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Visions By Vice Chairman David Reede

Greetings San Carlos! I am pleased to announce the kickoff of two instrumental initiatives that are designed to compliment and promote the work of Chairman Wendsler Nosie, the Tribal Council, and the Tribal Departments. These efforts are the Vice Chairman's Taskforce for Prosperity and the Vice Chairman's Citizens' Policy Advisory Committee.

In a government structure, there are several types of entities that function to address various issues. These entities include committees, work groups, and commissions. Another group type is a taskforce. The term taskforce is defined as a temporary grouping of individuals and resources for the accomplishment of a specific goal. An example of this type of group is President Bush's Taskforce to Improve Health Care Delivery for Our Nation's Veterans. In the same manner, I am launching the Vice Chairman's Taskforce for Prosperity. The mission of the Taskforce will be to provide recommendations that will assist in the creation of a public/private partnership to effect institutional, social, political, and economic change. Such change will enable the citizens of the San Carlos Apache Tribe to achieve economic security, which in turn will lead to greater overall community prosperity.

The Taskforce will meet monthly, and its work will build on and strengthen existing research and local action currently being undertaken to address poverty in San Carlos. This Taskforce will focus its work on four key areas:

- Tribal minimum wage
- Access to affordable and quality childcare
- Access to quality healthcare
- Affordable housing

The Taskforce meeting will be held on Monday, April 30, at 8:00 am. The meeting location is tentatively set to take place in the Tribal Council Hall.

The second initiative is the Vice Chairman's Citizens' Advisory Committee on Public Policy. The purpose of this committee is to ensure public involvement in the policy initiatives of my office. I will be hosting a planning meeting to get this committee underway on Monday, May 7 at 4:30 p.m. The Public Library will serve as the meeting site. Refreshments will be served.

Finally, I would like to remind you that my office, in conjunction with the Chairman, will host a series of public information sessions titled, For Your Information (FYI). Our first session is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 23 between 6-7 pm in the Tribal Council Hall. The topic of discussion will be housing. The Housing Authority staff will also be on hand to present information on the types of programs that are available to qualified tribal members.

I am pleased to be able to provide the community with many options to participate in the direction of tribal government. Remember it only takes a few committed individuals to change the world. I urge you to get involved!

