

**SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
PARTNERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
July 22, 2014
9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Apache Gold Convention Center, San Carlos, Arizona**

MEETING NOTES

Attendees		
Alicia Urquidez, ADOT	Rick Powers, Jacobs Engineering	
Donald Sneed, ADOT	Andy Smith, CAG	
David Cremer, FHWA	Mary Tapija, SCAT Transportation	
Jerry Irish, ADOT (Rep Globe DE)	Jason Pike, ADOT	Guests
Ruth Greenspan, ADOT		
Tom Engel, ADOT (Rep Safford DE)		Courtney Perrier-Bear, ADOT
Donna Bentley, ADOT (Alicia replac)		Sara Allred, ADOT
Marvin Mull, Jr, SCAT Transportation		David Franklin, AZER
Misty Klann, ADOT		David O. Frances, SCAT
John Marcanti, Gila County		Angela Gotto, CAG
Bernadette Kniffin, SCAT Transit		Blake Jones, AZER
Vernon Palmer, WMAT Transportation		

Facilitators: Michele Crank, ADOT, Office of Partnering

Recorder: Clem Webb-ADOT Office of Partnering

The next San Carlos Apache Partnership meeting is the Annual meeting October 16, 2014. Next Steering committee meeting is January 27, 2014.

Agenda Items & Highlights

TOPIC	DETAILS
OPENING PRAYER	Bernadette Kniffin provided the opening prayer to begin the Steering Committee meeting.

TOPIC	DETAILS
PARTNERS INTRODUCTIONS	Michele Crank asked each attendee and guest to introduce themselves and how they contribute to the partnership.

TOPIC	DETAILS
AGENDA/PACKET	Michele reviewed all information within the packets including the agenda for the meeting.

TOPIC	DETAILS
2014 Partnership Goals and Sub goals Item # 1	<p>Goal # 1 Improve Safety Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a strategy and Peridot to 2nd paragraph. • Andy Smith - CAG Regional Transportation Safety Study-beginning the later part of Sept. 2014, it should take a year to a year and a half to complete. Both the San Carlos Apache and White Mountain Apache Tribes should participate in the study process.

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- Bernadette Kniffin: The Tribal Transit Safety Plan is completed and approved by the Tribal Council.
- Rick Powers: Have obtained crash data-missing data out of ADOT System for BIA 70 and 6 and to justify the US 70 projects. Fatalities and injuries information was obtained.
- Misty Klann: Asked for clarification on the purpose and intended action on the goals document regarding TraCS with her name next to it. She wanted to make sure the issue or topic was being addressed. She indicated that Rick Turner in ADOT Traffic Records is a good contact for information requests or guidance regarding the Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) Program. Michele will check previous meeting minutes regarding clarification on this topic.
- Rick Powers indicated nothing has been done for RR improvements.
- David Franklin: They are currently improving railways throughout the SCAT reservation. The Tribe may want to consider a railroad safety/hazmat drill. It was suggested that the Tribe could check with Courtney Perrier-Bear of ADOT Emergency Management to find out if she can assist with coordinating the drill.
- Vernon Palmer: A Crash Safety Study on the White Mountain Apache Reservation was completed several years ago. Based on the Vehicle crash study-over a million and half dollars were awarded for highway safety improvement projects; the study had been accepted by FHWA; this was a discretionary grant made to ADOT and the project is in the design phase.

Goal #2 Communication

- Michele provided an extensive overview of the ADOT Construction Partnering workshops and their purpose; she informed the steering committee that the ADOT DEs and REs have all necessary information regarding the San Carlos Apache Tribe to be included in the partnering workshops. She mentioned that the Salt River Canyon Rest Area project partnering workshop was recently held.
- Discussion on establishment of a Task Team to address identifying partnership processes and prioritizing needed information sharing such as “What comes after RSA completion”, etc.
- The Partnership Quarterly Steering Committee meetings are scheduled and the Annual Meeting planning is in progress.

Goal #3 Regional Coordination

- US 70 Climbing Lane projects still need to be coordinated between the ADOT Globe and Safford Districts. Most of the climbing lanes are in the Globe District.
- Recommendation was made to add Tribal Coordination with CAG and SEAGO to this Goal.

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MEETING NOTES

Goal # 4 Understand Agency processes

- Partners need understanding of agency processes and who should be contacted so partners can support it and put pressure where necessary; to achieve safer and better roadways.
- Request Richard Weeks, ADOT RSA Program Manager, to make a presentation at a future partnership meeting, and ask Kelly La Rosa from FHWA to provide information and guidance regarding federal safety funding.
- Vernon Palmer mentioned that the Globe Districting was working on a Draft MOA to install 3 pedestrian crossings for safety.
- Vernon Palmer had serious concerns regarding how the system works in order to understand the process. Would rather work with ADOT instead of other partners.
- Andy Smith would be happy to provide contact information and discuss processes for CAG - He also mentioned that Larry Talley, ADOT Traffic Safety Analyst, will be at the August 8th CAG meeting to provide information.
- Don Sneed explained that when Tribes apply for the various federal safety funds, their projects should be consistent with the State's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). This would help to support the project request. As an update he said the Arizona SHSP is in draft final form and will be finalized when the Executive Committee meets again and that is expected to be in August. He said the AZ SHSP will include the Inter-jurisdictional Emphasis Area which will focus on data sharing and development/implementation of Local Government and Tribal Safety Plans. Tribes are strongly encouraged to participate in the upcoming AZ SHSP emphasis area team quarterly meetings.
- Vernon Palmer also brought up three other concerns (1) Pedestrians, (2) Brush cutting along road sides more often it's done now, and (3) Livestock on the roads, ADOT seems too apologetic regarding animals in the ROW, however it is not ADOT's issue rather it's the livestock owners lack of control and they need to be educated on this issue. ADOT should take a firmer stand and be more specific on where they stand regarding this matter.
- Vernon Palmer would also like to know what the ADOT District and Maintenance Office authorities' responsibilities are relative to the local roads under their jurisdiction. No one seems to have ownership of issues. What's the bottom line purpose of these findings related to ADOT when we don't know who's steering the boat? How do we get the message out there? Where does the action item of the steering committee end up?
- Michele addressed Vernon Palmer's comment regarding the Partnership and the purpose of the San Carlos Partnership. She noted that Vernon Palmer is a new member of this partnership and this partnership has been set up to help address those specific questions for San Carlos and now with Whitemountain Apache. The

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MEETING NOTES

	<p>relationship that Vernon Palmer and Jesse Gutierrez, DE Globe will be an ongoing working relationship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership members were reminded to review the ADOT tribal transportation website to see the partnership charter, etc. information is included for all the tribal partnerships. • Don Sneed: The three concerns mentioned by Vernon Palmer are addressed in the Arizona SHSP as there are emphasis areas that focus on these specific issues. Tribes need to stay involved with AZSHSP. • This is an election year for the San Carlos Apache Tribe and not much will be done until after the election is over. • The White Mountain Apache Tribe needs right-of-way plans for the state routes. Don stated that the right-of-way plans are available on the ADOT website. Alicia Urquidez will provide the link to Michele to send out to the partnership. ADOT Right-of-Way Plans webpage: http://www.azdot.gov/business/RightofWay_Properties/existing-plans-index <p>Goal #5 Transportation in Support of Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernadette Kniffin: Transportation in Support of Economic Development should all be put into one plan. Bernie wants to pursue applying for ADOT MPD's Planning Assistance for Rural Areas (PARA) program to develop a Strategic Plan to address this topic. The PARA Program funding available announcement should be released in February or March 2015. • Andy Smith: CAG will do whatever they can to support PARA applications and suggested a co-application with SCAT DOT, Marvin etc. because he thought that was the best way to get the most scope of work for the funds awarded. • Marvin Mull: Meetings with Jesse and Bill have been extremely helpful. He meets with Jesse every two week. <p>Goal #6 Partner with White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernadette Kniffin will set up a meeting with Vernon Palmer, to assist with seasonal runs on a monthly basis. She is also currently working with him on a position description for a Transportation Director and other key positions for WMAT Transit. <p>NOTE: Goals #7, 8 and 9 are all intertwined with in the other six goals and will be taken off the goals chart for the Annual Meeting presentation.</p>
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TOPIC	DETAILS
FRAMEWORK FOR TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP	Michele explained what the steering committees and sub-groups framework means and opened it up to the team as to whether or not they would like to create task teams. Navajo's seven task teams were mention as an example for this team, in case they want

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	<p>to establish their own task teams. No decision was made to this effect as of yet and will be further discussed at the annual meeting.</p> <p>Subgroups (Task Team)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michele: Sub-committees are comprised of Steering Committee members and are volunteers. Also other partner agency staff may be asked to assist if needed. • Marvin Mull is considering a task team focusing on US 70 issues - Jesse, Bill and Marvin could form the task team to report at the Annual Partnership meeting. No name has been established for the team yet. The San Carlos Tribal Council officially appoints sub-committee memberships on the reservation. Michele reiterated that the sub committees would come from the membership of the San Carlos Apache Tribal Partnership Steering Committee. <p>Partnership Members (Annual meeting)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal Council, other partners' recommendation of invitees. • Partner groups should review the list from last year and notify Michele of any needed updates for this year's invitee list.
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TOPIC	DETAILS
Emergency Preparedness and Management ADOT	<p>Courtney Perrier-Bear, ADOT Emergency Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this topic (review in presentation folder on website).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtney has been considering conducting a Globe Area Traffic Incident Management Training for Responders. Marvin Mull and Mary Tapija can coordinate tribal participation through Courtney.

TOPIC	DETAILS
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRANSPORTATION UPDATE	<p><i>Marvin Mull, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Transportation Director</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Jesse, Bill, Charles and Rick going over crash data with Christine Reed of the San Carlos PD. • San Carlos DOT is seeking an accountant and Engineer to assist with the Department's workload. • Monsoon season work with BIA is underway to replace culverts and complete other projects. • The Department will meet with BIA regarding road maintenance. • 7-Mile Wash sidewalk project - \$350,000 must be spent by June 30, 2015. • Route 6 - still working on safety improvements. • BIA still working on Indian Hills sidewalk project. • New school project in Bylas • Remodeling of Casino - includes sports bar, snack bar, Cutter coffee shop, steak

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MEETING NOTES

	<p>house which opened two weeks ago. Good response on menu so far. Resort is dropping the Best Western name and the Tribe will take over marketing, we want to be competitive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal council pressure on 2 miles \$6mm project to be completed by 2015 • SCAT will start construction on new Casino/Resort in Dudleyville it is scheduled to open October 2015. Hope to employ 1,200 employees. The Casino will use the Tribal Transit Program for tribal employment and also has plans for housing construction in the area.
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TOPIC	DETAILS
NNEE BICH'O NII TRANSIT SERVICES	Bernadette Kniffin, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Transit Services Director - Provided a Transit PowerPoint presentation. Topics included Workforce 2014 Sector Update, FY 14 NNBN Goals Update, and FY 15 NNBN Goals Update. (See in presentation file on the partnership website).

TOPIC	DETAILS
ADOT DISTRICTS UPDATES	<p>Safford District Update – Tom Engel provided the Safford District updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bylas Street Improvement Project – Road Widening and Access Management • Project Design efforts are moving along with anticipated circulation of a 60 percent Plan review in late October or early November. • Section 404 Permit Applications are a critical task to be able to meet the schedule. There are four washes that need data collection and must be permitted. • Arizona Eastern RR will be improving Navaho and Rainbow City Road RR crossings in late 2014 if funding is available. • Roadway light system is being designed to replace the entire system of HPS lights with LED fixtures – still needs confirmation. • A progress meeting will be held on August 18th with videoconferencing available. • A public comment meeting will be scheduled for early to late fall 2014 in Bylas. • The construction project will be advertised in early FY 2016. • Marvin: The Tribal Chairman would like ADOT to seriously consider solar lighting for this project. • Tom: Solar lighting will require cost to purchase and replace batteries. A cost analysis could be provided by ADOT. • Michele: Will provide information on the Gila River Indian Community street lighting project to the Tribe and ADOT. <p>Globe District Update - Jerry Irish provided the Globe District updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globe District is looking at turning lane and frontage road opportunities by the San Carlos High School.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globe and Safford District are looking into passing lane opportunities on US 70. • The San Carlos Entry Enhancement project is out to bid - look for construction to start around the beginning of October 2014. • The Salt River Canyon Rest Area project is under construction, it will be finished by the end of October 2014. • A Climbing Lane Project is underway between Globe and Superior - there will be travel restrictions.
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TOPIC	DETAILS
Other Partnership Updates	<p>ADOT Right-of-Way Group - Alicia Urquidez will be leaving and Donna Bentley will be taking over her responsibilities to this Partnership.</p> <p>ADOT Multimodal Planning Division - Misty Klann and Don Sneed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The redesigned ADOT Tribal Transportation Website is up and operational. Most visited sections of the website appear to be the Funding and Resources pages. • Misty provided an overview of the website. • The ADOT Tribal Consultation End of FY14 annual report is due in September –MPD is currently collecting information from all ADOT departments/sections to compile into the report and which will be sent to the Governor’s Office, State Legislators and Tribal Leaders. • MPD launched the ADOT Tribal Consultation online training program last year and is currently updating it as well as fixing technical issues. High Definition ADOT videos have caused bandwidth issues. The new version will have still images instead of videos, which require larger bandwidth. • Don is working with the MPD Programming Section to complete a State-Tribal coordination process to send out tribal leader notification letters regarding the availability of the Draft FY 2015-2019 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for review and comment. A request has been made to the BIA Regional Offices to provide the Tribal Transportation Improvement Programs for inclusion in the STIP. The Draft STIP is expected to be released in mid-August. • The ADOT PARA Program - Notice of funding availability went out in January this year – It is expected that the PARA notice for next year will be the same and applications would be due around March/April 2015. • The “Role of Tribes in Transportation Decision making” research project is still in progress. ADOT staff recently reviewed Working Paper 1 which covered input from the Tribes, COGs and MPOs in Arizona. This document is being prepared for finalization. Working Paper 2 will include benchmarking tribal transportation decision making in other states and completion of a comparative analysis.

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	The project is expected to be completed in 2015 and the findings can be presented to the partnership at that time.
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TOPIC	DETAILS
PARTNERSHIP ACTION UPDATE	Michele reviewed the action items from the April 1, 2014 meeting (See handout on partnership website).

TOPIC	DETAILS
PEP RATINGS AND FORM	PEP (Partnering Evaluation Program): Michele explained the importance of the PEP and Meeting Evaluation forms. Information regarding the PEP and meeting evaluation from the April 1, 2014, meeting was also shared with the partners.

TOPIC	DETAILS
FUTURE TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATES	<p>Future Meeting Dates The meeting room for October 30th is not available.</p> <p>Available dates October 9th and 16th are open for the Annual Partnership Meeting. October 16th is the selected date for the next Annual Meeting</p> <p>Upcoming Steering Committee meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 27, 2015 • April 28, 2015 • July 28, 2015 <p>2015 Annual meeting is October 8, 2015 The partnership Members agreed that the WMAT Transportation Board and Tribal Council be invited to the October 16th Annual Meeting.</p> <p>Annual Meeting Planning Team: Bernie Kniffin Mary Tapija Misty Klann Michele Crank</p>

TOPIC	DETAILS
CLOSING PRAYER	Marvin Mull gave the prayer to end the meeting.

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PARTICIPANT MEETING EVALUATION FEEDBACK - Based on 12 completed forms

Ratings 1=lowest/5=Highest

1. How valuable was this meeting for you?

Average Rating 4.18

What about this meeting was most valuable to you?

- Enjoying task
- Question on various issues were asked and answered, answers made sense and responder knowledgeable.
- Informal/project Mtg.
- Was able to talk to Marvin Mull about issue I needed to take care of
- Update from everyone.
- Ability to strengthen relationships and forge new ones, beneficial to the more rapid and streamlined inhalation and completion of important transportation protocols.
- The hearing and providing of updates.
- Learning how the partners help each other with contact information for valuable resources info and funding. Information of other tribes with valuable resource info.
- Learning that ADOT is partners with other tribes and learning that there is transportation resources in the works.
- Information sharing, inspiration.
- Most valuable to ADOT ROW is that WMAT's representative Vernon Palmer was present, which may begin to open lines of communications between ADOT and WMAT.

2. What would have improved this meeting?

- Some comments from audience not understood, need PA system.
- There was a lot of good information.
- We missed the District Engineers and look forward to seeing them at the annual meeting.
- No improvements.
- Nothing.
- Nothing, more action items.

3. How do you rate the Facilitator?

Average Rating: 4.45

- Met expectation
- Good job,
- During well Michele, keep it going
- Very good overall
- Good job Michele
- She is starting off doing a good job
- Very nice, opened minded, and ready for questions and ready for action
- Excellent, kept things moving

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MEETING NOTES

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

Average Rating: 4.27

Comments:

- Met expectation
- Rated 4 presenters knew what they were talking about. ADOT individuals at my table very helpful By providing additional info t concerns addressed.
- Appears to be working well and discussing important topics.
- Good effectiveness, and would even increase if sub-groups are established.
- The teams are accomplishing tasks with the current members, new member also welcome.
- Very conscientious and productive with information and moving along.
- Growing to be more effective.

5. What other comments or suggestions do you have?

- None
- Would have been nice to see more San Carlos Tribe/Leaders among with DPS and SCAT Police Dept. Then maybe we can get more information if that can help the San Carlos community.
- Stronger coffee.
- I am really going to miss you all! I never say good-bye, I say until next time. I will always pray for continued Blessing for everyone in the SCAT Community. Remember if I see you don't forget about me. I'll hug you anyway.

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