

Hopi & Arizona Department of Transportation Partnership Steering Committee Workshop Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 20, 2019
 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
 Hopi Youth & Senior Center
 Kykotsmovi Village

Facilitators: Nichole Jenks



Today the Hopi and Arizona Department of Transportation Partnership Steering Committee met at the Hopi Youth & Senior Center on Main Street in Kykotsmovi Village. The 25 attendees were from HDOT, ADOT and varying partnering agencies. The meeting opened with a prayer from Hopi Tribal Council Member, Herman Honanie.

Below is the sign in sheet from those who attended today. There were no call-in attendees.

Name	Title	Organization	Email / Phone No.
Davis Pecusa	Tribal Council Representative Bacavi	Hopi Tribe	Dpecusa@hopi.nsn.us
Mike Lomayaktewa	Hopi Department of Transportation (HDOT) Director	Hopi Tribe	mlomayaktewa@hopi.nsn.us Cell: 928.313.2711
Jollette Arrieta	Office Manager	Hopi Tribe	Jarrieta@hopi.nsn.us Office: 928.734.3183
Matt Moul	Northeast District Engineer	ADOT	Mmoul@azdot.gov
Ermalinda Gene	Tribal Planning Program Manager	ADOT	EGene@azdot.gov
Michael Carter	Partnering Administrator	ADOT	MCarter@azdot.gov Office: 602.712.8069
Brad Burgess	Program Administrator	ADOT	BBurgess@azdot.gov 602.712.7399
LeAnne Roy	Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Supervisor	Navajo Dept. of Transportation NDOT	lroy@navajodot.org
Karen Benally	Department Manager	NDOT	kbenally@navajodot.org
Jason James	Transportation Planner	Northern Arizona Council of Government (NACOG)	jjames@nacog.org Cell: 928.925.8413
Ammon Heier	Transportation Engineer	FHWA	Ammon.Heier@dot.gov Cell: 801.885.0833
Jesse Thompson	Supervisor District 2	Navajo County	Jesse.thompson@navajocounty.az.gov

Bill Bess	County Engineer	Navajo County	bill.bess@navajocountyaz.gov Cell: 928.205.3503
Miles Begay	Engineer in Training (EIT), Tribal Transportation Manager	Navajo County	miles.begay@navajocountyaz.gov Cell: 928.637.5949
Wendell Honanie	Supervisor of the Keams Canyon Office	Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Hopi Agency	Wendell.Honanie@bia.gov Office: 928.738.2228
Charla Glendening	Statewide Planning Manager Multi-modal Planning Division (MPD)	ADOT	CGlendening@azdot.gov 602.712.7376
Herman Honanie	Hopi Tribal Council Representative	Hopi Tribe	Hehonanie@hopi.nsn.us
Herb Begay	Hopi Tribe Civil Engineer Technician	Hopi DOT	hbegay@hopi.nsn.us
Gary Phelps	Captain	Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS)	GPhelps@azdps.gov 928.606.0003
Celestino Youvella	Tribal Rep. First Mesa Consolidated Village (FMCV)	Hopi Tribe	928.481.8128
Dennis Koeyahongva	Hopi Tribal Council Rep. Sipaulovi Village	Hopi Tribe	denniskoeyahongva@gmail.com 928.679.1735
Donovan Gomez	Transit Administrator	Hopi Senom Transit	Dgomez@hopi.nsn.us
Gerald Calnimptea	Operations Officer	Hopi	GCalnimptea@hopi.nsn.us
Dorma Sahneyah	Hopi Executive Director	Hopi	DSahneyah@hopi.nsn.us
Clayton Honyumtewa	Department Director	Hopi – DNR	CHonyumtewa@hopi.nsn.us
Vanessa Taho	GIS Database Admin.	Hopi Tribe	VTaho@hopi.nsn.us 928.734.3655
Romalita Laban	Managing Editor	Hopi Tutuveni Newspaper	RLaban@hopi.nsn.us

Hopi Department of Transportation Objectives:

1. Identify a maintenance facility location:

HDOT is currently in need of a maintenance facility to house both personnel and equipment.

At this time, administrative staff is located in the Kykotsmovi office and road maintenance staff is located in Keams Canyon.

HDOT would like to find a location within District 6 due to favorable infrastructure and available utilities. HDOT is looking for clan/village leader, documented approval.

HDOT would like to approach the Tawaovi Master Plan Committee to discuss a lease on this site location. This property is held in Hopi Trust Lands, and has power and a well approximately 1 mile away. Funding mechanisms include federal funds, which require BIA approval and recording. Per HDOT, the lease and structure(s) would be federally funded and any utility relocation cost would be funded by Hopi tribal funds. FHWA may have Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funds available. Under 25 CFR 170.227, tribes may use flexible financing for certain TTP projects.

Other locations currently under consideration are:

- **District 6 is a priority location**
 - **Spider Mound** (2 potential sites)
 - Good infrastructure
 - Partner with Hopi Housing Authority
 - Near SR 264 & RT 6/Jedito Island
 - **First Mesa Consolidated Village FMCV** (east)
 - Water & Sewer currently available
 - **Winslow**
 - Location has an existing structure and infrastructure
 - Distance is a consideration

Navajo County can provide site topo mapping and assist with environmental clearances on identified locations. Bill Bess, Navajo County Engineer, is the contact. Keames Canyon ADOT yard is not an option.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS/UPDATE
Reach out to the Tawaovi Master Plan Committee and discuss the possibility of leasing space on this Hopi Trust Land. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-purpose facility • Language in charter is currently being reviewed by tribal council 	Per Michael Lomayektewa assign to Andrew with Hopi Real Estate Division to research and report back to Michael L. with council response.	
Other locations currently under consideration are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spider Mound (2 potential sites) • First Mesa Consolidated Village FMCV (east) • Winslow 	Michael Lomayektewa (or assigned delegate) Work with Andrew with Hopi Real Estate Division to assess location feasibility. FMCV: Contact is Celestino Youvella, Tribal Representative FMCV	

2. Long Range Transportation Plan Priorities:

I. State Route 264:

State Route (SR) 264 traverses most of the villages on the Hopi Reservation covering approximately 50 miles. The road terrain is hilly, with many curves.

A Road Safety Audit (RSA) revealed numerous fatalities and overall lack of law enforcement on this stretch of road. There are no shoulders. The pavement is in poor condition with significant surface deterioration. This road becomes very heavily traveled with tourist and commercial vehicles when SR 89 or Interstate 40 is shut down. In pull outs along the road, school buses are getting stuck and there have been reports of pedestrian and vehicle near misses along the bus stops. HDOT is interested in pavement preservation or reconstruction funding opportunities.

The Arizona State Transportation Board will meet April 12, 2019 in Flagstaff. This is an opportunity to address the board and express Hopi Tribes desire for road improvement projects to be considered for the improvement plan.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS/UPDATE
ADOT to report on any upcoming road maintenance through fiscal year 2019 on SR 264.	Matt Moul	
Are bus pull outs maintained by ADOT? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopi must submit request with specific locations. • This would be determined on a case by case basis for each location in question. There may be locations on and off ADOT ROW. 	Matt Moul	ADOT cannot work outside of ADOT ROW.
Lobby for road improvement projects to be programmed on the 5 year State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be present at the State Transportation Board meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona on April 12, 2019. 	Hopi Tribe Representatives (P2P Power Point slides are included with this report)	

II. SR 87:

SR 87 runs north from I-40, through the Navajo Indian Reservation and approximately the last 18 miles is located on the Hopi Reservation. This stretch of road is at a lower elevation, has a straighter alignment and the pavement is in better condition than SR 264. Where SR 87 intersects SR 264, there is a “T” intersection which is on a curve that is controlled by a STOP sign with a flashing red light beacon. Traffic does not stop on SR 264. There have been numerous vehicles run off the end of the road at this location.

HDOT would like to improve the communications between HDOT and ADOT Keams Canyon Maintenance facility. HDOT is concerned with commercial truck traffic, specifically over-size/over-weight (OS/OW) vehicles trying to avoid enforcement regulations. ADOT staff is working with Enforcement Compliance Division (ECD) on setting up temporary mobile weigh stations. The law enforcement party who issues a citation will receive the fine money.

Hopi Tribe has conducted a Road Safety Audit on SR 87. Hopi, working through NACOG will complete a street light project at SR 87 and the Hopi Cultural Center.

- Gary Phelps, DPS Captain:

- Closest DPS patrol is stationed in Winslow and Kayenta.
- DPS ideal recruit for the area would be a trooper who lives and the Hopi reservation.
- Any interested parties should contact Officer Phelps for additional information.
- TrACS is used by all DPS officers in collision reports to gather data and statistics.
- Collision reports are maintained separately from criminal reports.
- All personal information is redacted from reports for privacy.
- Navajo County is soliciting Native Americans for employment opportunities in law enforcement.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS/UPDATE
Reduce heavy truck traffic on SR 87 by placing mobile weigh stations and patrol for trucks avoiding permitting requirements.	Ermalinda G. has reached out to Enforcement & Compliance Division to set up a mobile weigh station on SR 87.	
Hopi DOT to share RSA results with Dorma S. who will present the report to Tribal Council.	Michael L. to assign to Andrew with Hopi Real Estate Division.	

II. Hopi Airport:

Fred Shupla is in charge of the Hopi Airport and has been working on project improvements in order to turn the airport over to HDOT. Currently the air strip is not on the road inventory. LeAnne Roy did comment on what is allowable on road inventories as it pertains to funding mechanisms and opportunities. There are no actionable items at this time but we will revisit at the next committee meeting.

3. Data Sharing :

HDOT is currently working on gathering crash data from Hopi law enforcement, BIA enforcement and emergency services. Hopi law enforcement will take over all BIA enforcement services in 2019. HDOT's goal for 2019 is to recruit a staff member to gather data and establish a safety program. HDOT may possibly move to the TRACS data software and could use ITCA assistance. Crash data is necessary when applying for some funding sources, specifically Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds.

ADOT owns a TrACS software license and allows outside entities use the software with some restrictions including:

- Users must sign an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with ADOT for data sharing and use of the TrACS software.
- Agencies must identify an internal person to their staff to serve as and IT person to resolve IT issues at the users level.
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding is driven by benefit/cost ratio to reduce fatality crashes and is supported solely by crash data.
- Hopi has conducted a Road Safety Audit (RSA) on SR 264 which is in the Hopi data base.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS/UPDATE
Hopi is looking to recruit staff to gather data and establish a safety program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Michael L. to review position description with internal tribal review and human resources.• Looking to post this position within the next 2 months.	
Share TrACS/IGA requirements with Dorma S. to present to Hopi Council for review and training purposes	Ermalinda Gene or Tim Jordan with ADOT	

4. Funding Opportunities:

Fuel Tax, Excise Tax and Tribal License Plate Tax:

The Arizona Department of Transportation has not raised fuel taxes in Arizona since 1993. Currently the state collects .18 cents per gallon of fuel purchase which is used by ADOT for road maintenance costs. **(Power Point slides are included with this report)**

- Fuel taxes collected on Hopi would require voter approval.
- Hopi Express Card discounts could provide discounts to individual consumers.
- Tribal License Plates require a bill and legislative process with revenues going directly back to the tribe.

Other Funding Opportunities:

Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) Safety Funds information:

- No match requirement.
- Funds can be used for crash data collection and analysis.
- Can be used to implement a safety plan.
- Can be used for infrastructure improvements.
- Deadline is May 20, 2019
- Click [here](#) to access the web page.

Federal Motor Carrier safety Administration:

- Lends for innovative and technology driven projects.
- Deadline is April 26, 2019.

BUILD Grant (formally TIGER):

- Highly competitive grant

Hopi to look for other grant opportunities with favorable eligibility criteria:

- “No Match Funds” grants
- Bridge grants with ADOT
- Rural road grants
- Grant writing workshops or consider hiring a consultant.
- Emphasize the importance of Hopi representation at all State Transportation Board meetings to advocate for desired road improvement projects.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS/UPDATE
Research contact information on Tribal License Plate legislative process.	Ermalinda G. to provide contact information to HDOT.	
Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds. Identify a project on Hopi. Work with Dorma S. if awarded for council approval.	Michael L.	

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- Partnering Champions (PC's): (Tabled at today's meeting in interest of time restraints)
 - Address the role the PC's would play in achieving desired goals.
 - Identify how PC's would be helpful to members in progressing with projects.
 - Identify personnel that would be interested in being a PC.
- Please submit any suggestions for other transportation related topics directly to Hopi DOT.
- Next Meeting date (June 2019) to be determined.

Roundtable Discussion and Closing Comments:

Michael Lomayaktewa thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and stressed the importance of advocating for Hopi's Department of Transportation and the Steering Committee Partners mission to maintain and improve the infrastructure that serves the Hopi communities.

Helpful Links:

- District Contact Information: [ADOT District Contacts](#)
- For more information on Tribal Transportation: [AZTribalTransportation.org](#)

Report prepared March 26, 2019

Nichole Jenks

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