

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

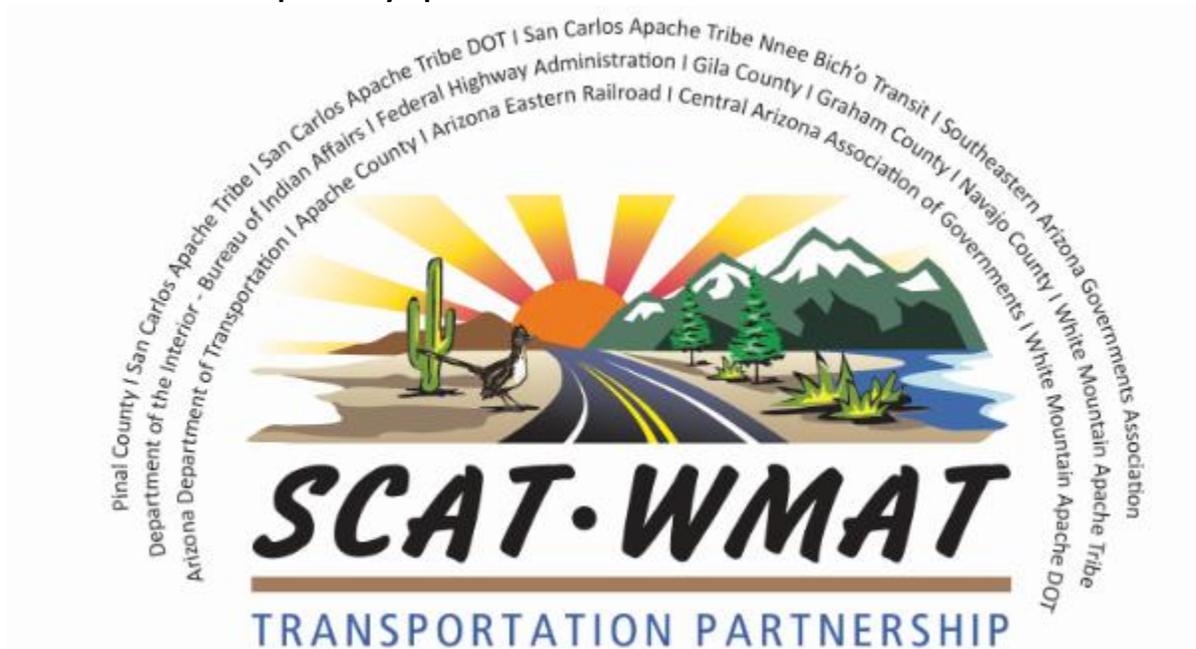
THURSDAY, July 20, 2017

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Hon-Dah Resort Casino and Conference Center  
Pinetop, Arizona

## MEETING PURPOSE:

- Provide a presentation overviewing commercial crash data to address a committee goal
- Review the Issue Resolution Ladder
- Update Partnership Goals
- Identify a tentative date for the next Steering Committee meeting, which will be dedicated to planning the next annual meeting
- Provide a presentation on the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) to address a committee goal
- Provide Partnership activity updates



## ATTENDEES

Alicia Urquidez, ADOT ROW  
Angelo Belvado, SCAT Transit Dispatcher  
Bernadette Kniffin, SCAT Transit Director  
Bryan Cooke, Navajo County  
Cassie Kenton-Garcia, WMAT Transit Manager  
Charlene Mullis, ADOT ROW  
Coleen Faden, WMAT Council Member

**ATTENDEES CONTINUED**

David Francis, SCAT Transit Fleet Supervisor  
Georgia Puente Meza, BIA – Fort Apache  
Hugh Moses, SCAT DOT  
Hutch Noline, SCAT TERO Director  
Kathy Borquez, Pinal County Public Works  
Lefty Alo, WMAT Housing Authority  
Lisa Robertson, City of Show Low Grants and Transit Manager  
Marvin Mull Jr., SCAT DOT Director  
Mary Tapija, SCAT DOT Administration  
Matt Moul, ADOT Northeast District  
Mark Tessay, WMAT Fire Department  
Mona Aglan-Swick, ADOT Transportation Systems Management and Operations  
Orlando Tessay, WMAT Fire Department  
Romare Truly, FHWA Community Planner  
Tara Chief, WMAT DOT Director  
Travis Ashbaugh, CAG Planning  
Woody Cline, Gila County Supervisor

**FACILITATORS**

Linda Ritter  
Julia Voight (Backup Facilitator)

**WELCOME**

ADOT Partnering Facilitator, Linda Ritter, opened the meeting and turned it over to WMAT Transit Director, Tara Chief, for a welcoming address. Tara expressed her appreciation to the committee for taking time out of their schedules to attend the meeting and collaborate on transportation issues. Collen Faden, of the WMAT Tribal Council, provided the opening prayer. Linda asked committee members to introduce themselves, stating their roles in their various agencies and organizations.

After introductions, Linda reminded the members that the day's agenda would cover much ground; the meeting began immediately with an informative presentation regarding commercial crash data and commodity flow analysis. Later in the afternoon, a presentation was provided on the Highway Safety Improvement Program. The PowerPoint presentations were emailed to committee members the following day.

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS – COMMERCIAL VEHICLE CRASH DATA****Esther Corbett, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona – Final Tractor Trailer Crash Analysis**

- The presentation overviewed a study conducted from 2009 to 2013, which compared the number and percent of injuries and fatalities in tractor trailer crashes on and off tribal lands, identified crash locations as well as differences between these kinds of crashes occurring on and off tribal lands.

### **Nathan Nixon, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona – San Carlos Commodity Flow Analysis**

- The presentation provided information on an April 13, 2016 commodity flow study by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. The study focused on commercial motor vehicles (CMV's) hauling hazardous materials east and west on Highway 70. The goal was to determine the types and quantities of hazardous materials being transported.

PRESENTATIONS' PURPOSE: The committee requested information on commercial crash data to help members better understand how this data is collected, what the data signifies, how important accurate data reporting is and how much data may not get reported. A better understanding of these issues will ultimately help tribal transportation partners to secure more funds for safety improvements.

Although both Esther Corbett and Nathan Nixon were unable to attend the committee meeting in person due to travel restrictions from grant funding limitations, they were happy to be available by conference phone to provide their PowerPoint presentations, which they had emailed to the meeting facilitator in advance of the meeting. The presentations and information provided were much appreciated by the committee.

### **ISSUE RESOLUTION LADDER**

The Issue Resolution Ladder was reviewed and will be updated to include SCAT public transit. The ladder will continue to be presented for review through email and at 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 updated. Achieved Goals are noted on the Achieved Goals document.
- The documents are 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 Steering Committee meetings and develop new goals (with assistance at any future annual meetings from leadership), once existing goals are achieved.

### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION - NNEE BICH'O NII (TANF & PUBLIC TRANSIT) "HELPING THE PEOPLE SERVICES!"**

**Bernadette Kniffin, NNEE BICH'O NII Director**

PRESENTATION PURPOSE: To provide an update on TANF and public transit.

### **ANNUAL MEETING AND FUTURE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- **The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on October 24, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Apache Gold Casino.** (Post-meeting note: A "Hold the Date" calendar announcement was sent to committee members on Wednesday, July 26.)

- Steering Committee meeting times will continue to be held from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to accommodate members' busy schedules. The lunch hour provides a great time for networking.
- **As always, members will plan to arrive 15 minutes early, around 9:45 a.m.,** so the meeting can effectively start at 10 a.m., allowing all to take part in introductions.
- **The October 24 Steering Committee meeting agenda will be different from previous meeting agendas and will be focused on detailed planning for the next annual meeting to be held in May 2018.** It has been suggested that the next Annual Meeting 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 suggested that a next tour is a good time to focus on the WMAT area. The meeting will review this idea as well as any other ideas regarding the Annual Meeting format.
- Committee members were provided with an Annual Meeting roster. Members are asked to update the list with the most current annual meeting members for their tribes, departments or organizations and email the names/contact information to Linda Ritter, who will compile the contact information. A current roster will be important in understanding how many participants may attend the next annual meeting and will greatly aid in good planning. A current roster will also be used to send annual meeting invitations; therefore, accurate email addresses will be especially important.

## **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION - HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP)**

**Mona Aglan-Swick, P.E., HSIP Manager**

**ADOT Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O), Traffic Safety**

- The Highway Safety Improvement project is committed to traffic safety and funding is available through the program for roadways that have experienced fatalities or serious injury incidents.
  - HSIP
    - Vision: Toward zero deaths by reducing crashes for a safer Arizona
    - Goal: Reduce fatalities and the occurrence and severity of serious injuries on all public roadways in Arizona.
    - Objective: Reduce the total number of fatalities and serious injuries in Arizona by three to seven percent during the next five years from the 2013 base year.

PRESENTATION PURPOSE: The committee had previously requested information on the HSIP process to assist the transportation partners in better understanding the process and gaining HSIP contact information. By understanding the process better, more funds for safety improvements may be generated. The information provided was greatly appreciated by the committee. Mona Aglan-Swick encourages members to contact her if they are in need of assistance when filling out the HSIP funding forms and also to forward information on roadway locations that are of concern, as the locations may be eligible for safety studies.

## **ROUNDTABLE**

### **Bryan Cook, Navajo County**

Several projects were mentioned that are underway in Navajo County including the following:

- There is a grassroots effort to establish bike lanes, signage, etc. There is potential resurfacing work associated with this effort.
- The bid is complete on the historic bridge rehabilitation.
- There are several drainage projects planned or in the works.

### **Charlene Mullis**

- Construction at Bylas is coming.
- The San Carlos High School work will be underway.
- There are stage 5 plans for passing lanes on US 70.

### **Hutch Noline**

- It is beneficial for the committee to brainstorm together to achieve greater transportation safety.
- It is important to hire tribal members for construction work on tribal lands. More jobs are needed. We cannot afford to lose skilled laborers because of lack of work.
- Tribal members were recently trained by Rummel Construction, and it went very well.

### **David Francis**

- Transit is working with multiple transit groups.
- Communication lines are being worked on and making the routes larger.

### **Romare Truly**

- There is a self-governance transition.
- Tribal Transportation Funding - the last one is in April. Applications for 2016 are due soon.
- Tribal Bridge Fund applications are always available.

### **Travis Ashbaugh**

- There is a greater Gila County Feasibility Study. The technical working group includes SCAT and WMAT.
- Looking at implementing Phase II soon.
- WMAT may have a project for transportation improvement funding. Will be working with Tara Chief about this.
- Might have a project with data that SCAT could provide to CAG.

### **Kathy Borquez**

- Pinal County is conducting safety planning and focusing on areas that need to be identified.
- Thank you to Marvin Mull for all his assistance with the Apache Sky project.

### **Mary Tapija**

- The lights need to be turned on at the Route 6/US 70 intersection.

### **Woody Cline**

- Hoping to have an IGA with Gila County, Navajo County and SCAT.

### **Cassie Kenton-Garcia**

- WMAT Transit is up and running. The Grand Opening was June 9.
- Modifications have been made to Route 1.

### **Mark Tessay**

- Cibecue is becoming a popular recreational destination, and this is becoming a serious safety issue. The area has remote trails; there is no cell phone service. It is difficult to locate those requiring assistance, and it is not possible for someone with an emergency to contact emergency services. There has been a meeting with Game and Fish about the issue, and it will be an ongoing concern that needs to be addressed.
- WMAT emergency response does not have the resources to effectively handle the emergency incidents in Salt River Canyon that require 1,000 foot rope rescues. At one time, there was assistance provided by other areas, but this is no longer available. Funding is desperately needed to address this issue and avenues need to be found to ensure that effective rescues are available.
- Because of recent fires, flash floods (especially Cibecue Creek) and heavy debris from the fires are an issue, especially regarding runoffs over SR 73. This situation is being monitored.
- SR 73 at milepost 333 had another fatality. Funding is needed to put a frontage road at this location. This is a dangerous area and an ongoing concern.
- Funding is greatly needed for mile markers in backroads (similar to how Forest Service roads are marked). Search and rescue teams would benefit/safety would greatly improve. (Bryan Cook recommended talking to NACOG and Navajo County to secure funding for this.)

### **Tara Chief**

- There are five routes in Whiteriver that have water issues due to old pipes under the roadway.
- The SR 73 pavement preservation project will be done soon, along with two pedestrian crossing lights in Whiteriver.
- There will be a repaving project soon on US 60 in the Salt River Canyon.
- Design is underway for the frontage road project that Mark Tessay discussed. It is anticipated that construction will take place next year.
- IR 12 from US 60 to Cibecue needs to be paved. Snow plows cannot get into the road. This is 12 miles of roadway with a lot of drainage issues, so it will be pricey. Looking for ways to secure funding/pool funding for this needed project.
- Thank you to San Carlos transit – great partnership.
- Thank you to Show Low transit too.
- Navajo County has been great to work with.
- WMAT DOT has reached out to Mountain West Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP).
- WMAT DOT is working on procurement to get an airport consultant on board.

### **Marvin Mull**

- Highway 70/Route 6 is almost complete. There are a few items that need to be wrapped up. The project is looking very good.
- The high school turn lane and Bylas project is out to bid. The bid award is expected in August.
- Will be working with Travis Ashbaugh for HSIP funds.
- There is a PARA (Planning Assistance for Rural Areas) study that has been approved for Route 6.
- The Route 6 project is almost done. There is just some clean-up work to do. It is expected to be completed by August 11. This is exciting; it will be a three-lane road (includes turn lane) with streetlights, curbs etc.
- There will be a project to repave from the detention center to Globe. This will be a three-mile project and will be put out for bid in August.
- The road to the new school is half-way paved and is expected to be completed this year with Show Low Construction.
- FAA work next year – more blacktop will be placed on the runway.

### **Collen Faden**

- Congratulations to Tara Chief for all her accomplishments in a short period of time since beginning her role. She has won awards, and it is great to see transit up and running.

### **Lefty Alo**

- Cibecue is looking for funding regarding transit needs.

### **Orlando Tessay**

- As houses are built, it is important to keep Orlando in the loop. It is important to have the information/ know the housing numbers and the numbers must face the road.
- The 9-1-1 system is doing well; however, some housing numbers are faded and residents need to understand that it is their responsibility to place the numbers, have the numbers face the roadway and keep them visible.

### **Mona Aglan-Swick**

- Mona is looking forward to HSIP projects being completed and being able to see the final project.

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:30 P.M. WITH TARA CHIEF THANKING SCAT DOT FOR LUNCH AND FOR THOSE WHO PROVIDED REFRESHMENTS, INCLUDING COUNCILWOMAN ALVENA BUSH WHO PROVIDED THE AFTERNOON REFRESHMENTS. THE CLOSING PRAYER WAS LED BY HUTCH NOLINE.**

## NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The next Steering Committee meeting at **Apache Gold Casino Conference Center** will be held **from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 2017**. The proposed agenda will include:

### Annual Meeting Planning

- Purpose/Goal Defined: What do we want to achieve with the Annual Meeting? What do we think will be the attendees' expectations in attending the meeting?
- Annual Meeting Roster Review – Let's understand who will come and estimate how many will come. RSVP's help, but are not accurate.
- Brainstorm – Possible Annual Meeting format ideas to best achieve our goal and meet attendees' expectations. (Tour? Other?)
- Format Feasibility: Pros and cons of each format idea
- Select Best Format
- Logistics for Best Format – Breakdown format into components.
  - ✓ What exactly needs to be done and when? Deadlines identified.
  - ✓ Who will do what and when? Deadlines identified.
- Another planning meeting?
- Select date and location for Annual Meeting.

### ACTION ITEMS PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING

- **Review and update the Annual Meeting Roster** with your tribe, department or organization's **contact information by October 10**. Please email information to Linda Ritter by or before that date. **Correct and clear email addresses are important**.
- Review the October 24 agenda in preparation for the meeting; your ideas and thoughts will be valuable.

### SUMMARY OF PARTICIPANT MEETING EVALUATION

Scores are based on 14 evaluations. Comments are taken from the evaluation forms exactly as written.

1. How valuable was this meeting for you? 4.64 out of 5
2. Could you or other team members have done anything more during the meeting to encourage a successful outcome? 2 Yes/12 No
3. How well did the facilitator guide and encourage team members to understand and discuss key meeting items? 4.64 out of 5
4. How do you rate the effectiveness of the speaker(s)? 4.79 out of 5
5. How do you rate the effectiveness of the team? 4.31 out of 5
6. Do you have any suggestions for improving future meetings? 3 Yes/ 11 No
7. How satisfied were you with the facility? 4.31 out of 5
8. How satisfied were you with the refreshments? 2 NA/ 4.17 out of 5

### Comments

- Suggestion: SCAT Apache Transit Presentation "Dispatching with TSO Mobile" by Angelo Belvado, SCAT Transit Dispatch Manager.
- Suggestion: Give more "open floor and time."

- I felt the presentations and speakers were excellent and very informative. They were great additions. Thank you for the facilitation and partnership.
- Good meeting. It sounds like there is room for improvement in terms of tribal involvement.
- On HSIP Application presentation; probably should have it annually and earlier in the year.
- Great meeting.
- Good updates from everyone.
- All is good. Thank you.