#### SUMMER 2023

VOLUME 02

## NEWSSERN TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Welcome to the Summer 2023 Volume 2 newsletter for the Southwestern Region Tribal Technical Assistance Program (SWTTAP) Center. Our team has been hard at work creating a TTAP that serves the needs of the Tribes in the Southwestern Region. We look forward to working with you.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

In the Summer and Fall seasons of 2023, here is what you can expect from SWTTAP:

- Quarterly Newsletters
- Monthly e-newsletters (sometimes occurring more frequently)
- Needs Assessments/Program Assessments: SWTTAP has met with fifteen Tribes, and are scheduling the remaining visits in August and September. To schedule an on-site meeting, please do so <u>here</u>, or contact a SWTTAP staff member directly.
- Project Management Training August 22 24, 2023
- Quarterly SWTTAP Stakeholder Meeting date TBD, virtual meeting
- **Bi-Annual Needs Assessment** please look for this email the first week of August
- Technical Assistance to request technical assistance, please contact a SWTTAP staff member directly (contact information is on page
- Project/Program Highlight SWTTAP will highlight at least one SWTTAP region Transportation related project in each newsletter. Submit your project idea <u>here</u>.

#### SAVE THE DATE

TTPCC MEETING JULY 25 - 27, 2023 ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 1959 SOUTH WOODLANDS VILLAGE BLVD. SUITE B FLAGSTAFF, AZ <u>DRAFT AGENDA</u>

SWTTAP PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING AUGUST 22 - 24, 2023 INDIAN PUEBLO CULTURAL CENTER // CHACO I ROOM AGENDA // REGISTER

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# NEWS & UPDATES

## TTPCC MEETING

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TTPCC) MEETING DATE: JULY 25 - 27, 2023 LOCATION: Arizona Department of Transportation 1959 South Woodlands Village Blvd. Suite B Flagstaff, AZ

#### DOWNLOAD THE TTPCC MEETING AGENDA

### SWTTAP WEBSITE

Visit the Southwestern Tribal Technical Assistance Program (SWTTAP) website at <u>swttap.com</u>. SWTTAP.COM contains information about Tribal Transportation Resources, the SWTTAP Library, Tribal transportation related Funding, SWTTAP notes and minutes, upcoming Tribal Transportation related events, SWTTAP Steering Committee members, and SWTTAP contact information. SWTTAP.COM will be updated regularly.

If you have news, events, or information that you would like included on the SWTTAP website, please email becky@leneacorporation.com.

## SCHEDULE A SITE VISIT

SWTTAP is scheduling site visits to discuss individual Tribal Transportation Program needs. To schedule a site visit, contact a SWTTAP staff member or click <u>here</u>.



## TTP 101 TRAINING



## TRAINING RECAP

The first SWTTAP Training, TTP 101, and following Vendor Meet & Greet were a great success. The events were held at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center on May 23 - 26, 2023. Training documents are now available at swttap.com and <u>here</u>. Many thanks to all training attendees and vendor organizations that who attended this event.



## VENDOR MEET & GREET

Thank you to the following vendors who attended the Vendor Meet & Greet on Friday, May 26: Green Frog Systems, The Akana Group, Premier Steel, NV5, Red Plains Professionals, TrafficLogix, and MG Tech Writing. This event provided a great opportunity for attendees to meet directly with organizations that support Tribal transportation programs.





#### AT TOP TRANSOORT RANSPORTATION DING SPOTLIGH UNITED STATES OF ANER AISF GRAN

#### **REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH** SUSTAINABILITY AND EOUITY (RAISE) GRANT PROGRAM

On June 28, 2023, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced the awards for the FY 2023 RAISE Grant recipients. The RAISE Grant Program is a highly competitive discretionary grant program that funds "surface transportation infrastructure projects that will improve: safety; environmental sustainability; quality of life; mobility and community connectivity; economic competitiveness and opportunity". RAISE Grants are for investments in surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact.

Of the 162 projects awarded nationwide, two are located in the Southwestern TTAP Region. Congratulations to the Navajo Nation and to the Ramah Navajo Chapter for their successful applications. Their projects are highlighted below.



RAMAH NAVAJO CHAPTER **RAISE GRANT FUNDING:** \$21,424,232

#### THE HOZHOJI PROJECT: REBUILDING THE COMMUNITY LIFELINE

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** THE PROJECT WILL FUND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF APPROXIMATELY 6.5-MILES OF BIA ROUTE NUMBER (RN) 125, A SECTION OF ROAD THAT SERVES AS THE MAIN CONNECTION FOR THE RAMAH NAVAJO RESERVATION. THE RECONSTRUCTED ROADWAY FEATURE TWO-LANES, SHOULDERS, PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES, AND ONE DECELERATION LANE AT THE INTERSECTION OF BIA ROUTE 125 AND ROUTE 144.

PROJECT BENEFITS: THIS PROJECT WILL SUPPORT A VITAL CONNECTION TO THE RAMAH NAVAJO COMMUNITY WHILE ENHANCING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS. THE EXISTING FACILITY DOES NOT HAVE PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES, SHOULDERS, SIGHT DISTANCE IS A PROBLEM, AND THE PAVEMENT IS SEVERELY DETERIORATED LEADING TO SAFETY HAZARDS AND MULTIPLE PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES IN RECENT YEARS. THE PROJECT WILL PROMOTE WALKING AND BIKING, PARTICULARLY TO ACCESS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES. IT WILL ALSO FACILITATE TOURISM WITH INCREASED ACCESS TO LOCAL ATTRACTIONS SUCH AS TRAILS, NATIONAL MONUMENTS, FAIR AND RODEOS. THE ROADWAY IS VITAL FOR MANY FARMS AND RANCHES IN THE AREA TO MOVE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM THE FARM TO MARKET.



NAVAJO NATION RAISE GRANT FUNDING: ю **р.о.т.** \$20,000,000

#### N15 HIGHWAY RECONSTRUCTION, PHASE II PROJECT

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION: THIS PROJECT WILL RECONSTRUCT APPROXIMATELY 7.1 MILES OF BIA** ROUTE N15 FROM SUNRISE SPRINGS TO CORNFIELDS BY WIDENING THE ROADWAY, ADDING A SHOULDER, ELEVATING THE ROADWAY, IMPROVING DRAINAGE STRUCTURES, AND INSTALLING LIVESTOCK UNDERPASSES.

**PROJECT BENEFITS:** THE PROJECT IS STRONG IN SAFETY, STATE OF GOOD REPAIR, AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS AND OPPORTUNITY. THE PROJECT AREA EXPERIENCES A HIGH NUMBER OF LANE DEPARTURE, ROAD DEPARTURE, AND WILDLIFE-RELATED CRASHES. THE PROJECT WILL IMPROVE SAFETY AND STATE OF GOOD REPAIR BY INSTALLING GUARDRAILS FOR STEEP SIDE SLOPES, CATTLE GUARDS AND UNDER PASSES TO KEEP LIVESTOCK OFF THE ROADWAY. IT IMPROVES STATE OF GOOD REPAIR BY ADDRESSING RUTTING AND INSTALLING PROPERLY SIZED CULVERTS. N-**15 IS A VITAL CONNECTION TO PROVIDE A RURAL** COMMUNITY ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT, SCHOOLS, HEALTH CARE FACILITIES, GOVERNMENTAL OFFICES, RESIDENTIAL AREAS, AND COMMERCIAL AREAS. THIS PROJECT WILL FOLLOW THE NAVAJO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ACT, WHICH PROVIDES NAVAJO-OWNED BUSINESSES WITH THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO BID.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

#### NATIVE AMERICAN PEDESTRIAN SAFETY DEMONSTRATION

Applications Due: July 15, 2023 before 1:00 PM EST

**Description**: NHTSA has posted a Notice of Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov for a Cooperative Agreement for the proposed Native American Pedestrian Safety Demonstration project. The purpose of the Cooperative Agreement is to support federally recognized tribal governments in developing processes and tools to assess and address pedestrian safety on their tribal lands.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Anna Nelson, anna.nelson@dot.gov.

#### WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PROGRAM

Applications Due: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

**Description**: The Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) is a competitive grant program with the goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. In creating the WCPP, Congress found that there are more than 1,000,000 WVCs annually which present a danger to human safety and wildlife survival, cost over \$8 billion, and result in approximately tens of thousands of serious injuries and hundreds of fatalities on U.S. roadways. The WCPP provides funding for construction and non-construction projects. All projects should seek to protect motorists and wildlife by reducing the number of WVCs and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. Registration is required to attend.

For additional WCPP information, visit https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/wildlife-crossings

#### PROMOTING RESILIENT OPERATIONS FOR TRANSFORMATIVE, EFFICIENT, AND COST-SAVING TRANSPORTATION (PROTECT) PROGRAM

Applications Due: Friday, August 18, 2023 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Description: The vision of the PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program is to fund projects that address the climate crisis by improving the resilience of the surface transportation system, including highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail. Projects selected under this program should be grounded in the best available scientific understanding of climate change risks, impacts, and vulnerabilities. They should support the continued operation or rapid recovery of crucial local, regional, or national surface transportation facilities. Furthermore, selected projects should utilize innovative and collaborative approaches to risk reduction, including the use of natural infrastructure, which is explicitly eligible under the program. Also called nature-based solutions, these strategies include conservation, restoration, or construction of riparian and streambed treatments, marshes, wetlands, native vegetation, stormwater bioswales, breakwaters, reefs, dunes, and shade trees. They reduce flood risks, erosion, wave damage, and heat impacts while also creating habitat, filtering pollutants, and providing recreational benefits. Projects in the PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program have the potential to demonstrate innovation and best practices that State and local governments in other parts of the country can consider replicating.

For additional PROTECT Program information, visit https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/protect/discretionary/

#### NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT ASSISTANCE (MEGA) PROGRAM

Applications Due: The deadline for applications is 11:59 pm EDT on August 21, 2023 Description: The Mega program supports large, complex projects that are difficult to fund by other means and are likely to generate national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits. Eligible projects could include highway, bridge, freight, port, passenger rail, and public transportation projects of national or regional significance. Per the law, 50 percent of funds are available for projects above \$500 million in total cost, and 50 percent are available for projects between \$100 million and \$500 million in total cost.

For additional information, visit https://www.transportation.gov/grants/mega-grant-program

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REBUILDING AMERICA (INFRA) PROGRAM**

Applications Due: The deadline for applications is 11:59 pm EDT on August 21, 2023 Description: The INFRA program awards competitive grants to multimodal freight and highway projects of national or regional significance to improve the safety, accessibility, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of freight and people in and across rural and urban areas. Eligible projects will improve safety, generate economic benefits, reduce congestion, enhance resiliency, and hold the greatest promise to eliminate supply chain bottlenecks and improve critical freight movements.

For additional information, visit https://www.transportation.gov/grants/infra-grant-program

#### **RURAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION GRANT (RURAL) PROGRAM**

Applications Due: The deadline for applications is 11:59 pm EDT on August 21, 2023 Description: The Rural program supports projects that improve and expand our nation's surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas in order to increase connectivity, improve the safety and reliability of the movement of people and freight, and generate regional economic growth and improve quality of life. Eligible projects for Rural grants include highway, bridge, and tunnel projects that help improve freight, safety, and provide or increase access to agricultural, commercial, energy, or transportation facilities that support the economy of a rural area. 90% of rural funding must be awarded in \$25 million or greater amounts.

For additional information, visit https://www.transportation.gov/grants/rural-surface-transportation-grant-program

#### USDOT'S ACTIVE AND UPCOMING NOTICES OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (NOFOS)

ROUTES maintains a running list of open NOFOs that may be relevant to rural transportation. This list can be found <u>here</u>, along with historical information on these grants (including prior NOFOs).

#### TTP BRIDGE PROGRAM

Description: The TTP Bridge Program is focused on improving the number of TTP bridges in poor condition. Federally recognized Indian Tribes may submit an application at any time for eligible TTP bridges for planning, design, engineering, preconstruction, construction, and inspection of new or replacement bridges.

For application requirements and other important TTP Bridge Program information, click <u>HERE</u>. For additional information, visit https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/bridge.

## T R A I N I N G O P P O R T U N I T I E S

#### SOUTHWESTERN TTAP PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Date: August 22 - 24, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Daily, 1 hour lunch break (lunch provided)

Location: Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Chaco I Room I 240112th St NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104 Instructor: Todd Macalady, SWTTAP Co-Director

**Course Description:** The course will address the theories and key components of project management including project integration, project scope management, project time and cost management, quality management, human resource considerations, communications, risk management, and procurement management as it relates to Tribal projects and contract sources.

Register: Click <u>HERE</u> to register (register by August 15 to receive complimentary lunch)

#### NATIONAL SUMMIT ON RURAL ROAD SAFETY

Date: September 12 - 14, 2023

Location: Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown 1 N. Broadway Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

Description: The focus will be relevant rural road safety training and practical, low-cost ways to improve rural road safety. For additional information, visit https://web.cvent.com/event/da0bbcbd-c84a-419f-9b56-

8a9b9fbf60b1/summary

#### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION IN INDIAN COUNTRY CONFERENCE

Date: September 24 - 28, 2023 Location: Dena'ina Center, Anchorage, AK Description: The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference is the one-stop-shop transportation conference FOR TRIBES, BY TRIBES. NTICC offers access to relevant training and an opportunity for Tribal transportation professionals to engage with federal officials and their Tribal transportation peers regarding Tribal transportation issues and challenges.



NTICC provides information and resources for all who are committed to improving the transportation infrastructure of Indian Country and the safety of those who live, work, and travel the roadways of Alaska Native and Native American lands.

Agenda available <u>HERE</u>. Register for NTICC <u>HERE</u>. For additional information visit https://www.nticc.org/



## 26TH ANNUAL

## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION IN INDIAN COUNTRY CONFERENCE

## SEPTEMBER 24 - 28, 2023 Dena'ina center Anchorage, alaska

EXHIBITOR I SPONSOR I VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

#### HOTEL INFORMATION MARRIOTT ANCHORAGE DOWNTOWN [\$169/NIGHT] HILTON ANCHORAGE HOTEL [\$229/NIGHT] ROOM BLOCK CUT OFF DATE: AUGUST 23, 2023



FLIGHT DISCOUNTS ALASKA AIRLINES & UNITED AIRLINES

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION \$600 [PLUS APPROXIMATE \$37.59 PROCESSING FEE]



NTICC.ORG | CONFERENCE@NTICC.ORG

## TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION Resources

#### FHWA CENTER FOR LOCAL AID SUPPORT

WEB: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/clas/ SUMMARY

The Center for Local Aid Support provides information, training and technical assistance to local governments, tribes and Federal land management agencies that will enhance roadway networks and create economic opportunity. KEY CONTACTS: Joe Conway, Director

Joe.Conway@dot.gov Morgan Manning, FHWA TTAP Program Manager Morgan.Malley@dot.gov

#### FHWA OFFICE OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION

WEB: https://highways.dot.gov/federallands/programs-tribal SUMMARY

The Office of Tribal Transportation (OTT) administers the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) and provides stewardship and oversight for direct funding agreements with 135 federally recognized Tribes. The OTT also provides support for all FHWA activities affecting tribal transportation. This support includes the administration of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grants program awarded to Tribes, and the transfer of funds from States and other local governments to Tribes through the 202(a)(9) transfer process.

In addition, the FHWA Office of Tribal Transportation manages the Tribal Transportation Program Bridge Program and the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund for all federally recognized Tribes. These grant programs are set-asides from the overall Tribal Transportation Program.

PHONE: 202-366-9494

ORG CHART: https://highways.dot.gov/federallands/programs-tribal/contact-info

#### SWTTAP.COM

For a more comprehensive list of Tribal Transportation Resources available, visit https://www.swttap.com/resources.

#### SOUTHWESTERN TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SWTTAP)

SWTTAP.COM

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