

**NAVAJO NATION/ADOT/BIA/FHWA/COUNTIES/HOPI TRIBE  
Partnership Steering Committee Meeting Notes**

**October 30, 2008 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. ADOT Flagstaff District Training Facility**

**Attendees:**

Stan Robins, Riley Wilson, Edith Morgan, Jonathan Nez, Audra Merrick, Jones Grass, Richard Travis, Maxine Lyon, Priscilla Lee, Kendall Long, Francine Bradley, Chuck Howe, Gene Martinez, Randal Pair, Leo Sheppard, Jimson Joe, Johnny Robbins, John Harper, Tom Platero, Ricardo Campos, Julius Pete, Bill Tait, Don Sneed, Roland Becenti, Calvin Castillo, Kee Yazzie, Chuck Gillick, Don Mauller, Ed Stillings, Bill Pederson, Eileen Colleran, Myra Rothman, Rod Wigman

**Facilitator:** Evonne Aldana

**Meeting Objectives:**

- Review Action Item status from July 2008 Annual Meeting
- Task Team Reports
- Discuss Escalation Ladder and Protocol
- Discuss Future Goals identified at the July 2008 Annual Meeting
- Next Steps

**New Action Items:**

- Persons were identified as to who will send Evonne their escalation process in their subject area: Name, E-mail. Address, Phone (Office/Cell) – Due February 2, 2009 – need to complete escalation process. To be reviewed at next meeting.
- Actions Items from Annual Meeting:
  - Letter from Navajo Nation/DOT to NACOG, Chris Fetzer to join partnership – letter complete, Tom and Kendall to deliver letter at the November 5 meeting with NACOG
  - Invite decision makers to quarterly meetings: Coconino County, TCDC – Arbin Mitchell, Navajo Nation Resources – Alvin Trujillo. Tom Platero needs 6-8 weeks to speak with decision makers to invite to quarterly meetings and task team meetings
  - Make streamline recommendations: 1) make “clear” recommendations; 2) here is the problem, here is the recommendation to solve problem; 3) make recommendations to streamline the process
  - Research Railroad Issues:
    - Related to highway safety/crossings
    - Rail will be covered through ADOT Multimodal Planning process
    - Structures over/under are ready to fall apart
    - No authority in decision making to correct
    - ADOT representative for railroad is Robert Travis – [rtravis@azdot.gov](mailto:rtravis@azdot.gov); office phone 602.712.6193
    - River Bridge @ Sanders / I40 / US191 – construction to begin 2010
    - Help Rusty to get ROW process through Navajo Nation - Julius Pete is the only one helping

- Railroad Reports need to go to Navajo Nation to inform of progress – Processes Task Team is working to inform Navajo Nation
- Training Task Team will continue its progress

### **Task Teams:**

- Processes Task Team – Tom Platero
  - Will send Evonne update reported to include Francine Bradley's contact information
  - Francine Bradley has been identified as new member for this team
  - Need 30 minutes to present at January meeting
  - Team meets bi-monthly; next meeting scheduled for November 20 @ Window Rock
  - Howard Draper is champion for this team
- Animals in ROW Task Team
  - Rusty Rothman and David Silversmith – no report
  - Tom is adding Francine Bradley as new member to this team
  - Next scheduled meeting is November 14 @ 10:00-12 noon at FHWA-Phoenix, 4000 N. Central Avenue, Ste 1500
- Resources Task Team to include Natural Resource Sharing – Stan Robbins
  - Add new member: Gene Martinez
  - Need information from ADOT on 5, 10, and 20 year plans
  - Navajo DOT is assigning individuals to the water process
  - Processes Task Team will add water process to their team
  - Looking to update processes on water usage and permitting
  - Will have maps on-line soon
  - Working to get maps on transparent paper so they can overlay and you can view the GIS layers – Navajo DOT will provide assistance to Stan with the GIS layers
- Emergency Response Task Team – Bill Tait & Chuck Howe
  - Bill reported on the PSC/Air System and coverage map; AZ3-D Mass Evacuation plan and closures; ADOT's annual mass evacuation exercise plan; need to include Navajo and state lines in exercise
  - Chuck reviewed his handout on the task team's action plan – for copy of action plan, e-mail Chuck at [chowe@azdot.gov](mailto:chowe@azdot.gov)
  - Next meeting is December 2 @ 9:00-12 noon at the Flagstaff District Conference Room; meetings are held as needed
- Training Task Team – Ed Stillings
  - Currently working with Navajo DOT and Hopi Tribe to identify training needs – Ermalinda Gene is working on this task.
  - Developing a training webpage for the ATSP website with links to various training websites. Goal is to have the webpage complete before the next quarterly meeting
  - Tom Platero is pursuing a TTAP satellite office on the Navajo Nation
  - FHWA has arranged for a presentation of the Federal Aid 101 course – locate and dates to be determined
  - Tom Platero and Ed Stillings are both member of the LTAP Board of Directors

- The team also plans to solicit input from other partnership members (counties, BIA, TTAP) regarding training issues.
  - Ed listed the training sessions needed by Navajo DOT
  - Highway training information that can be used is on the ADOT website for highways, Traffic Engineering Section for MUTCD (for signage)
- Vendors in ROW Task Team – Chuck Gillick
- Tom Platero stated that Francine Bradley will be the new Navajo Nation Champion on this task team.
  - Team is looking into creating permanent locations for “vendor villages” with proper agreements
  - Will be adding the Navajo Nation Economic Development Department to the team
  - Combining education efforts with Animal in the ROW
  - Would like to create a new agreement after gaining support of agencies
  - Next meeting is December 11 @ 9:00-3:00 at the Flagstaff Modular Conference room

### **Discuss Future Goals identified at the July 2008 Annual Meeting**

This discussion was put on the “parking lot” to be reviewed at the next meeting.

- Maintain roads
- Improve efficiency
- Save money
- Public transit

### **Next Meeting:**

- January 8, 2009 @ 8:30-4:30
- at the FHWA building at 4000 N. Central, Ste 1500, Phoenix
- hosted by FHWA

### **Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

- Issue Resolution Circle
- One hour lunch
- Future Goals for the Partnership
- Task Team Reports
- Networking Breaks (25-30 minutes each)
- Transit – Development - Presentation

### **2009 Meeting Dates**

- April 16, 2009 @ Flagstaff; Counties to Host
- July 9-9, 2009 Annual Meeting in Chinle; Navajo Nation to Host
- October 8, 2009 @ Holbrook; BIA to Host

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## **Participant Feedback of Meeting Effectiveness: 22 evaluations were submitted**

### **1. How valuable was this meeting for you? 3.63**

This meeting was not valuable	This meeting was somewhat valuable	This meeting was valuable	This meeting was very valuable
0.5    1.0    1.5	2.0    2.5	3.0    3.5	4.0
		(2)    (12)	(8)

- Information is important for me to incorporate into my work activities
- Good discussion and concerns
- Too much reinventing old ground
- Use of facilitator is good keeps everyone on track
- Being fairly new to program, this meeting has given me a lot of new information regarding transportation

### **2. What about this meeting was most valuable to you?**

- How emergency is being incorporated into response action. This is use for my service operation and delivery of results that need to accomplish on Navajo
- The partnership
- The opportunity to speak on state level planning in the context of partnering
- Task team reports (3)
- Good discourse – developing relationships with others
- Knowing what the task teams have achieved
- Information sharing; resource availability
- Meeting new faces
- Networking
- It seem like we all need to updated often; it helps to see where we are and what we need to do next
- Updates from task teams (2)
- Seeing other members
- Continue to develop relationships with our partners
- Bringing up issues and addressing issues
- Getting to know members of the committee; hearing all info for each group
- Comments from other partners on my task team
- Sharing information with other task team and their information with us and all other groups

### **3. What would have improved the effectiveness of this meeting?**

- To instill in all participants to disseminate information as an extension to help prepare communities
- Stay with agenda
- Longer breaks (2)
- More time allocated to task teams and discussion topics
- Encourage all members that their input is valuable at all meetings
- Some groups, everyone attend all meetings
- Not schedule so tightly
- Everyone was on time
- Make meeting full day; have all task team rep be in the meetings
- Meeting worked out well
- I think everything is going ok, every group is doing well; maybe conduct public education

**4. How do you rate the effectiveness of the Facilitator? 3.59**

Was not effective	Was somewhat effective	Was effective	Was very effective
0.5    1.0    1.5	2.0            2.5 (1)	3.0            3.5 (3)            (9)	4.0 (9)

- Evonne was superb; I intend to ask her to become an exercise facilitator
- Good job for keeping members on task
- Great, but needs to take control when cross talk starts up
- Keep us on time, a few long winded talkers put us off schedule
- It was very organized
- I think Evonne is doing extremely well conducting and facilitating the meeting

**5. How do you rate this team’s potential for partnering on this project? 3.45**

This team has no potential for partnering	This team has some potential for partnering	This team has good potential for partnering	This team has very good potential for partnering
0.5    1.0    1.5	2.0            2.5	3.0            3.5 (2)            (12)	4.0 (7)

- I would like to see results on how these meetings help produce results
- It has shown the potential for partnering
- Great potential
- Unlimited potential
- The teams are continuing to meet steering committee goals
- I believe partnerships task teams are working together very well and their potential is progressing

**6. What other comments do you wish to offer?**

- To develop Navajo as well as neighboring government
- Send out current contact list of entire partnership
- Have Hopi Tribe at the next quarterly meeting
- Networking with the Tribe, County, State, Federal levels
- Good idea on sharing updates on Tribal, County, State, Federal
- Try to keep this a small group of the same people
- I think we should “partnership” group invite Navajo Police, Navajo Rangers, even AZ State Highway Patrol to our next meeting