

# SOUTHWESTERN TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING A G E N D A

DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

TIME: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

LOCATION: 1231 E OAK STREET, MESA AZ, 85203, SRPMIC

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## In-Person Meeting:

### 1. Welcome

a. Introductions – SRPMIC, WMAT, Hualapai, SWTTAP

b. Website overview

i. 8 trainings minimum, at least one a quarter

1. 4 in AZ

2. 4 in NM

c. Newsletter overview

i. SWTTAP Trainers – Byron Bluehorse - Planning, Ed Hermes Attorney/contracting training, John Velat ran Eastern TTAP for 15 years.

ii. NCAI – works hand in hand with ITA, would suggest looking to attend in the future.

iii. SWTTAP Summit – March 12-14<sup>th</sup> at Twin Arrows, will be sending out template letters out to Tribes for Tribal Leaders to send out letters to Secretary of Transportation.

iv. GIS Conference – in Albuquerque, NM. Good conference for Tribes with a GIS Program.

v. Resources available. Hualapai request for Guard Rail Installation, Todd sent information from FHWA on guard rail training, installed guard rail 2-3 weeks ago. Example of a great project to highlight – we can put the project in the newsletter since it was self-performed. On a political level it is good for Tribes to have a good marketing campaign. SWTTAP likes to help Tribes with their marketing campaign. Things like this (featured project of Hualapai Gurad Rail Installation) that we can show, the better. If a Tribe is trying to fill a position, we can put it in the newsletter too.

d. SWTTAP Website, Newsletter and Workplan all required for TTAP:

i. SWTTAP Work Plan

1. Build Tribal Capacity in Program Management:

2. Growing the Tribal Workforce

3. Cultivate Diverse Stakeholder Partnerships and/or other coordination.

4. Transfer Technologies and Implement Innovations (Build a Better Mouse Trap) what TTAP is for.

5. Share Results – part of our workplan and reporting.

6. Task 1 (the same for all TTAP centers across the nation)

a. Host monthly SWTTAP Steering Committee, however it is up to the

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Tribes on how many times they want a meeting. We (SWTTAP) talk with FHWA monthly to let them know what's going on.

- b. Quarterly meetings
- c. Quarterly reports
- d. Annual Reports
- e. Needs Assessment – surveys. How do you (Tribes) like to see them?  
Answer: More short surveys no more than 10 questions. We, SWTTAP, submit assessments up the chain. For Arizona Tribes we will come out and meet with Tribes one-on-one.
- f. We will send out a draft SWTTAP Workplan to all Tribes in our region to review and comment, then it will be submitted to FHWA
- g. All Tribes are on the Steering Committee, BIA and FHWA are supposed to be here at these meetings as well.
- h. "Owl" technologies, got approval from FHWA to have an owl system set up. (We sent one to Cochiti Pueblo) Example of use of funds.
- i. Technical Assistance – we can review a grant, provide a walk through on a project, need trainings, be a source of information.
- j. Technology Transfer – smart roadways (Salt River set up like that, based on where they're at with the interstate)
- k. Peer Exchanges – sometimes it is better to learn from one another.  
Example of a peer exchange that could be helpful to everyone else:  
There is a Tribe in NM that has been waiting over 400 days for right of way approval. Might have an issue that another Tribe has figured out.
- l. Schedule – review and edit
- m. Budget – comes from FHWA not TTP funding. If need more funding, say we want more "set aside" funding. We are a private entity NOT educational based, College TTAP get over 40% from TTAP we only take 1% from TTAP, since we are not college based. We are set up a lot better since we do not have a big overhead as with college TTAPs. Require us to attend TRB, NTICC. Money rolls over from Year 1 to Year 2.

## 7. Task 2

- a. Contact list – make sure to update any information.

## 8. Task 3

- a. The goal is to create a training program that works for everyone.
- b. One thing we ask, if your Tribe wants specific training, then we would like to have the Trainings open to other Tribes, if allowed. If your Tribe want something individually then that is fine too.
- c. Last training, we had 60 people attend and was open to Alaska and Oklahoma Tribes.
- d. Cost Benefit Analysis Training – all Tribes now need to have a cost benefit analysis (CBA or BCA) on all the major grants. \$9.3 million dollars that is what FHWA values as a life.

- e. RFQ/RFP Training – all Tribes do it differently, goal is to get Tribes to a starting point or to get them a template.
- f. RIFDS coordinate with BIA, GIS can be set up separately.
- g. CDL – always a big need. We can do CDL Prep training but Tribes/potential CDL candidates, still must go to a Training Center, cost ranges from \$5K-\$7K last and training lasts, 4-8 weeks. Still trying to find a work around for Tribes. Is a new regulation.
- h. We, SWTTAP, are working with Front Range Community College (Highway Maintenance Management) and Haskell Indian University. We are trying to work with Front Range Community College to create an AA degree in Tribal Transportation. TTP can pay for training and education. Goes back to workforce development.
  - i. Working to get a Tribal Trac
    - 1. Planning
    - 2. GIS
    - 3. Leadership in Tribal Transportation
- i. TTAP Course List
  - i. ATSSA Certified Flagger Training – the only training we have to that we charge for, think it's \$25 for the books. Half day, 4-hour training, would like to hold 2 trainings a day. Help local TERO programs.
  - ii. Safety Circuit Rider – SWTTAP staff like a Safety Coordinator. Help coordinate between Tribes and PD. Car Seat and Seatbelt data.

9. SRPMIC, Comments:

- a. Safety
- b. Tribe supports CDL
- c. Setting up a ladder progression for the Tribe, nice for retention. Tribe pays for Road Maintenance
- d. Engineering Staff can run projects.
- e. Director only one that really understands the TTP and regulations, need to have other people that can run the TTP program. Learned all this from attending the LTAPs. TTP regs training is a continued need.
- f. Do you like online training? Online is fine. Think in-person is better. Tribe isn't big on travel in general.
- g. NSLMP Grant – working on their grant agreement with FHWA.
- h. Flagger training would be good.
- i. Weed abatement training/certification. Go through the State for that.
- j. Tribe does OSHA training
- k. Self-governance with BIA haven't thought about self-governance with FHWA only because already have agreements with BIA for other

programs.

- I. Transit is with the State and prefer the state.

## 10. WMAT

- a. CDL training
- b. Winter road maintenance training
- c. Northern TTAP does a good winter road maintenance training. Todd will send information to LaReesa. Northern Plains have a good program.
- d. No admin training needed.

## 11. Hualapai

- a. NEPA right of way training.
- b. 638 Tribe going to G to G.
- c. GIS on your equipment for grading and grade control – would like to learn more about that.
- d. Winter road maintenance – utilizing LTAP training.
- e. LRTP update? Jacobs Engineering back in 2015. Working on an RFP for LRTP update.
- f. Draft up a little letter with a small public meeting saying LRTP does not need to be updated at this time. Notice in the newspaper. Update priority list with Tribal Council resolution. Can be really simple to meet that requirement. One of the few LRTPs that incorporated cost with each project from Jacobs' Engineering. Know exactly what you're asking for in the LRTP update. Take a real hard look at what you're wanting them to update. Have to understand what you really want.
- g. 170.411 "What should a long-range transportation plan include?" – go through the list and your plan and figure out what is needed and/or updated and that's how to develop RFP for LRTP Update.
- h. 170.413 public involvement – if no newspaper then can post in a public meeting. Has to have a public meeting and posted.
- i. 170.422 public participation – TTIP public meeting not required but must be published in location local tribal newspapers or post notices under locally acceptable practices.
- j. In any communication to BIA reference the regs.
- k. 170.435 Public Hearings

## 12. Funding Opportunities

- a. Safety
- b. Bridge Grant
- c. A lot of grants available out there
- d. We can post in the newsletter what grants are out there.
- e. If you communicate what your projects are we can communicate back to you what funds may be available.

13. Overview of Draft Course Outline – what we're developing to work with the universities.

2. SWTTAP Summit March 12-14, 2024, Agenda Discussion

- i. Roundtable discussion of "Women in Transportation"
- ii. Importance of Tribal Leadership in TTP
- iii. PD/Transportation Partnership
- iv. ??? Examples:
  1. GIS
  2. Driverless cars – what do Tribal Departments need to do to prepare for it?
  3. Electrical vehicles – EV charging stations (ADOT just finished a study on EV charging stations)
  4. Tesla in NM? – more charging stations with Tribes.

3. Closing

- a. Wanted to give Tribes what we can do?
- b. Have another one of these end of summer – how it's going, what can be better.