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FY 2016 ANNUAL ADOT REPORT ON TRIBAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Agency Overview

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is a multimodal transportation agency that is responsible for planning, building and operating the state highway system, including approximately 1,200 miles of the system that traverse tribal land. ADOT also provides programmatic assistance to 14 tribal airports and five tribal public transit systems. With the adoption of the ADOT Native Nation-Tribal Government Consultation Policy and designation of a Tribal Liaison in September 2006, the Department formally committed to work with the 22 tribal governments in Arizona for the common purpose of providing an efficient transportation system and to protect the safety and welfare of the traveling public. ADOT is also committed to assist the tribes with the implementation of their transportation missions and goals.

Tribal Outreach Activities

The following provides a summary of major tribal consultation policy outreach activities undertaken by ADOT through coordination of lead ADOT personnel including the Tribal Liaison. These activities were conducted with oversight from various ADOT department divisions, sections and groups.

| Consultation Goal | Consultation Objective | Consultation Activity and Performance Measures |
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| <p>Policy Goal 1: Develop relationships with tribal governments in Arizona and consider all transportation concerns.</p> <p>Policy Goal 4: Maintain appropriate working relationships with tribal elected officials and departmental staff to assure continuous operation of all respective transportation systems.</p> | <p>During 2016 conduct quarterly Arizona Tribal Transportation Partnering Team (ATTP) Steering Committee Meetings. Finalize development and initiate implementation of priority ATTP goals, objectives and action steps by December 31, 2016.</p> <p>The Arizona Tribal Strategic Partnering Team (ATSPT) was established in 1998 to improve state-tribal and federal-tribal relations and address statewide level tribal transportation issues. Since being re-engaged in February 2015 ATSPT was renamed as the Arizona Tribal Transportation Partnership (ATTP), revised ATTP Vision and Mission Statements were adopted, and an ATTP Goals Implementation Plan was developed. ATTP oversight is provided by the ADOT Partnering Office. ATTP information is posted on the Arizona Tribal Transportation Website: http://www.aztribaltransportation.com</p> | <p><u>August 7, 2015</u>: The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona hosted the Committee Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19 members attended including 6 tribal representatives. - Committee Member roles and responsibilities were reviewed. - ATTP past and current goals were reviewed and three priority areas agreed upon for implementation. <p><u>October 27, 2015</u>: The Mountain West Tribal Technical Assistance Program hosted the Committee Meeting in Chandler, AZ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 members attended including 6 tribal representatives. - ATTP goals were refined and objectives developed. - Two priority goals and objectives were selected for implementation. <p><u>February 2, 2016</u>: The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community hosted the Committee Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24 members attended including 13 tribal representatives. - The status of the ADOT research project "Role of Tribes in Transportation Decisionmaking" was provided and follow-up actions were suggested (pending project completion in December 2016). - A 2016 Goals Implementation Plan was developed incorporating two priority goals with action steps, they include: <i>Goal 1 - Create a forum for member agencies to learn about each other's processes;</i> <i>Goal 2 - Improve the content and accessibility of the Arizona Tribal Transportation website to make it more beneficial to users.</i> <p><u>June 14, 2016</u>: ADOT hosted the Committee Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24 members attended including 13 tribal representatives. - Agreement to plan and conduct a 2017 AZ Tribal Transportation Summit; hold first Summit planning meeting on July 12, 2016. - Agreement to update the AZ Tribal Transportation website. <p>Improved intergovernmental relations and strategy consensus was reached on how ADOT and the tribes will move forward to coordinate on addressing the issue of funding for transportation improvements on tribal land.</p> |

| Consultation Goal | Consultation Objective | Consultation Activity and Performance Measures |
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| <p>Policy Goal 1: Develop relationships with tribal governments in Arizona and consider all transportation concerns.</p> <p>Policy Goal 3: Maintain and operate State owned transportation infrastructure within tribal lands.</p> | <p>Increase communication between ADOT and the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) to address transportation needs on state routes within tribal land through regular coordination meetings.</p> <p>In 2014 the WMAT and ADOT agreed to initiate follow-up on a 2011 Road Safety Assessment (RSA) for State Route (SR) 73 and work to address other transportation activities.</p> | <p>July 2015 through June 2016: ADOT and the White Mountain Apache Tribe convened monthly Transportation Coordination Meetings to initiate/review progress on transportation improvement project activities and address issue action items. These meetings are ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity was initiated and progress was reviewed for the following transportation activities: SR 73 Pavement Preservation Project (Whiteriver); SR 73 Frontage Road Project (Canyon Day); SR 73 Pedestrian Crossings (Whiteriver); SR 260 Tree Clearance; SR 73 RSA; ADOT-WMAT Fencing Action Plan; Central Arizona Governments WMAT membership; and tribal crash data sharing. <p>The three SR 73 improvement projects are scheduled for completion in 2017. The WMAT crash data has been shared with ADOT and the inclusion of it in the state database is underway. The Tribe is also now a member of the Central Arizona Governments (CAG).</p> |
| <p>Policy Goal 5: Consult with the Tribes in Arizona during the implementation of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.</p> | <p>Include Tribal Transportation Improvement Programs (TTIPs) in the Fiscal Year 2016-2020 Arizona Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).</p> <p>Former and current STIPs are posted on the ADOT website: http://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programming/state-transportation-improvement-program</p> | <p>July 22, 2015: Obtained all current Arizona TTIPs through the Federal Highways Administration Federal Lands Highway Office. The tribes in Arizona use either government-to-government or program agreement delivery options for administration of their federal Tribal Transportation Program funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Included FHWA approved TTIPs in the draft and final versions of the 2016-2020 Arizona STIP. - Notified all tribes on 08/27/2015 of the draft STIP availability for review and opportunity for consultation. - No requests for consultation were received. - The STIP was approved by FHWA Arizona Division on 10/08/2015. <p>Inclusion of TTIPs in the annual STIP update ensured that Federal-aid funded transportation improvement projects on tribal land moved forward through project development.</p> |
| <p>Policy Goal 8: Conduct technical training to support planning, development, construction, maintenance, and operation of transportation facilities under tribal jurisdiction.</p> | <p>Finalize the curriculum for the "Integrating Statewide and Tribal Transportation Planning Workshops" and conduct six workshops for tribal representatives by February 2016.</p> <p>The ADOT Tribal Planning and Coordination Program is tasked with conducting this tribal project under the ADOT's Statewide Planning and Research Work Program. These workshops are expected to assist tribes in the implementation of their transportation plans and study recommendations. Jacobs Engineering was contracted by ADOT to develop the workshop products and conduct the workshops.</p> | <p>May 25, 2016: Workshop Curriculum Advisory Committee convened to review the draft workshop curriculum, workshop schedule and obtain final comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 Committee Members attended including 2 Tribal representatives. - Obtained input for finalized curriculum and discussed next steps. <p>May 31, 2016: Jacobs Engineering and the BIA Western Regional Office convened a meeting to review the Tribal Transportation Planning Interactive Manual and obtain final comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BIA Tribal Roads staff provided guidance on the tribal long range transportation plan, tribal transportation improvement program, and road inventory processes. <p>June 24, 2016: The workshop project curriculum schedule finalized by Jacobs Engineering.</p> <p>June 28, 2016 to August 30, 2016: Five workshops completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - June 28th conducted Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Workshop – 2 Tribal representatives participated. - July 14th conducted Navajo Chapters Workshop – 4 Tribal representatives participated. - July 15th conducted Navajo Division of Transportation Workshop – 5 Tribal representatives participated. - August 23rd conducted Pascua Yaqui Tribe Workshop – 3 Tribal representatives participated. - August 30th conducted Hualapai Tribe Workshop – 3 Tribal representatives participated. - September 7th conduct Tohono O'odham Nation Workshop project. <p>The completed workshops have provided improved understanding of the state and tribal transportation project development process to</p> |

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| | | tribal personnel and also addressed the issue of funding for transportation improvements on tribal land. Due to extensive work conducted to complete the electronic interactive workshop curriculum modules this project was setback by 7 months. |
| Policy Goal 9: Engage in partnering efforts to encourage and improve understanding and communication with the tribal governments. | <p>Conduct regular State-Federal-Tribal partnership meetings with the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, and San Carlos Apache Tribe.</p> <p>Since 2004 ADOT has participated in dialogue to address tribal transportation issues using the ADOT partnering process. The ADOT Partnering Office Facilitators and ADOT Tribal Liaison oversee these efforts.</p> | <p>July 2015 through June 2016: The ADOT Partnering Office and ADOT Multimodal Planning Division convened regular Tribal Partnership Meetings to initiate and review progress on partnership goal activities. These partnership meetings are ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - San Carlos Apache Tribe Partnership Meetings were held on 07/28/15, 10/20/15, 01/27/16, 04/27/16. - Navajo Nation Partnership Meetings were held on 07/16/15, 10/22/15, 04/21/16. - Hopi Tribe Partnership Meetings were held on 08/12/15, 11/18/15, 04/13/16. - Partnership meeting summaries were posted on the Arizona Tribal Transportation website: http://www.aztribaltransportation.com/ <p>Improved intergovernmental relations and strategy consensus was reached on how ADOT and the tribes will move forward to coordinate on addressing the issues animals in the right-of-way, encroachment permitting, crash data sharing, traffic incident management, and transportation improvement funding on tribal lands.</p> |
| Policy Goal 10: Encourage mutual understanding of unique cultural and organizational practices among ADOT and the tribal governments. | <p>Conduct outreach to tribal staff, tribal leadership and agency officials to improve intergovernmental relationships and understanding of state transportation programs and processes.</p> <p>The ADOT Tribal Liaison is tasked to conduct outreach in accordance with the ADOT Tribal Consultation Policy.</p> | <p>March 25, 2016: The ADOT Tribal Liaison and ADOT Government Relations Office provided a presentation titled "Tribal Transportation in Arizona" to the Native American Caucus comprised of state legislators and tribal agency officials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics included: ADOT Tribal Consultation Policy, Arizona Long Range Transportation Plan, Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan, ADOT Planning Assistance for Rural Areas Program tribal planning studies and PreScoping projects, Tribal Road Safety Assessments, Tribes in Transportation Decisionmaking Research Project, State-Federal-Tribal Transportation Partnerships, and ADOT Engineering District reorganization. <p>Improved communication and intergovernmental relations was achieved through the sharing of tribal related transportation program activities. Also in June 2016 ADOT conducted a consultation session with the Navajo DOT on the Arizona Long Range Transportation Plan.</p> |
| Policy Goal 13: Assist tribes to implement transportation programs by providing technical assistance, reference tools, sharing data, conducting joint projects, and by cooperatively resolving transportation issues. | <p>Ensure tribal participation in the implementation of the Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) through participation on Emphasis Area (EA) Teams.</p> <p>The 2014 SHSP was developed with the focus of reducing fatality and serious injury crashes on all public roads.</p> | <p>July 2015 through June 2016: Tribal safety stakeholders were notified of the 12 SHSP Emphasis Area (EA) Team regular meetings to implement the Plan and with each team covering specific areas of roadway safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 rounds of regular EA Team meetings were conducted. - 5 tribes participated in the various EA Team meetings. <p>The Interjurisdictional EA Team focused on coordinating interjurisdictional safety resources and opportunities. Specifically, this Team has initiated strategies to address state-tribal intergovernmental agreement issues and also tribal crash data sharing with ADOT.</p> |

- **Recommendations from Tribal representatives**
Recommendations for improved state-tribal communication were received through tribal participation in the Arizona Tribal Transportation Partnership Steering Committee Meetings.
- **Revisions to Tribal Consultation Policy**
The ADOT Policy was revised in August 2016 to meet current statutes and business practices.
- **For questions or more information, please contact:**
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