Clark said he first got to know Chairman Nakai as a boy when Mr. Nakai returned from Navy service in the South Pacific and worked at the Navajo Army Depot in Bellemont, Ariz.

“My parents and many others, the elders, worked there”, Mr. Clark

said. “He was employed there with the Department of Defense. He was a prominent leader at the time.”

Chairman Nakai was born in Lukachukai, Ariz., on Oct. 12, 1918. He served two terms as chairman of the Navajo Tribe, as it was known then, from 1964 until 1971. He went on to be a councilman on the Navajo Tribal Council from Lukachukai after leaving office as chairman.

“He had great skills in communication both in English and in Navajo because he worked for radio station KCLS in Flagstaff.”, said Peter Iverson, Arizona State University history professor and author of *The Navajo Nation*. He had an appreciation for media. He served at a time of great transition and a time when important issues were being confronted.

Among those issues were education, Native American religious freedom and civil rights. In 1968, Chairman Nakai played a vital role in the establishment of Navajo Community College today Diné College the first tribally-controlled college in the U.S.

In 1967, Chairman Nakai met with Bureau of Indian Affairs officials to explain his goals to create the college. The officials expressed disbelief that the Navajo people planned to operate their own college. Chairman Nakai is remembered for having said, “We’re not asking for your permission. We’re just telling you what we’re going to do.”

Chairman Nakai also presided over the Centennial of the Navajo Treaty of 1868, which freed 8,000 Navajos from captivity at Fort Sumner, N.M., known as the Navajo holocaust, and established a Navajo reservation.

One year later, in 1969, the Navajo Tribal Council passed a resolution to refer to the Navajo Tribe as the



Navajo Nation. “This was to remind Navajos and non-Navajos alike that, as a people, Navajos were distinct.”, Professor Iverson said.

“Nakai said that it was asserting that we are both a part of the United States and we are apart from the United States”, Professor Iverson said. “In the long run, Chairman Nakai is somebody, I think, who will be seen as a more significant leader. He was an important person, and important to recognize and remember.”

Chairman Nakai is also known for firing the first general counsel for the Navajo Tribe, Norman Littell, who had tremendous influence in the working of the Navajo Tribal Council in the 1960s.

“Littell did not go gently into the night”, Professor Iverson said. “They had a tremendous confrontation about that. And, in the end, Nakai’s stance held.”

Chairman Nakai is also remembered for having asserted the right of Navajo people to use the sacrament peyote, known in the Navajo language as azeé, or medicine. In the 1960s, members of the Native American Church were being persecuted for their religious use of azeé.

On Oct. 11, 1967, the use of peyote in religious ceremonies by Native American Church members was approved by the Navajo Tribal Council

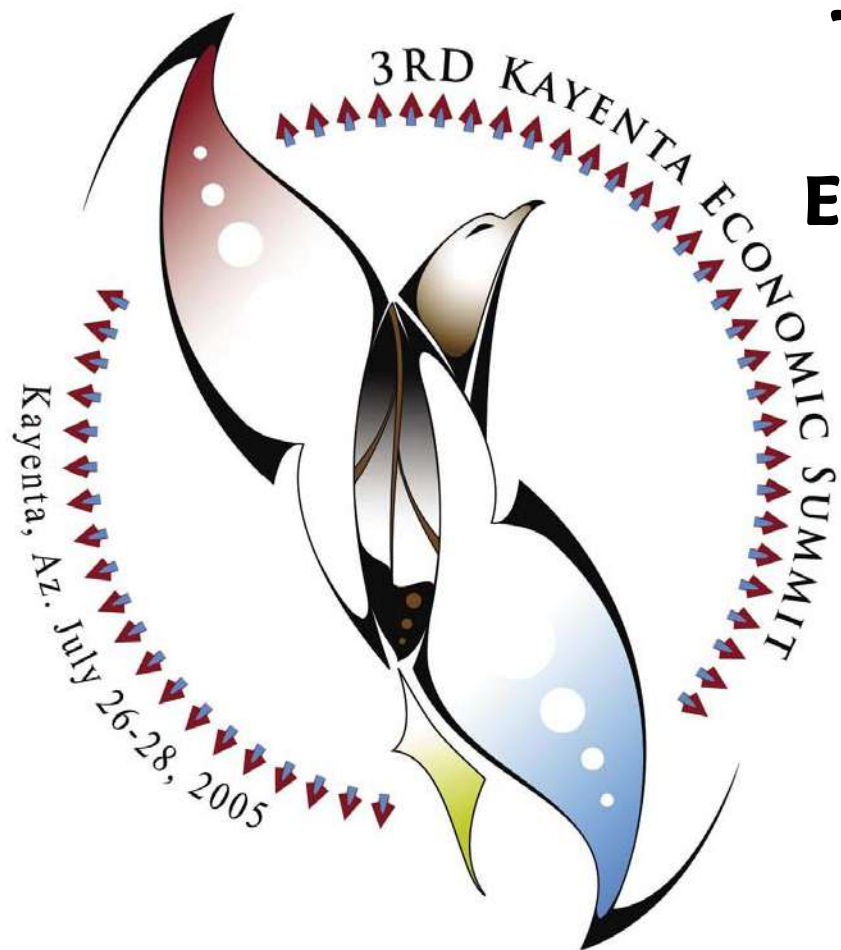
by a margin of three votes.

Chairman Nakai is survived by his wife Ella M. Nakai, their children musician Raymond Carlos Nakai of Tucson, Ursula Nakai of Albuquerque, Michael Nakai of Window Rock, Richard Nakai of Lukachukai, and Laurinda of Flagstaff. In addition, he leaves three sisters, Mae Bekis, Lillian N. Uentillie, and Eva N. Lee, all of Lukachukai, 10 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Chairman Nakai was preceded in death by his parents John and Bilthnedesbah, his sisters Mary C. Tso and Nellie Nakai, and his brothers Frank and Paul Nakai.



Thank you to all that attended the 3rd Kayenta Economic Summit and Business Expo





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Why We Need To Make Kayenta Wheelchair Friendly

By Byron Micheau Gray

Statistics in the US

About 54 million Americans -- approximately 1 in 5 -- report that they have some kind of disability and 26 million of them -- 1 in 10 -- say they have a severe disability. More than half the Americans with a severe disability were between ages 22 and 64. 20 percent of men and 18 percent of women ages 16 to 64 have disabilities. 43 percent of women and 40 percent of men 65 or older have disabilities. 46% of people with disabilities report having more than one disability.

- *22 percent of AI/AN reported one or more disabilities.
- *This compares with a national rate of 17 percent. This was also higher than any other minority group.
- *27 percent of Navajos 21-64 years old on the reservation report having one or more disabilities.
- *69 percent of Navajo over 64 have one or more disability

Some Elderly are Disabled

- *The elderly on the Navajo Nation makes up 5.4% of the population.
- *Of that number 69.2% of them are disabled, compared to 43% of the general US population. That's a pretty high number!
- *These disabilities range from kidney failure, poor eyesight, blindness, deafness, to lack of mobility, and congestive heart failure.
- *All of these disabilities come from the number one disability that is affecting the elderly of the Navajo and other Native American tribes.

Challenges on the Navajo Nation

- *Poverty, poor education, and lack of resources create specific challenges on the Reservation
- *On the Navajo Reservation, only 53.1 percent of adults over 16 years of age are employed
- *In our area, nearly 50 percent of households live without full utilities and 80 percent lack phone service.
- *Only 62 percent of all Navajos have a high school degree or equivalency as compared to 80 percent of the general population.

What is the ADA?

- *ADA stands for Americans with Disabilities Act.
- *It is federal legislation to prevent discrimination on the basis of disabilities
- *Title I of the ADA requires employers with 15 or more employees to provide equal employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
- *Title II of the ADA requires states to provide the least restrictive living environment.
- *Title III of the ADA prevents discrimination in public places.



How Does The ADA Affect the Navajo Nation?

- *Tribal Sovereignty limits the reach of the ADA.
- *Tribes are not required to provide equal employment opportunities
- *The ADA does expect private companies on the reservations to comply with Title I.
- *The Tribe isn't entirely exempt from Title II, but cases are still pending in the Supreme Court to determine whether tribal governments must comply.
- *While the tribes are specifically required to comply with Title III of the ADA, it is difficult to take the tribe to court to prosecute lapses.

Local Businesses

- *There are a variety of local businesses in Kayenta.
- *These local businesses are both private and are part of a chain of companies.
- *This makes it hard for the government to make these businesses to comply with the ADA.

Molly Heavilin and I rode a wheelchair around Kayenta to determine the accessibility of local business and tribal offices. Here are some photos and brief descriptions about each establishment.

Kayenta Health Center

- *The Kayenta Health Center was generally accessible.
- *The wide hallways and the automatic doors made getting around easy.
- *The steep slope in the sidewalk and curb ramps were the toughest challenge.
- *The administration was the least accessible because of the heavy, non-automatic entrance doors.

Kayenta Bashas

- *Bashas was very easy to get into, but the biggest thing was the restroom it was narrow, the door was heavy.
- *It was hard to reach items on the top shelves.
- *The shopping center needs an area for the van to drop off the people in wheelchairs
- *Handicap spaces were blocked by shopping carts

Post Office

- *The post office parking lot was easy to navigate, but the entrance door was hard to open.
- *The hallways and the pods were really easy to get around in.

Kayenta Trading Post

- *The doors were really stiff.
- *The restroom was pretty good.
- *The aisles were pretty good but occasionally were cluttered with other merchandise and made it very difficult to get to some places.

Kayenta Chapter House

- *The doors at the chapter house were open due to the heat (it helped a lot).
- *Getting to the entrance had involved having to roll on an area with very dense dirt.
- *There was a high step right at the entrance.
- *The other areas inside had ramps. The only easy way to get in was to enter from the back.

Burger King

- *The double doors at Burger King made entry pretty difficult
- *one of the employees actually helped me get inside.
- *The Restrooms were too narrow for the wheelchair
- *There was a low payphone accessible to wheelchairs

Pizza Edge

- *Double doors make it hard to get inside.
- *The entrances to the hallways are pretty narrow.
- *The restrooms were really great and anybody could use it.



Chevron

- *The entrance doors were heavy
- *The aisles were too narrow and difficult for the wheelchair to pass through

Department Of Economic Security

- *This office was the most accessible throughout Kayenta.
- *There was a place for the van to drop off people and it had a ramp that wasn't too steep.
- *There was also a button for the door that made it open automatically.



Amigos Café

- *Was least accessible place because I couldn't even get through the front door.



I have learned a lot of things and have gained a lot of experience working on this project. There were more people with SCI and other disabilities in the Kayenta area than I had expected. Being in a wheelchair and going around town to all the local businesses and tribal offices, made me realize the challenges that people with disabilities face with mobility, and social acceptance.

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