

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

THURSDAY, April 27, 2017

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Hon-Dah Resort Casino and Conference Center
Pinetop, Arizona

MEETING PURPOSE:

- Provide a forum for open discussion
- Review the Issue Escalation Ladder
- Update Partnership Goals
- Discuss Next Meetings
- Provide Partnership Activity Updates



ATTENDEES

Alicia Urquidez, ADOT ROW
Cassie Kenton-Garcia, WMAT Transit Manager
Don Sneed, ADOT
Georgia Puente Meza, BIA – Fort Apache
Glenn Kephart, Navajo County Public Works
Hugh Moses, SCAT DOT
Jerome Kasey III, WMAT Council
Lee Lomatska, SCAT Gaming Enterprise
Lynn Johnson, ADOT
Marvin Mull Jr., SCAT DOT

Mary Tapija, SCAT DOT

ATTENDEES CONTUNUED

Matt Moul, ADOT

Morey Cole, WMAT Police Department

Mark Tessay, WMAT Fire Department

Nona Tuchawena, BIA

Orlando Tessay, WMAT Fire Department

Steve Aday, BIA – San Carlos Agency

Tara Chief, WMAT DOT

Woody Cline, Gila County Supervisor

FACILITATORS

Linda Ritter

Julia Voight (Backup Facilitator)

WELCOME

ADOT Partnering Facilitator, Linda Ritter, opened the meeting and introduced backup Partnering Facilitator, Julia Voight. WMAT Transit Manager, Cassie Kenton-Garcia, filled in for WMAT DOT Director, Tara Chief, who was able to join the meeting after lunch, and welcomed and thanked all for attending. Mark Tessay of the WMAT Fire Department provided the opening prayer. Linda thanked SCAT DOT and SCAT Transit for providing breakfast and lunch for the meeting and WMAT DOT and WMAT Transit for providing the conference room at the Hon-Dah Resort. Participants introduced themselves, stating their roles in their various agencies and organizations, and everyone shared their own “recipe,” including recipes for food and success.

WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND - OPEN DISCUSSION

Lynn Johnson

- State Route 73 is not in good condition. The roadway will be milled down 3 inches and replaced. Work is expected to begin in May.
- A smaller project, SR 60 south of Show Low, will have sections of roadway milled and replaced. Work will begin in May or June.
- A chip seal will be applied in Salt River Canyon.
- The Indian Pine Maintenance Yard, which had been closed, is now open permanently.

Matt Moul

- There are several fencing projects planned where there have been high incidents of livestock in the roadway. One example provided - fencing will be replaced from McNary to Sunrise Junction and Hon-Dah to the Roberts Ranch area.
- The next step regarding fencing to prevent livestock from entering the roadway will be to look at fencing needs within residential areas.
- Kudos given to WMAT DOT Director, Tara Chief, and BIA Forestry Manager, Orlando Carroll, for the tree removal project. The removal of hazard trees along SR 260 from McNary to the Sunrise Junction has been needed for many years, and they were instrumental in making this project a success. Several of the trees had memorials. Tara was able to reach out to the families who

placed the memorials, and the families were very positive about collecting the memorials prior to the project.

Don Snead

- There are two pedestrian hybrid beacons being placed near schools in the Whiteriver area.
- Tara has been working with her tribal contacts to get crash data to ADOT. This helps support ADOT in obtaining information and funding for safety projects. WMAT has been a trendsetter in providing this needed data. Other tribes are being educated about how much this data can assist in getting needed funding.
- Data will be reviewed regarding the need for street lighting at the intersection of SR 260 and SR 73.

Marvin Mull

- There are two pedestrian hybrid beacon projects in the San Carlos area; one near the high school and the other in Bylas.
- Marvin asked Glen Kephart of Navajo County Public Works how the County helps tribes.
 - Glen reported that funding is budgeted for districts through HURF (Highway User Revenue Funds) and must be used on federally funded projects. A County staff member is dedicated to meet with WMAT and BIA on a regular basis to assist in serving priority needs.
 - Glen also stated, as an example, that Route 12 has jurisdictional issues – part of Route 12 is in Gila County and the other in Navajo County. The County partnered through an IGA with BIA, Gila County and WMAT to fix an area outside the Navajo County jurisdiction.
 - The BIA, for example, has deteriorating equipment, and Navajo County has been helpful in helping the BIA secure better equipment.
- Marvin noted that SCAT has a very good relationship with Gila County and would like to see funding opportunities with the County. A great many tribal members shop in Globe, for example at Walmart, and much revenue from sales taxes come from the tribe. Gila County Supervisor, Woody Cline, agreed, stating that we can't afford to lose HURF dollars.

Nona Tuchawena and Georgia Puente Meza

- Nona asked Matt Maul and Lynn Johnson about the leftover roadway millings in regard to the 13-mile SR 73 project. She was informed the tribe receives the millings, not the BIA, and it is up to the tribe on how the millings are distributed. Matt explained that a process is followed by ADOT, and the process is stated on the contract, that while ADOT does not provide resources, such as millings, to Federal government levels (such as BIA); tribes do receive leftover millings from roadways. Cassie Kenton-Garcia reminded Nona and Georgia that the distribution of the leftover millings was discussed and agreed upon at the Tribal Transportation Technical Working Group meeting in April, which Georgia had attended. Georgia stated that the tribe sells the millings to tribal members, but it was noted by Matt and Cassie that this is not part of the process and does not occur. Matt also noted that BIA and the tribe can come to an agreement as to how to store the millings.

Mark Tessay

- Thank you to Navajo County for helping to provide updated data to address the 9-1-1 system needs. When responding to emergencies, it is difficult to find addresses. There is a great need to have ongoing, updated data for emergency management.

Cassie Kenton Garcia

- Thank you to Navajo County for the assistance with snowplowing equipment.

Jerome Kasey III

- Jerome newly joined the open meeting, which resumed after lunch, to follow-up on the discussion earlier regarding the distribution of roadway millings. He emphasized that the millings distribution process is followed by the tribe according to the contract and that the tribe does not sell millings. He also wanted to clarify that information on any items related to WMAT are available through WMAT: Tara Chief, Jerome Kasey, Councilwoman, Alvena Bush or the WMAT representatives they designate to provide information. Since BIA is the trust agent only and does not have authority to speak on behalf of WMAT, please note that any answers to questions or any information related to WMAT need to be provided through WMAT only.

ISSUE RESOLUTION LADDER

The Issue Resolution Ladder was reviewed and updated. The ladder will continue to be presented for review through email and at all Steering Committee meetings, as its accuracy is important should any issues or emergencies arise.

GOALS/ACTION STEPS REPORT

- The Goals/Action Steps report was reviewed and action items were added. Achieved Goals are noted at the end of the document.
- The report is updated and posted on the AZ Tribal Transportation website: <http://www.aztribaltransportation.org/sca/index.asp>
- The Steering Committee will update and document the goals that have been achieved at each Steering Committee meeting and develop new goals (with assistance at any future annual meetings from leadership), once existing goals are achieved.

ANNUAL MEETING AND FUTURE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- The next Steering Committee meeting is anticipated to be held at Hon-Dah Conference Center in Pinetop on July 20, 2017. A meeting invitation will be emailed to committee members as soon as the date is confirmed.
- Steering Committee meeting times will continue to be held from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** to accommodate members' busy schedules. The lunch hour provides a great time for networking.

- **Members will plan to arrive 15 minutes early, around 9:45 a.m.,** to enjoy refreshments and “catch up” with other members, so the meeting can effectively start at 10 a.m., allowing all to take part in introductions.
- The next Steering Committee meeting date will be in November at Apache Gold Casino and Conference Center. The meeting date will be determined at the July 20 Steering Committee meeting. The November meeting will be dedicated to planning the next Annual Meeting (to be held the following year in the spring). It was agreed that the Annual Meeting will be comprised of a one-day tour of the White Mountain Apache area. A few years ago, a tour of the San Carlos Apache area was provided during the Annual Meeting; therefore it was agreed that next tour is a good time to focus on the WMAT area.

ROUNDTABLE

- Myra Rothman will be retiring from ADOT within a few weeks.
- On June 12, Fort Apache Transit will be up and running. There will be a ribbon-cutting on June 8, and there will be free bus service for the public all day on June 9.
- WMAT has employed three bus drivers and one dispatcher for the transit service.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:30 P.M. WITH A CLOSING PRAYER LED BY HUGH MOSES

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The next Steering Committee meeting at Hon-Dah Casino and Conference Center in Pinetop will be held **from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2017.** The proposed agenda will include:

- “What’s on your mind?” – Open Discussion
- Issue Resolution Ladder review
- Goals/Action items update to include presentations by
 - Mona Aglan-Swick, of ADOT Traffic Engineering, on the process to apply for HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Projects).
 - Nathan Nixon of ITCA (Inter Tribal Council of Arizona) on commercial vehicle crash data and how to receive reports and surveys about the data.
- Establishing the date and agenda items for the November meeting (dedicated to planning the Annual Meeting).
- Partnership updates

ACTION ITEMS PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING

- Be sure to review the Issue Resolution Ladder for your agency/organization and provide Linda with any updated information via email.
- Review the Goals/Action Plan and be ready to provide any updated information or ask any questions related to it.
- Be ready to talk about agenda items required in the November meeting that will help us successfully plan next year’s Annual Meeting.

- Linda Ritter will get in touch with Mona Aglan-Swick regarding speaking about the HSIP process at the July 20 meeting.
- Linda will also to get in touch with Esther Corbett to learn if Nathan Nixon will be available to attend the July 20 meeting and speak about commercial vehicle crash data, reports and surveys.

SUMMARY OF PARTICIPANT MEETING EVALUATION

Scores are based on 10 evaluations. Comments are taken from the evaluation forms exactly as written.

1. How valuable was this meeting for you? 4.4 out of 5
2. Could you or other team members have done anything more during the meeting to encourage a successful outcome? 5 Yes/5 No
3. How well did the facilitator guide and encourage team members to understand and discuss key meeting items? 4.4 out of 5
4. How do you rate the effectiveness of the speaker(s)? 2 NA/ 4.57 out of 5
5. How do you rate the effectiveness of the team? 4.7 out of 5
6. Do you have any suggestions for improving future meetings? 1 Yes/ 9 No
7. How satisfied were you with the facility? 4.4 out of 5
8. How satisfied were you with the refreshments? 1 NA/ 4.67 out of 5

Comments

- Apologies for missing the a.m. session.
- Good meeting; thanks Linda and Julia for your facilitation.
- Review meeting notes from last meeting.
- Useful info. Helpful to all partners. A lot of good/useful ideas.
- You are doing great.
- Presenters could present in their field of expertise, subject and issues of the presenter's office. Grant writing, ADOT policies, project management...etc. Tribal council encouraged to attend and voice their opinion.