

San Carlos Apache Tribe Partnership Steering Committee Meeting

Apache Gold Conference and Convention Center

Tuesday, January 27, 2015

MEETING NOTES

Attendees

Brad Allison, SCAT	CT Revere, ADOT
Alvena Bush, WMAT	Brenda Roberts, WMAT
Donna Bentley, ADOT	Charles Russell, SCAT
Kathy Borquez, Pinal County	Donald Sneed, ADOT
David, Francis, SCAT	Mary Tapija, SCAT
Danny Dalton, A.E.R.	Tianna Thompson, SCAT
Fred Ferreira, SCAT	Romare Truely, FHWA
Bernadette Goode, SCAT	Kimberly Utley, FHWA
Ruth Greenspan, ADOT	Drew Spear, Dibble Eng.
Wayne Grainger, ADOT	David Francis, SCAT
Ruth Greenspan, ADOT	Richard Powers, Jacobs Eng. Grp.
Bill Harmon, ADOT	GUESTS
Bernadette Kniffin, SCAT	Richard Weeks, ADOT
John Marcanti, Gila County	Bonnie Opie, ADOT
Matt Moul, ADOT	Rick Turner, ADOT

Facilitator: Michele Crank, ADOT, Office of Partnering Recorder: Clem Webb, ADOT, Office of Partnering

The next Partnership Steering Committee meeting: **April 21, 2015**

Agenda Items and Highlights

Topic

	Invocation
Presented by	Fred Ferreira, San Carlos Apache Tribal Council Member

Topic

	Meeting Introductions
All Partners	All partners provided their names, organizations and a snap shot of their responsibilities to the partnership. Special recognition was given to Fred Ferreira and Bernadette Goode, San Carlos Tribal Council Members and Alvena Bush, White Mountain Apache Tribal Council Member. The comment was made that it is great to have tribal leadership at the meeting who represent their respective Tribal Transportation Team/Boards.

Topic

	Presenter: Rick Turner, ADOT Traffic Records Section
Discussion	Arizona TraCS Power Point Presentation
Special Instructions	See PowerPoint Presentation Steering Committee Presentations - AZTT San Carlos

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[Apache Tribe Partnership](#)

Arizona TraCS is an electronic crash form management software that was developed for the Iowa Department of Transportation. ADOT holds the license for the State of Arizona and pays a \$60,000 maintenance fee per year for use of this software. It can be used by law enforcement agencies statewide for:

- DUI affidavits
- Electronic traffic citations and other traffic citations

Agencies that can use TraCS:

- The software is available to all law enforcement agencies and courts statewide at no cost
- 17 other states and thousands of agencies nationwide have switched to TraCS
- Agencies can add as many crash forms as they choose, it doesn't cost them or ADOT any more

Question asked "What tribes are using the TraCS? Richard indicated;

- Navajo Nation is interested as they have received Federal start-up funds, however, there was a slowdown with the process due to Tribal Leadership changes.
- Gila River Indian Community and Ak-Chin Indian Community both want to use TraCS.
- ADOT has an agreement with Gila River in place and is working on implementing an agreement with Navajo Nation.

Current status on some of the courts:

- All Maricopa County JPs are in production
- All ACOC/AZTEC Courts, Pima Consolidated Courts are receiving production data and no paper copies
- There are huge possibilities for courts to, streamline the gathering and sharing of information:
 - Increase in the timeline, accuracy and completeness of data
 - Fewer errors and more legible citations

The gain/benefits to Law Enforcement in using this software is:

- Significant increase in Officer safety by reducing exposure to secondary crashes and law enforcement efficiency because TraCS puts all crash data in one place, which has been a great benefit to many agencies and courts
- Secondary crashes make over 20% of all crashes and 18% of all fatalities
- +/-50% of Officers killed or injured is due to secondary traffic accident/collisions at the roadside
- For further information contact rturner@azdot.gov

Action Items	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline
Councilman Ferreira, suggested conversations begin with the San Carlos Police Department regarding TraCS.	Marvin Mull	ASAP

Topic	
	Presenter: Richard Weeks, ADOT Traffic Safety Section
Discussion	Next Steps After RSA Completion Presentation
Special Instructions	See PowerPoint Presentation in http://www.aztribaltransportation.com/sca/steering-presentations.asp

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An RSA (Road Safety Assessment) is a formal examination of user safety of a future or existing roadway condition by an independent, multi-disciplinary team.

RSAs have been performed throughout the state and are based on engineering, human behavior and crash data factors. Several RSAs completed in Arizona involved ADOT and the Tribes.

Engineering issues are generally the focus of crashes; however RSAs can provide a wide range of recommendations based on the other factors.

- Comments were offered regarding the success of the Bylas project that resulted from an RSA, success was noted in terms of sharing accident data.
- Further discussion focused on addressing turn lanes on US 70.
- There are also pedestrian sidewalk problems and with children leaving the school campus. The Tribe would like to see if signs to slow down traffic can be installed.
- Safety funding costs currently are at \$40 million and could easily rise to three times that amount. It was suggested that the key to provide a stronger case for funding is to show that everything has been looked at and then to prioritize needs. Another step is to identify potential funding sources to obtain funds.
- Another suggestion was to station police officers at the intersections with heavy traffic to protect children crossing.

Action Items	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline
The HAWK Pedestrian Signal System in Bylas is a first for Arizona “Indian Country”. Follow-up with a Press release, blessing and recognition after the project is constructed.	Mary Tapija and CT Revere	ASAP

Topic	
	Presenter: Charles Russell, SCAT Transportation Deputy Bernadette Kniffin, N’nee Bich’Nii Services, Director
Special Instructions	See PowerPoint Presentation in Steering Committee Presentations - AZTT San Carlos Apache Tribe Partnership
Discussion	<p><u>San Carlos Apache Department of Transportation: Mr. Charles Russell</u> A few of our Goals are “Build Trust and Respect for each other” We need to update our policies and will be working to get that done. Projects the San Carlos Apache Tribe is working on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with FHWA on a Route 6 project-from San Carlos to the Intersection of US 70 at Sawmill. There is the need to meet and address the railroad tracks crossing. The cultural and archaeology survey is completed. This project is waiting for final approval from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on the Tribe’s submittal. It’s been very difficult to get action on a timely basis. The estimated cost is \$26 million; the plan now is to complete sections A & B and center turn lanes. Hopefully in the next two to three months approval from BIA will be

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received.

- Route 6 to intersection, work on guard rail and chip seal.
- Route 6 and US 70 Intersection Project – includes widening of US 70 and a deceleration lane from the west; a deceleration lane coming in from the east is on hold.
- The High School area project was awarded to AJ Engineering Group for turn lanes; the first project meeting is pending.
- The US 70 to Peridot Corridor project is underway with plans currently at 15-20% complete; electrical, grading and conduits items are being addressed.
- The Graham County – Bylas Project is about 80-90% complete.
- At 7-mile District there are two sidewalk projects underway.
- At Indian Hills there is also a sidewalk project underway.
- The SCAT DOT will also work on updating studies required to pursue funding; crash data issues also need to be addressed.

It has taken several years to get these projects off the ground; the Tribe has the funds, it's just a matter of obtaining final approvals.

Note: Michele inquired about San Carlos Apache Tribe's second casino on State Route 77. Has the Tribe been working on addressing transportation access issues with this project? How are they working with ADOT Tucson District on this project? Discussions need to be initiated with the District and to provide updates. The contact on the new casino project is Scott Beck (Regional Traffic manager) and the District Engineer is Rod Lane.

San Carlos Transit: N'nee Bich'Nii Services, Bernadette Kniffin, Director
NNEE BICH'O NII "Helping the People Services" is the title of the San Carlos Transit Program

- There is a current work participation rate the Program must meet; it is currently at 49% of families working as of December 2014 evaluations. The Program brought on new staff this season and will be hiring two receptionists for the San Carlos and Bylas offices by February 23, 2015. The Program is currently serving over 4,000 families under the DHHS TANF Grant.
- The Transit Team attended the 5311 Grant Training session, applications for grants are due March 31, 2015.
- The Program is currently working on installing a security system at its administration offices for employee safety measures.
- To apply for funding it is mandatory that we attend all ADOT webinars and meetings and world transit seminars. TAS Training will be held February 2-6, 2015 at the Casino staff will attend to learn the new Transit Program computer

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	<p>system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Program will be audited on March 17-18 in Globe. This audit includes two (17 passenger buses), three vans and eight staff. • The Transit Substation Grand Opening will be held March 23, 2015. • The Transit Program is serving 60 Apache elders. There are about 2,000 elders, however funding from ADOT was cut from \$115,000 to \$80,000. This has a direct impact on how we match and or provide services to our tribal elders. • TANF is all about the children! • Out of all the programs under TANF the San Carlos Program was rated number 47 nationwide. • Brenda Roberts is replacing Vernon Palmer as the White Mountain Apache Tribe transportation contact and the Tribe hopes to have a transportation director soon. Bernadette will start working with Brenda on the WMAT Transit System and coordination with SCAT System. A meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2015.
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Action Items	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Tucson DE Rod Lane and Scott Beck, Regional Traffic Engineer to start discussing transportation issues on new proposed site for the casino location off of State Route 77. 	CT Revere to inform Tucson DE	ASAP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on progress made with SCAT and WMAT Transit Programs 	Bernadette Kniffin	April 21, 2015

Topic	
	ADOT Globe District and Safford District
Discussion	<p>Globe District: Wayne Grainger (See handout in http://www.aztribaltransportation.com/sca/steering-presentations.asp)</p> <p>The District is divided into two areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Mountain area that is served out of the Show Low Construction Org; • Globe Construction Org serves the southern part of the District. <p>The District has elevations ranging from 2,500 to 10,500 feet and has to select projects a little differently because some of the northern areas have more weather related issues as opposed to the Southern areas.</p> <p>Some of the pavement preservation projects up north that are finishing up include SR 260 from Cottonwood Wash to Show Low and SR 73 from White River to Coal Mine Canyon, which is in the final stages.</p> <p>The District has three projects to replace fences that were damaged by the Wallow</p>

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Fire four years ago. It has taken that amount of time to actually get them to construction.

Along with the ADOT projects the District has Local Government projects that are generated through CAG and NACOG. There is a sidewalk lighting project in Globe and a railroad depot rehabilitation project is in the works.

Coming up on the San Carlos Apache Reservation is a Gilson Wash Bridge Scouring Project.

There are 51 projects in the Globe District.

Safford District: Bill Harmon (See handout in <http://www.aztribaltransportation.com/sca/steering-presentations.asp>)

On February 20, 2015 a State Transportation Board meeting will be held in Safford. Bill will be in attendance; tribal citizens and officials invited to provide comments to the Board.

US 70 Bylas Safety Improvements - Design Phase at 60% complete plus environmental clearance. Among the various improvements included in this project it was noted that the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon to be placed near the market will be one of the first on tribal land in Arizona.

US 70 Bylas Safety Improvements Phase I Construction – Railroad Crossings anticipated work to start in late spring 2015.

US 70 Bylas Safety Improvements Phase II Construction – Highway Improvements construction advertisement anticipated for fall 2015 and work to start in early 2016.

Other partner updates:

Gila County: John Marcanti

The County is working with the San Carlos Apache Tribe to maintain roads going out to Winkelman. There was an old IGA that is no longer valid. A new IGA had to go to the San Carlos Council to be approved. The San Carlos Transportation Department has had several different Transportation Directors and with Marvin Mull the County has completed the new IGA. The County will start grading the roads on April 9th.

FHWA: Romare Truely

- Federal Funding authorization is operative through the end of May 2015.

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- Federal Transportation Act to last a number of years. There is a proposal to address infrastructure from President Obama.
- The Highway Trust Fund runs dry by end of September 2015. Congress is taking into consideration possibly raising the gas tax or to obtain funding through the general fund.
- Updates will be provided to the partners if FHWA receives any positive news. Gas tax may match inflation, but this is not a done deal.

ADOT-MPD: Don Sneed

The Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan is in the Implementation Phase. Emphasis Area (EA) Teams have started meeting and those who have been involved in the process or are on the project notification list have been invited to the meetings. If anyone from the Partnership has not received the notice and wants to get involved there is an EA Team Commitment Form they can submit to receive project information.

The ADOT Planning Assistance for Rural Areas (PARA) Program is soliciting for planning study applications. Applications are due by March 30th. Justin Feek will speak about the PARA Program at the upcoming Arizona Tribal Strategic Partnering Team (ATSPT) Statewide Tribal Transportation Re-Engagement Forum on February 19, 2015.

Justin Feek will be asked to present on the new Planning to Programming (P2P) Process at the April 21, 2015 Partnership Steering Committee meeting. The P2P Process is new and ADOT expects to begin implementing it soon. It is a performance based systemic approach to programming projects into the State 5-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program. Don has been asked to review existing tribal plans and studies to identify projects that could potentially go into the P2P Process.

Other comments:

- Safety - US 70 needs a light hub up at the (casino) intersection, maybe it didn't meet the criteria, it has the same stats that Bylas has, it should not be taken lightly, and no action has been taken for it. Another issue is the speed; speed limit is still too high.
- Need to look at speed, schools, etc.
- (Crash) Information doesn't make it to ADOT data base. Spoke to Marvin last week.
- Every funding source gets tapped, process has already started.

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Action Items	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline
Schedule Justin Feek to provide the P2P presentation at the April 21, 2015 Partnership Steering Committee Meeting.	Michele	March 1, 2015

Topic	
	Presenter: Michele Crank
Discussion	<p>Annual Partnership Meeting break out information presented and discussed.</p> <p>Right of Way - Action Plan</p> <p>May have to turn to the Cattlemen's Association in San Carlos, or others, not readily apparent who to contact, it should be Tribal PD and they will in turn make the right contacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of handout on steps to take if cattle are seen on the highway. Education to community on keeping drivers and cattle safe in accordance with Tribal ordinance (which needs to be addressed at the Council level). • Right of way issues should go under goal #4 of this Partnership. Is there enough manpower to compose this task team? Some cattlemen in San Carlos should be contacted so they can provide helpful information on processes. <p>Is there a livestock ordinance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinance is not in place, per Council member Bernadette Goode. Each time this issue is presented to community it becomes negated by numerous comments. Currently if cattle and or livestock are in the roadway the San Carlos police department is notified and if an animal has been involved in an accident on State Highways DPS and San Carlos PD are also called out. This is the current process per Bill Harmon. Michele shared that Gila River has on call staff and they have a list of livestock owners with brand identification features and they are able to notify livestock owners immediately. If livestock have to be relocated they are kept in a safe area and owners are assessed a daily fee upon retrieval of livestock. Does San Carlos Apache Tribe have a livestock inspector and/or a staff member who provides this type of service for the community? Councilwoman Goode explained that they do not have a staff member like this and unfortunately the San Carlos PD and/or DPS try to keep livestock off of roadways and do not have a location to keep stray livestock. • Signage on Highway 70 and 77 are diamond yellow signs, none of the state highway roads are open range. • Ordinance is pending, but has been drafted by the AG Animal Control

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Ordinance.

- White Mountain Apache Tribal police department used to take the livestock back to the owner. Emphasis should be placed on areas that focus on high risk; there have been some strategies to address these issues. And bring it back to the tribe to see how they want to implement these ideas.
- Tribes should attend the AZ Strategic Highway Safety Plan Natural Risk Emphasis Area Team meetings. That group will discuss animals in the right of way issues and work on strategies for addressing them.
- Gila River has a similar issue with wild horses and wants to move them more into the interior of the reservation. Salt River has the same issue as well. Would it be helpful if someone from Gila River would present on their Ordinance strategies on live stocks? Answer: Tribes need to be educated on livestock ordinances should it get approval by Tribal Council, and work on a procedural process and get it done.

Community Access Management Education Process - Action Plan

When tribal members build a home and access is off one of the state routes there is no education process. Who issues ROW Permits from ADOT? How do we educate a community on this process?

- Tribal members have already built and are living on home sites. Emergency services were not able to locate them. This is a safety issue when tribal members are living on a home site where emergency services have no access to them.
- BIA Realty oversees land leasing and needs to be involved; they need to start participating in these meetings.
- Coordination is needed between individual home builders, ADOT Districts, and the Tribe. The Tribe and ADOT can help with permits, if homeowners attempt to obtain ROW access this possess grave safety risks and too many issues are unresolved.
- The Tribe applied for a PARA grant to update its long range transportation plan in 2008. That's an option the tribe can use by revisiting it and checking on recommendations identified or that need to be developed to address the access management issue.
- Jeff Menifee, his issue was yes they have land sites within the 50 feet mark.
- Give it back to local entity here and let them brainstorm it and let them resolve.
- Need a document from ADOT that identifies the requirements for access.
- Under the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) if four home sites are served by a road then that road becomes eligible for TTP funding. This needs to be verified and also other sources of funds need to be identified.

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- This can be done internally by the Tribal Transportation Committee.

Incident Command Management – Action Plan

- All first responders must take the FEMA training, reason being, we had this topic is because of an accident on US 70.
- Recommend possibly holding a mock emergency management incident training session in San Carlos and involve Courtney Bear-Perrier from ADOT.
- Find out what the State Incident Management Plan says with regard to redirecting traffic off US 70 when there is a crash or other emergency. In one case people were directed to Route 6 and they were getting lost. What strategies can we look at to keep these issues from happening?
- Table Talk team works through the system to respond appropriately. It's an opportunity addressing how to communicate, how to prioritize issues, and identify who's in charge. Table Talk is also used to learn how you communicate among agencies.

Who do we need to engage to set up these Table Talks?

- Courtney-Bear-Perrier and Bill Harmon are picking a date and involving the Gila County command post. We need a save the date message, Michele will get the dates out to the Partners. Location will be Apache Gold Conference Center.
- Have an orientation meeting for officials so they know what's going on, because they have to provide resources.

Action Items	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline
Contact Courtney Perrier – Bear, conference call with Bill Harmon and Matt Moul. 1 st step in planning for Emergency Table Talk discussions	Michele Crank	3/15/15
Obtain information on next meeting of AZ SHSP Natural Risk Emphasis Area Team and send to SCAT Transportation Board and Director.	Don Sneed	ASAP
The San Carlos Apache Tribal Attorney General to provide education on process for Animals in Right of Way ordinance.	Marvin Mull	7/28/15
Establish contact with Cattlemen's Association in San Carlos. Provide update at next meeting.	Marvin Mull and Hutch Noline	3/1/15
Table Talk exercise presentation at SCAT	Bill Harmon	2/3/15
Invite Brenda Astor to next meeting for presentation on road access process.	Michele Crank	3/1/15

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Topic	
	Presenter: Michele Crank
Closing comments	
Discussion	<p>Meeting Agenda: Next meeting is on April 21, 2015 (included in Action Items noted)</p> <p>Mary Tapija: Thank you to everyone, this partnership was initiated by Bernie, and I'm happy to be a part of it.</p> <p>Bill Harmon: Thanks to the San Carlos Apache Tribe for hosting the meeting</p> <p>Don Sneed: These meeting are a great way to continue communicating between the Agencies; it's great to report out to state leadership what we are addressing through the Partnership, they include the State Legislators, Governor's Office and ADOT Executive Leaders. It seems to be maintaining consistent participation. We also must maintain compliance with the ADOT Tribal Consultation Policy; these partnerships meeting are a great way to communicate with Tribes.</p> <p>Brad Allison: Thank you for inviting me, and letting me speak my mind. It sounds and looks like everyone works well together. Encourage everyone to keep working together, it's serve the needs of the people.</p> <p>Alvena Bush: Really enjoyed the meeting met new people. You all work really well together, and are willing to help WMAT with our Transportation plan. Thank you</p>

Topic	
	BENEDICTION
Offered by: Alvena Bush	

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Participant Meeting Evaluation Feedback

Feedback is based on 12 forms.

Ratings: 1 = lowest 5 = Highest

1. How valuable was this meeting for you?

Average Rating 4.75

What about this meeting was most valuable to you?

- Relationship building
- Hearing input from tribal officials and staff
- Understanding all of our partners' issues and needs. This meeting also allows for communication between all partners.
- Valuable information sharing has shown me how much the partnership has progressed in several years.
- Great job
- White Mountain Apache needs much knowledge in this area as we are new to this.
- ADOT's involvement when permitting driveway access to highway. Does BIA communicate ADOT's procedure to permittee or local tribe?
- Sharing ideas
- Processes that can be taken back to own agency
- I have missed the past 2 or 3 meetings, so this meeting helped me to catch up on directions of the partnership and initiatives

2. What would have improved this meeting?

- We missed Marvin! (SCAT Transportation Director) Look forward to seeing at the next meeting.
- More participation from absent agencies
- If rushed for time limit responses, get the issue on action category (if needed)
- More input
- No suggestions

3. How do you rate the Facilitator?

Average Rating: 4.83

- Always great leadership in helping the group make decisions & set goals
- Thanks Michele – Good job!
- Good job keeping the meeting moving along and keeping everyone on topic
- Very good at facilitating discussion and encouraging all partner agencies to continue communication
- Great job!
- Michele is a very knowledgeable person and did a great job of facilitating
- Facilitator handles the meeting with great expertise
- Very informative

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- Engaging

4. How do you rate the effectiveness of this team?

Average Rating: 4.75

- Great Potential – And it's being tapped
- Information that is shared with the team is being used to address ongoing issues
- Team is good at information sharing
- Very effective.
- Working together as a team
- Set goals committed to achieving the set deadlines and action plans
- Invitees are positive, certain issues get resolved timely than others. Good success stories!

5. What other comments or suggestions do you have?

- Thanks
- Look forward to working to progress on the partnership
- Keep coming back
- Continue communicating
- Never give up
- No Comments or Suggestions

##