

NORTHWEST TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION NEWS

SPRING 2008

NORTHWEST TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM IN REVIEW

The 15th Annual NW Tribal Transportation Symposium was held in Portland, OR, from March 17, 2008 through March 20, 2008. We had 125 registered participants and over 50 speakers, most of whom were from within the region. This was a successful event with very positive comments due to the efficiency of the process thanks to the extra effort of Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Transportation Committee Co-Chairs Bill Brower and Rick Galloway and extra effort by track leaders and session organizers: Joe Bonga, Robert Spaulding, Colleen Jollie, and Andrea Alexander. Michele Siedenbug managed the hotel arrangements and registration with great support from volunteers Jacee Furnace, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Winona Andrew, Nez Perce Tribe, and Andrea Tulee, Yakama Nation.

Key partners in the conference were the BIA, represented by LeRoy Gishi, and Sheldon Kipp, from the National Office as well as Joe Bonga, NW Regional Transportation Office and many of his staff ; from FHWA Kyle Kitchel, Western Federal Lands, Transportation Research Board, Martine Marcozzi and Stephan Parker, Federal Transit Administration, Bill Ramos, who met with individual tribes to set up new Tribal Transit grants and provide individual technical assistance, and State DOT officials from Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Our Issue Analysis process identified many significant, issues, but the top concerns from participants were Funding particularly for maintenance and Inter-agency Communication.

As in past years, participants responded to the evaluations in a positive manner, clearly supporting Conferences as a first choice for receiving training. On site and classroom training tied for second with Distance Learning coming in a distant third. There was a strong interest indicated in future training in almost all areas. Leading off was Next Tea-Transportation Legislation, Tribal Jurisdiction and Rights of Way and Scenic Byways, followed by IRR program information including the IRRPCC and IRR Inventory, and Tribal Transit Grants Programs.

Other training requested included Grant Writing, Traffic/Crash Data Collection, Public Transportation Policy, and Developing a Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan. There were many other courses that received a vote or two but those were the highest. The NW TTAP will utilize evaluation results to help guide the development of our work plan in the coming Year(s).

This year our nine vendors not only provided information to our participants about their products but also provided resources and support to the classroom training.

A new track was added this year to the conference, Workforce Development, which is an expansion of our past inclusion of Tribal Employment Rights workshops.

Thanks to everyone for their participation in this successful Symposium.

Be sure to check out our web site for copies of the presentations: <http://www.ewu.edu/x25268.xml>

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APPALOOSA TRANSIT UP AND RUNNING

LAPWAI - If you're a Kamiah resident, would you like the idea of a \$2 ride to Lewiston?

Some members of the Nez Perce Tribe thought you might. The new Tribal transportation service, Appaloosa Transit, took off for the first time this week.

Transit Director Della Cree said the idea has been in the works since 1999, and they were finally able to use \$250,000 in federal funding.

"We're really helping to serve a lot of the employees in the area, not just Tribal employees, reach their destinations," said Cree. "And, with the rising cost of gas, it just seems to be a win-win for everybody."

Cree said each of the vehicles is named, and each had their maiden voyage Monday. Three buses provide service between the cities of Kooskia, Kamiah, Orofino, Lapwai and Lewiston. Cree said they will work in coordination with Valley Transit's Lewiston office.

"If they need to go around the community center or if they need to go to Moscow-Pullman, they're able to do that through Valley Transit," she said.

A day pass is \$2 and monthly passes are \$20. Cree said they are especially proud of their on-demand service, where they can pick someone up anytime anywhere within the route boundaries.

"With 72 hours notice to our transit office, we can take an individual from Kamiah to Spokane, door to door," she said.

For more information and questions about pick-up times, call the Appaloosa Transit office at (208) 843-7324.

KLEW-TV

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I would like to say **THANK YOU** to the following people, Jacee Furnace, Andrea Alexander, Andrea Tulee and Winona Andrew. They stepped in and assisted with preparing the handbooks and registration for the 15th Annual Northwest Tribal Transportation Symposium. Because of their assistance I truly feel this years symposium was one of the best. I would also like to say thank you to Bill Bower and Della Cree for providing me with support for the symposium.

Michele Siedenburg

2008 TRADING AT THE RIVER CONFERENCE

By Margo Hill

Native American entrepreneurs and tribes met once again in Portland, Oregon at the "Trading at the River Conference and Trade Show." The Trading at the River conference brought together tribal policy leaders, tribal enterprise leaders and Native American entrepreneurs to explore ways of creating economic sustainability for tribal enterprises, tribal governments and the private sector.

The 2 day conference and trade show was sponsored by the Oregon Native American Business & Entrepreneurial Network (ONABEN). ONABEN is a Native American Business Network that was created by four tribes in the State of Oregon that set out to encourage individual enterprise. The founding members were the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Klamath Tribes, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The ONABEN organization has gained national prominence in pursuit of its mission to strengthen and diversify tribal economics through entrepreneurship.

Chairman of ONABEN Board of Directors, Gary George, opened the conference discussing the traditional trading practices and extensive trading routes of native people in the Northwest. Historically, tribes and individual Indians gathered at the rivers and traded salmon, beadwork, blankets and tools. "In the old days, the Columbia River was the link between hundreds of Native bands and thousands of families. Things were bought, sold, traded and given at special places along its shores. Bonds were made and economies thrived. Native American tribes and businesses are rebuilding these networks."

This year ONABEN added a trade show to help foster relationships and build strong partnerships that help Native American entrepreneurs and reservation economies flourish! The trade show participants included office products, beadwork, art, telecommunications and numerous Resorts and Casinos.

The 2008 "Trading at the River" conference took the opportunity to recognize and honor the unique contributions of Indian Women to tribal economies. The Keynote Address was provided by Monica Simeon, CEO and Principal Partner of "Sister Sky." Monica discussed the ups and downs of Indian entrepreneurship and shared the Spirit, Vision and Purpose of their company.

This year's conference broke into three tracks: Entrepreneurs, Practitioners and Tribes/Private Sector. Breakout sessions covered topics from marketing, finance statements and breaking through the "Deflector Shields" of Tribal Procurement. Panels discussed why reservations are not often considered good places to start or locate a business and what tribes can do to create a positive business climate on the reservation.

Antone Minthorn, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation spoke about early economic development at the "Trading at the River" conference. He stated:

"The three tribes were in business since time immemorial. When we entered into treaties in 1855 we had a large head of stock and traded with the Hudson Bay company. When the settlers came and took our land our reservation descended into poverty. White people used the reservation for their own economic benefit. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla will continue to grow "business wise." We are now looking to help Indian entrepreneurs. We have a business service center that will give help and not the run around. We offer our tribal members business development classes. When we started the center we had around 5 or 6 businesses on the reservation. Now we have 20 businesses on the reservation."

The Umatilla's have a 5 step economic development plan. First, they have created the business center to step up and help individual businesses and investment on reservation. Second, they are trying to help their members be-

(Continued on page 4)

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come credit worthy and learn about saving for the future. The tribe wants to stop tribal members from being subject to predatory lending. Third, the tribe has created a tribal micro loan fund to help finance businesses in eastern Oregon. Fourth, they are researching appropriate applications of commercial law and incorporating Article 9 secured transaction law so that businesses can secure debt on the reservation for the first time. Lastly, CTUIR are looking at land development and are designating a commercial land use zone.

Mr. Minthorn also stated that there are challenges to small business growth in rural areas. The reservation is a tough place to start a business and it is difficult to attract private sector business. "The lack of jurisdictional clarity causes problems. Our lawyers tell us "It depends ..." This is not a satisfactory answer."

Mark your calendars. Next years "Trading at the Rivers" will be held on May 12 &13, 2009 in Portland, Oregon.

U.S. TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY PETERS ANNOUNCES NEW STRATEGY TO IMPROVE SAFETY ON RURAL ROADS

WASHINGTON - U.S. Transportation Secretary Mary E. Peters today announced a new national strategy that will bring new focus, including resources and new technology, to reducing deaths on the nation's rural roads.

"We want to put the brakes on rural road fatalities," said Secretary Peters. "This is a challenge that we have the experience, the ability and the resources to address. We can make our rural roads safer, we can do it now and we can do it without reinventing the wheel."

The Department's Rural Safety Initiative will help states and communities develop ways to eliminate the risks drivers face on America's rural roads and highlight available solutions and resources. The new endeavor addresses five key goals: safer drivers, better roads, smarter roads, better-trained emergency responders, and improved outreach and partnerships. The Secretary said approximately \$287 million in existing and new funding is available to support the effort.

Secretary Peters said she has asked the Department's Deputy Secretary, Admiral Thomas Barrett, to personally lead the comprehensive effort to help state and local leaders get solutions implemented in rural areas faster.

"Smarter, low-cost options are readily available and can be deployed quickly. By partnering with state and local leaders to integrate these safety strategies, we can change the trend and improve safety on our nation's rural roads," Barrett said.

Secretary Peters said that of the over 3 million miles of rural roads in the country, almost 80 percent are owned and operated by local entities, which is why partnering with states and local governments is critical to the initiative. She indicated that the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has already offered their support.

"State transportation officials have set a goal of reducing highway fatalities by half over the next two decades. Improving rural highway safety is critical to saving those lives. We are pleased that the U.S. DOT is focusing both attention and resources on this issue and we commend them for this initiative," said Pete Rahn, AASHTO President.

For more information, please visit www.dot.gov/affairs/ruralsafety/.

DOT 27-08
Friday, February 29, 2008
Contact: Ian Grossman
Tel.: (202) 366-0660

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Tribal Contact Information:

State Tribal Liaison: Vacant

Tribal Coordinators:

Cultural Resources: Sandie Turner, 360-570-6637, TurnerS@wsdot.wa.gov

TERO: Marvin Jenkins, 360-705-7088, jenkinm@wsdot.wa.gov

TTPO: Megan Nicodemus, 509-324-6202, nicodem@wsdot.wa.gov

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Olympic Region: Bob Jones, 360-357-2630, JonesR@wsdot.wa.gov

South Central Region: Tamara Wellner, 509-577-1631, wellnet@wsdot.wa.gov

Southwest Region: Jeanne McMinds, 360-905-2054, McMindJ@wsdot.wa.gov

Environmental Svcs: Megan Beeby, 360-705-7494, BeebyM@wsdot.wa.gov

State Ferries: Phillip Narte, 360-201-4854, nartep@wsdot.wa.gov

Regional offices: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/tribal/ContactUs.htm>

Web Sites:

WSDOT Home Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov>

WSDOT Tribal Liaison Web Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/tribal>

The Washington State Department of Transportation's **Tribal Liaison Office** was established in 2001 and has responsibility for assisting tribes and the department with implementing effective government-to-government relations.

What Do They Do

- * The Tribal Liaison office provides a central contact point for tribal access to department resources, such as:
 - * [Statewide Transportation Improvement Program](#)
 - * [Local Programs](#) - assistance with funding sources
- * Helps establish and maintain communication between WSDOT staff and tribal government offices in areas of policy, planning, real estate, cultural resources, natural resources, and Tribal Employment Rights Ordinances (TERO).
- * Strives to improve coordination and communication with the Bureau of Indian Affairs – Indian Reservation Roads Program and the Federal Highway Administration regarding tribal interests in transportation.
- * Acts as a point of contact for other state agencies and tribal liaisons, national and regionally, regarding projects, resolving issues, or promoting partnerships in joint ventures.
- * Facilitates problem-solving strategies for dealing with transportation issues between the tribes and WSDOT.
- * The Tribal Liaison provides support for legislative actions that relate to tribal matters and communicates with tribes regarding the same, i.e., SB 6188 – Transportation Efficiency and Accountability Act established environmental streamlining procedures.
- * Assists other offices in establishing processes to effectively

- gain tribal participation in community focused processes.
- * Supports technical training programs for tribes and the public including:
 - * Data input into the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP)
 - * Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Compliance.
 - * Financing Federal Aid Highways
 - * Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance Compliance in Highway Construction
- * The office coordinates government-to-government training for WSDOT staff in tribal sovereignty, history, and culture.
- * Tribal coordinators have been identified at regional offices and within certain departments to mobilize the resources and the agency locally. The Tribal Liaison works closely with each of those tribal coordinators

WSDOT Model Comprehensive Tribal Consultation Process for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

This consultation model was created to guide WSDOT project teams to use on federal-aid transportation projects in which the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency.

Other On-Line Tribal Resources:

Tribal Listserve: [Subscribe](#) to the WSDOT Tribal listserve and keep connected with Tribal transportation information and happenings throughout the state. For example when a contact with in a tribe changes we would email the information to you, or send you notifications about upcoming meetings.

Tribal Transportation Planning Organization (TTPO): Since 1993, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has met with tribes annually to address mutually identified transportation issues. The purpose of the [TTPO](#) organization is for tribes to take an active role in state-wide transportation planning by providing a forum to discuss and participate in tribal transportation system needs and opportunities.

National Conference of State Legislators - State-Tribal Institute: [NCSL](#) tracks a variety of policy issues affecting state-tribal relations including economic development, environmental protection, human services, taxation, jurisdiction and law enforcement, and trust land issues. It also has many helpful discussion boards and training sessions for tribal staff.

WHATS NEW IN THE TTAP LENDING LIBRARY

A Guidebook for Using American Community Survey Data for Transportation Planning: (NCHRP Report 588)

Census data have long played a central role in transportation planning and analyses. In particular, the planning community has made extensive use of the Census Long Form. Beginning with this decade, the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) will replace the Census Long Form. This practitioner's guidebook focuses on incorporating ACS data into the transportation planning processes at national, state, metropolitan, and local levels. The guide book evaluates ACS data and products and demonstrates their uses within a wide range of transportation planning applications. Transportation planners, travel demand forecasters, and others that conduct population and demographic analyses will find this report of significant use. As these transportation professionals struggle to use the limited local data and changing national data as the basis for transportation plans, the report will provide methods and tools to improve the connection between planning and programming.

Erosion Control Treatment Selection Guide: (0677 1203-SDTDC) This guide presents a strategy and information to assist professional judgment in developing cost-effective erosion control treatments for conditions commonly encountered on USDA Forest Service lands. This guide focuses on erosion control treatment and does not specifically address sediment control. While this guide emphasizes permanent, long-term erosion control on steep slopes (greater than 50-percent slope gradient), the strategy and information may also apply to temporary construction-related erosion control and on flatter slopes.

Copies of these selections and others are available from the Northwest TTAP Center by calling 800-583-3187.

The Impact of Legislation, Enforcement, and Sanctions on Safety Belt Use: (NCHRP Report 601) This report summarizes the effectiveness of mandatory approaches to increase safety belt usage. The report will be of particular interest to safety practitioners with responsibility for developing and implementing safety belt usage programs.

Informational Report on Lighting Design for Midblock Crosswalks: (FHWA-HRT-08-053) This report provides information on lighting parameters and design criteria that should be considered when installing fixed roadway lighting for midblock crosswalks. The information is based on static and dynamic experiments of driver performance with regard to the detection of pedestrians and surrogates in midblock crosswalks. Although the research was constrained to midblock placements of crosswalks, the report includes a brief discussion of considerations in lighting crosswalks collocated with intersections.

Minimum Retroreflectivity Levels for Blue and Brown Traffic Signs:(FHWA-HRT-08-029) In 2003, the Federal Highway Administration published research recommendations for minimum maintained Retroreflectivity (MR) levels for traffic signs. The recommendations included most sign types but not white-on-blue signs or white-on-brown signs. In addition, the 2003 recommended maintained Retroreflectivity levels were based on conditions representing dark rural environments. This report describes the research activities and consequent findings related to the development of recommendations for MR levels for white-on-blue signs and white-on-brown signs.

2008 UPCOMING EVENTS.. MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

August			
17 - 20	Anaheim, CA	2008 Anaheim Annual Meeting & Exhibit Institute of Transportation Engineers	www.ite.org/annualmeeting
24 - 28	Tulalip, WA	2008 Annual National TERO Conference	Call: 253-661-2155
September			
05 - 10	Anchorage, AK	AASHTO 2008 Transportation Civil Rights Conference	http://www.dot.state.ak.us/cvlrts/aashto.shtml
17 - 19	Portland, OR	11th National Conference on Transportation Planning For Small and Medium-Sized Communities "Tools Of The Trade"	http://www.trbtoolsofthetrade.org
19 - 24	Phoenix, AZ	65th Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians.	http://www.ncai.org/
22 - 25	Pendleton, OR	ATNI 55th Annual Conference	http://www.atntribes.org/calendar.htm
29 - 01	Coeur d'Alene, ID	American Indian/Alaska Native Tourism Conference	http://www.aianta.org
October			
01 - 03	Anchorage, AK	APA Indigenous Planning Division Conference	http://www.leadingchange.com
14 - 17	Walla Walla, WA	APWA Fall 2008 Conference	http://www.apwa-wa.org
19 - 22	Omaha, NE	18th Annual Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation Partnerships for Progress in Rural Transportation	http://www.trb.org
27 - 30	Leavenworth, WA	2008 Tribal/State Transportation Conference	http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/tribal
November			
10 - 13	Oklahoma City, OK	2008 National Tribal Transportation Conference	
13 - 14	San Antonio, TX	2008 Road Dust Management Practices and Future Needs Conference	http://www.meetingsnorth.com/dustconference.htm
December			
12	Woodinville, WA	APWA Area Meeting West	http://www.apwa-wa.org
<u>2009 Transportation Calendar</u>			
January			
11 - 15	Washington, DC	TRB 88th Annual Meeting	http://www.trb.org/meeting/
April			
TBA	TBA	16th Annual Northwest Tribal Transportation Symposium	



**NORTHWEST TRIBAL TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**
Tribal Transportation Training
& Technical Assistance
EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM



We are on the web!!!

www.ewu.edu/ttap

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Northwest Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) is administered by the Urban Planning Program at Eastern Washington University under contract with the Federal Highway Administration, Cooperative Agreement No. DTFH61-04-H-00002. Funds are provided by the Federal Highway Administration LTAP, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Reservation Roads Program, locally generated resources and individual contributions. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the Author (s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Federal Highway Administration, Bureau of Indian Affairs or Eastern Washington University. Any product or company mentioned is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a product endorsement.

This Newsletter has been reviewed and approved for publication by the FHWA LTAP Manager.

Mark Your Calendars

WSDOT Tribal/ State Transportation Conference 2008

October 27 - 30, 2008

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