
The Washington State Department of Transportation has electronically published a new version of its widely recognized “Tribal Transportation Planning Guide for Washington State.”

**Tribal Transportation Planning Guide for Washington State.**

Supporting documents are include:

- [Tribal Transportation Planning Organization Project & Planning Resources Matrix](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/Tribal.htm)
- [Planning and Project Topic Index](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/Tribal.htm)

All three documents can be found at: [http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/Tribal.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/Tribal.htm).

This document was framed by EWU Planning faculty Dick Winchell and Richard Rolland, building on on-going work by WSDOT staff. WSDOT provided extensive resources, developing the final report through the Planning and Tribal Liaison Offices and the Tribal Transportation Planning Organization (TTPO). Extensive work was completed to create a narrative that provides an overview of tribal transportation issues, unique relations and recognition between Washington state and the tribes within the state, and the programs and mechanisms to identify and apply under state funding for which tribes are eligible. WSDOT has been a national leader in promotion and development of positive relations between a state DOT program and the tribal governments within the state, and many of these activities are identified and highlighted as successes within the report.

“Part of our involvement in the report was to recognize the unique and successful accomplishments of WSDOT and the tribal governments within Washington to address transportation needs. This year was the sixteenth state/tribal transportation conference, and the state has both a tribal transportation liaison office within the State DOT, and has also established a Tribal TTPO which meets at least twice a year to continue discussions and collaboration on tribal transportation issues and needs,” stated Dr. Dick Winchell.
The state itself, through the Planning Office and the Tribal Liaison Office, continued to develop and expand the draft Guide to provide extensive improvements in formatting and linkages to websites. The goal of this Guide is to provide a narrative text, but also to provide an outline of resources so the user can follow the full text of any section for a broad background, technical facts and requirements, or can proceed directly to the details of specific programs, grants, and technical support as needed.

The contents of the Guide are organized around six chapters, with a detailed appendix and two supplemental resource publications. Chapter 1 offers an overview of Tribal Transportation resources, including federal and state policies to recognize and address in an appropriate manner the issue of tribal sovereignty. It also describes the unique programs, agreements, plans, and activities established with the State of Washington and WSDOT. Chapter 2 identifies the need for transportation planning, and highlights planning resources for tribal planning. This chapter also outlines the range of WSDOT programs available, and how they can be accessed, through resources developed by WSDOT. Other transportation programs are addressed in Chapter 3, which discusses tribal transit program planning and funding; Chapter 4 which identifies Financial Resources; and Chapter 5 which discusses policy development resources. Finally, Chapter 6 is established with some "case studies" to document how successful tribal/state programs have been carried out, and will be expanded and updated on a regular basis to encourage and build on successful collaboration and partnerships. Two supplements have also been published, the “Tribal Transportation Planning Organization Project & Planning Resources Matrix” and “The Planning and Project Topic Index” to expand the value and use of the Guide.

Early feedback on this new on-line resource has been very positive from tribes and transportation officials. We hope it will become a resource for tribes and state transportation officials in Washington, and across the nation. WSDOT involved an extensive list of staff in development and support for the final document, and we recognize their on-going efforts and success to form effective partnerships with the recognized tribal governments across the state to address tribal transportation needs.

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