

San Carlos Apache Tribe / White Mountain Apache Tribe Transportation Partnership Steering Committee Notes

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Apache Gold Conference Center
San Carlos, Arizona

MEETING PURPOSE:

- Update partnership charter and membership roster
- Update partnership goals

Attendees:

Alvena Bush, WMAT Tribal Council
Andre Stevens, WMAT Transit
Bill Harmon, ADOT
Charlene Mullis, ADOT
Charles Russell, SCAT DOT
Colleen Faden, WMAT Tribal Council
CT Revere, ADOT
David Francis, Nnee Bich'O Nii Transit
Hugh Moses, SCAT DOT
Jason Pike, ADOT
John Marcanti, Gila County
Kathy Borquez, Pinal County
Marvin Mull, SCAT DOT
Mary Tapija, SCAT
Mike Wilson, ADOT
Rick Powers, Jacobs
Tom Chaney, SCAT PD

Welcome

Dianne Kresich opened the meeting by greeting participants and introducing herself as the new facilitator for the San Carlos Apache Partnership. She informed the group that she is a transportation planner and a project manager with the ADOT Research Center. One of her projects is the *Role of Tribes in Transportation Decision-Making in Arizona*.

Andre Stevens of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) gave the welcoming invocation, and the participants introduced themselves.



Opening remarks

Bill Harmon, ADOT Southeast District Engineer, and Marvin Mull, San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT) Transportation Director provided opening remarks.

Bill commented that the start of a new year gives us an opportunity to evaluate what we have accomplished and to look forward to where we are heading. He noted the presence of many of the mentors and comrades with whom he has fostered strong relationships since his first meeting with SCAT representatives in 2003, and expressed his confidence that the trust among them will ensure that the partnership advances the best ideas. Bill concluded by saying, "The actions of many people, each doing their small part, leads to a successful partnership."

Marvin stated that he was looking forward to a successful year. He thanked his staff, who "keep things going" while he is traveling and attending to issues away from the office. He listed several roadway needs, notably safety issues on Route 6, lighting on U.S. 70, and improvements related to school bus stops and the airport. Marvin also commented that he looked forward to discussing concerns with Gila County.

Partnership mission

Dianne led the committee in a discussion about the mission and charter, following concurrence from the members that the recent addition of the White Mountain Apache Tribe to the partnership warranted a fresh look at these documents.

The charter and the name of the partnership were revised as follows:

SCAT/WMAT Transportation Partnership Charter

Provide a forum for Partnership members to strengthen working relationships, identify transportation concerns, and work collaboratively to address those concerns.

The new charter will be signed at the April 27, 2016 meeting of the SCAT/WMAT Transportation Partnership at HonDah.

Membership

To ensure that appropriate agencies and individuals are invited to participate in the activities of the Steering Committee, Dianne and ADOT Partnering manager Bonnie Opie asked attendees to review the existing membership list and to clarify the roles of various participants.

Members confirmed that the mission of the Steering Committee does not typically extend to making decisions but, rather, to taking questions/information to those at our respective agencies who can make decisions and bringing answers/information back to the partnership. Members decided to develop three lists:



- Members of the Steering Committee, who will be invited to Steering Committee meetings and the Annual Meeting
- Technical experts, who will be asked to participate to provide input on specific topics, e.g., give presentations, work on certain action steps
- Others who want to be informed, who will receive notification when information relevant to the partnership is posted to the Arizona Tribal Transportation website, www.aztribaltransportation.org.

Attendees then advised Dianne and Bonnie on appropriate individuals to include in these categories.

CT Revere, ADOT Southeast District, will discuss within ADOT who the appropriate participants relevant to community relations would be, if any.

Dianne noted inconsistency in membership among the counties. Pinal County has no elected officials as members, but Gila has two. Gila and other counties have no technical staff as members. With the addition of WMAT to the partnership, a decision was made to invite a representative from Graham, Navajo, and Apache Counties. Dianne will contact the county managers of these counties and ask for a member to be assigned.

Meeting schedule

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on April 27 and hosted by WMAT at HonDah. ADOT will work with members to determine a variety of locations for future meetings.

Partnership Goals

Dianne led a brief presentation on “SMART goals,” explaining that goals and action steps are most likely to lead to positive change if they are **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**esults-oriented, and **T**ime-oriented. The Steering Committee agreed to use this guideline as it sets goals and determines action steps.

Participants reviewed and updated the partnership’s existing goals. The revised goals, titled the SCAT/WMAT Transportation Partnership Goals Implementation Plan, are being distributed with these meeting notes and will be posted to www.aztribaltransportation.org.

Next meeting

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on April 27 and hosted by WMAT at HonDah. Dianne will follow up with Andre Stevens and Brenda Roberts by February 29 to arrange for the meeting.

The April meeting agenda will include:

- Partnership charter: Sign the new charter and officially welcome WMAT into the partnership



- Member roundtable: Give a five-minute update on activities the member agency is working on with partners or that are relevant to the partners
- Goals Implementation Plan: Review, discuss, and update. Bill Harmon recommended that the partners not add new goals until existing goals have been completed.

Members should contact Dianne Kresich if there is a request for a specific topic to be added to the agenda.

The Steering Committee meeting concluded with an invocation by Marvin Mull.

Summary of Participant Meeting Evaluation

Scores are based on 11 evaluations. Comments are taken from the evaluation forms exactly as written.

1. Rate how valuable this workshop is for you. 4.00 out of 5

What about this workshop was most valuable to you?

- I get to voice our needs and get a down-to-earth answer with valuable advice from different agencies to utilize
- Networking, getting information, project coordination, finding out who to call
- Getting acclimated to what the SCAT partnering meeting is all about
- Identifying the goals and purpose of the steering committee
- Setting goals, setting up members, technical information
- The goal setting
- I made some very good connections
- Meeting new people
- I appreciate Dianne's efforts to bring more focus and clarity to the partnership, and to make certain the right agencies and people are invited

2. What would have improved this workshop?

- Have elected officials present at all the meeting such as Tribal, State, County, and Federal levels
- Seemed like a little bit of a reboot. We do need to set some new goals, but I think we could have skipped the mission statement
- Still learning--not sure
- Agenda could have been scaled down
- Having all the stakeholders present
- This was a good meeting
- Used time to reorganize the process



3. How do you rate the facilitator? 3.45 out of 5

- The past one was excellent and most likely this new one will pick up the torch and continue the flame that has been ignited in the state of this wonderful committee
- Very good. I think we just kind of missed each other
- Very good for first timer to the group
- Very interactive and energetic
- Did great for the first
- Dianne and Bonnie did a great job drilling down to what was important
- Very good
- Outstanding
- Dianne is an excellent communicator and facilitator

4. How do you rate the potential for partnering on this project? 4.00 out of 5

- We have been guided by good conduct and superior handling of the issues together as team players and has been joyful to be a part of this team
- Still a good use of time
- Everyone had opportunity to contribute
- Works well together
- Some key players here
- All members seem to work well together, good conversations
- Great potential
- Hit on some projects we need to implement

5. What other comments or suggestions do you have?

- To stay with the outlined format as noted with change when appropriate at that time. It's been working as is presented
- I was late and did not see what happened in the morning, but I don't see opening prayer on the agenda, they used to open and close in prayer. Also need to give time for celebrating things accomplished since last meeting
- ??
- Having all the stakeholders present
- Thanks!
- SMART-Great meeting. Came in late

