

NEWSLETTER

SOUTHWESTERN TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Welcome to the Spring 2023 Volume 1 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 Spring and Summer 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 five Tribes, and have one site visit scheduled for mid-April. To schedule an on-site meeting, please do so [here](#), or contact a SWTTAP staff member directly.
- **Tribal Leadership Training** - May 2023 (date TBD)
- **Planning/TTP 101 Training** - May 2023 (date TBD)
- **Quarterly SWTTAP Stakeholder Meeting** - May 2023 (date TBD, virtual meeting)
- **Bi-Annual Needs Assessment** - please look for this email the first week of May
- **Technical Assistance** - to request technical assistance, please contact a SWTTAP staff member directly
- **Project/Program Highlight** - SWTTAP will highlight at least one SWTTAP region Transportation related project in each newsletter. Submit your project idea [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 2 - 4: TTPCC
MEETING //
INN OF THE MOUNTAIN
GODS | MESCALERO, NM
[DRAFT AGENDA](#)

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NEWS & UPDATES

SWTTAP Website

The Southwestern Tribal Technical Assistance Program (SWTTAP) website is now live at swttap.com. 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.

TTPCC MEETING

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TTPCC) MEETING

DATE: MAY 2 - 4, 2023

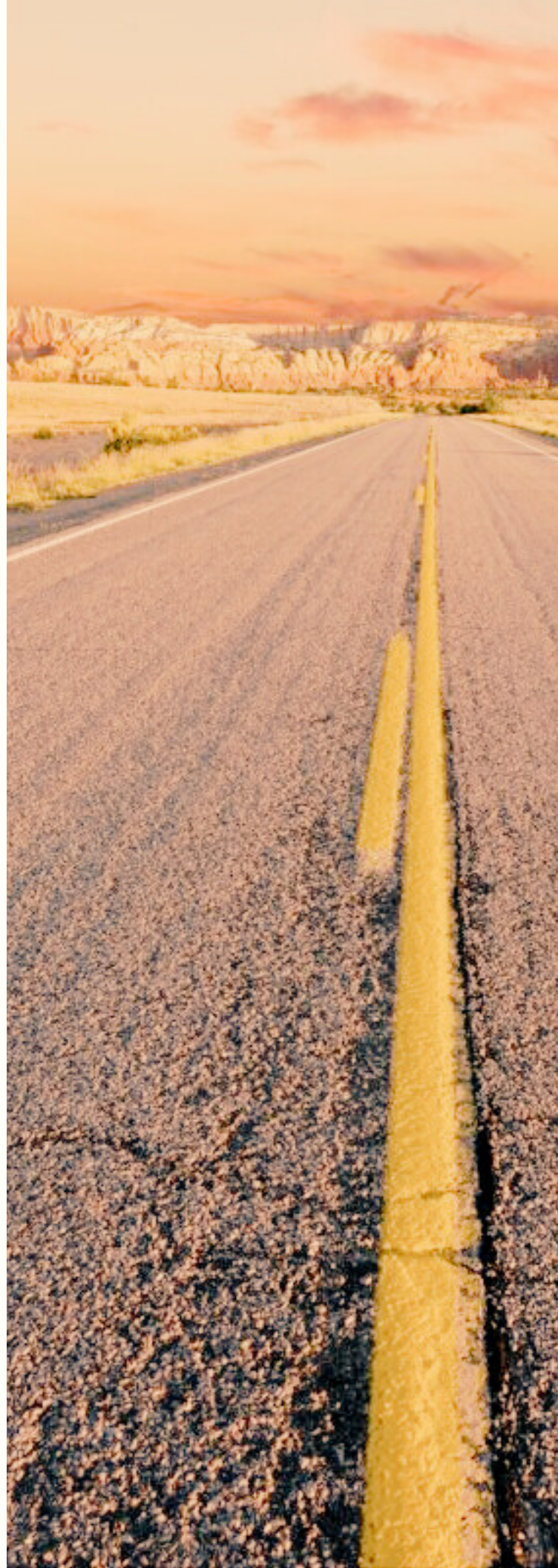
LOCATION: Inn of the Mountain Gods | 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd. | Mescalero, NM 88340

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Hotel Reservations: For 24/7 assistance, call 800-545-9011 and reference "Tribal Transportation Program" group name/room block, or call the main line to the hotel 575-464-7059 (this number is not covered 24/7). The room rate is \$96.00/night. Attendees must call to make a reservation for the government rate.

[DOWNLOAD THE TTPCC MEETING AGENDA](#)

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 [here](#).



TRANSPORTATION PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



PUEBLO DE COCHITI

PROJECT: INTERSECTION 12.2 TRAFFIC STUDY & DESIGN PROJECT

One of the oldest United States communities, the Pueblo de Cochiti (PdC), is located approximately 35 miles southwest of Santa Fe, New Mexico just west of the Rio Grande, currently home to 53,779 acres of tribal land within the boundaries of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Originally known in the Keresan language as ko-tyit', Pueblo de Cochiti is New Mexico's northernmost Keresan-speaking pueblo, and has a current total enrollment of 1,465 tribal members.



Looking west towards Cochiti Pueblo across New Mexico 22 Intersection 12.2 (Photo credit: Google maps)

Input from Pueblo de Cochiti staff, local safety advocates, and community members during a public Tribal Safety Plan development meeting and results distilled from the *PdC Transportation Safety Survey* informed the Pueblo's completion of its first *Tribal Safety Plan* in September 2017. When asked to list local roadway safety issues, meeting attendees and survey respondents repeatedly mentioned narrow lanes, poor sight lines, challenging turn lane configurations, near misses, and a troubling crash history at Intersection 12.2 on New Mexico 22 (NM 22). Intersection 12.2 is a Y-intersection where NM 22 makes a 90° turn from its generally northwest heading to instead travel west towards Cochiti Pueblo. Given that NM 22 traverses Pueblo de Cochiti lands and bisects the community of Cochiti Pueblo, the roadway is included in the Pueblo's National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory.

Intersection 12.2 also was identified as a high-priority safety project in the 2019 *Road Safety Assessment (RSA)* that Pueblo de Cochiti funded with FY17-18 Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds. The RSA gave NM 22 Intersection 12.2 a Crash Risk Rating of "D" (moderate-high risk), and suggested a "...traffic study to evaluate intersection geometry" as a long-term strategy for reducing potential future vehicular conflicts and crashes. While the final RSA report was shared with the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) as the roadway owner, neither the Intersection 12.2 project nor the Pueblo's safety concerns were seen as a high priority for corrective action or funding.



Looking north along NM 22 from the stop bar at Intersection 12.2. Drivers are challenged to see vehicles approaching from the distance, especially at high speeds and in the morning hours. (Photo credit: Merrill J. Yazzie, Pueblo de Cochiti)

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

PUEBLO DE COCHITI INTERSECTION 12.2 TRAFFIC STUDY AND DESIGN PROJECT



Since one fatality crash at the intersection, and both a rollover and a property damage crash approaching the intersection have transpired at a location within the Pueblo de Cochiti roadway inventory, the Pueblo is not content to wait until another fatality, serious injury, or property damage incident occur. Thus, the Pueblo pursued and received a FY20 TTPSF grant to complete the traffic study and safety improvements design of the intersection, and will collaborate with both NMDOT design staff and a consultant hired specifically to implement the project as soon as possible.

A traffic study and design project can determine if the intersection will require a complete redesign while also providing safety and geometric improvements options. The project will complete a thorough review of Intersection 12.2 and both sides of New Mexico 22 immediately north, south, and west of the intersection, where the Mid-Region Council of Governments documented an Average Weekday Traffic flow of 2,800 vehicles. The final NM 22 Intersection 12.2 Traffic Study and Design Report will incorporate three intersection design alternatives that meet NMDOT standards and propose Intersection 12.2 safety enhancements. The traffic study and design project is Phase I of a two-phase project in which the intended outcome, Phase II, will be construction of improvements to Intersection 12.2 per the preferred alternative, detailed evaluation, and recommendation within the NM 22 Intersection 12.2 Traffic Study and Design Report. Despite numerous delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Pueblo staff are excited to take on their first large-scale project since signing the Pueblo's multi-year self-governance funding agreement in 2019.

Following the lead of Pueblo de Cochiti's Governors and Tribal Council, Mr. Merrill Yazzie, PdC's Tribal Community Planner, and Ms. Tracey Cordero, PdC's Tribal Administrator, are continuing the Pueblo's proactive efforts to implement the 2017 Tribal Safety Plan's vision statement: "Ensuring safe, multimodal transportation in and around the Pueblo de Cochiti community for all users."



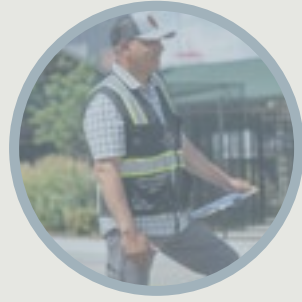
From left to right:
Pueblo de Cochiti's
Lieutenant Governor,
Kai-t L.V. Blue-Sky;
Tribal Administrator,
Tracey Cordero;
Governor, Everett P.
Herrera; and
Tribal Community
Planner, Merrill J.
Yazzie

(Photo credit: Karen
Herrera, Pueblo de Cochiti)

SWTTAP STAFF

Co-Director Todd Macalady has been affiliated with the TTAP Program for over twenty years, working for Alaska TTAP, Four Corners TTAP, Mountain West TTAP, and Southwestern TTAP. Todd is well versed in Tribal Transportation policy and project management and understands the adverse conditions and challenges of working in and around diverse cultures and communities.

CONTACT TODD | (480) 738 -8989 | TODD@LENEACORPORATION.COM



Co-Director Becky Tremonte has twelve years experience in the Tribal transportation and education sectors, focusing on helping Tribes further their project management, program management, training, and grant preparation needs.

CONTACT BECKY | (602) 910 -8367 | BECKY@LENEACORPORATION.COM



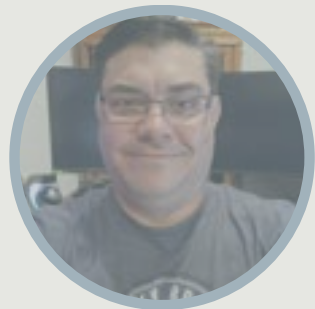
Assistant Director Tara Chief has eleven years experience working directly with Tribal governments, as a Water Quality Officer, Transportation Civil Engineer, and Transportation Director.

CONTACT TARA | (928) 358 -1084 | TARA@LENEACORPORATION.COM



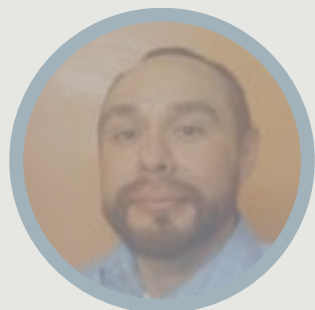
Staff Assistant Andy Korchmaros has nine years experience working with Tribes, as a Roads Program Manager and has previous experience as a Civil Designer, Land Surveyor, and extensive experience with tribal design concept reports for bridges, drainage features and roadways, and developing Tribal Long Range Transportation Plans and Tribal Transportation Safety Plans.

CONTACT ANDY | (520) 833-0604 | ANDY@LENEACORPORATION.COM



Staff Assistant Owen Laluk has extensive experience working with Tribal communities in project management, event management, project coordination, and project execution.

CONTACT OWEN | (928) 358-1084 | OWEN@LENEACORPORATION.COM



SWTTAP SERVICES

Provide training, education, technical assistance and program mentoring resources for tribes in transportation and infrastructure.

SWTTAP VISION

Through mutual respect and understanding, enhance the quality of life in Tribal communities by building capacity for Tribes to administer and manage their transportation programs and systems.



SWTTAP MISSION

Serve as a go-to local resource for Tribal transportation training, technical assistance, and technology transfer needs and opportunities to effectively carry out the TTAP Vision.

ABOUT TTAP

The Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) provides comprehensive transportation training and technical assistance to tribal communities, building skills and expertise to ensure the safety and maintenance of tribal roads.

Southwestern TTAP Center serves the tribes in Region 3. This includes the Navajo Nation and all tribes located in New Mexico and Colorado.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



TRANSPORTATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

in 2022, FHWA published the [Transportation Funding Opportunities for Tribal Nations](#). The purpose of this document is to provide information to Tribes on new and existing highway and bridge transportation funding programs for which Tribes are eligible.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 11:59 PM ET on June 26, 2023

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced the opportunity to apply for \$8.9 million in competitive grants for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Public Transportation on Indian Reservations (Tribal Transit) Program. As required by Federal public transportation law, funds will be awarded competitively for any purpose eligible under FTA's Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program, including planning, capital, and operating assistance for tribal public transit services in rural areas. FTA may award additional funding that is made available to the program prior to the announcement of project selections.

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00 PM EDT on Monday, July 10, 2023

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to solicit applications for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grants. Funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2023 SS4A grant program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micromobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators.

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

TRIBAL HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 14, 2023

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration is accepting applications for the Tribal HPP Program. The program, funded by the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will provide nearly \$16 million (combined Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023) in Fiscal Year 2023 to (1) an Indian Tribe or governmental subdivision of an Indian Tribe whose annual allocation of funding under the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) is insufficient to complete the highest priority project of the Tribe, or (2) to any Indian Tribe that has an emergency or disaster occur on a Tribal transportation facility that renders the facility impassible or unusable.

The FHWA will conduct outreach and public engagement ahead of the application due date. Outreach will include a Zoom webinar on April 18, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The Zoom webinar connection information is posted on the [FHWA Office of Tribal Transportation webinar website](#) in the few days and a recorded webinar will be posted on the [Tribal HPP Program website](#). Application forms, application form instructions, an application checklist, and a Questions and Answers document are available on the [Tribal HPP Program website](#).

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 visit <https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/bridge>.

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FHWA TRIBAL HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS PROGRAM – KICKOFF WEBINAR (FHWA OTT)

Date: April 18, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)

Description: FHWA will start accepting application for the Tribal High Priority Projects. This webinar will provide information on purpose, eligibility, application, evaluation, and administration of the program.

Presenters: Blane Kunihsa, FHWA Office of Tribal Transportation; Miles Brooks, FHWA Office of Tribal Transportation

For additional information, visit <https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/webinars>.

SPEED MANAGEMENT (FHWA OTT)

Date: April 19, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)

Description: Speeding – traveling too fast for conditions or exceeding the posted speed limits – is a contributing factor in 26 percent of all fatalities. In 2020, there were 38,824 fatalities on our Nation's roadways, of which 11,258 were speeding-related – increased by 17 percent from the previous year. Speeding is a safety concern on all roads and for all road users.

Although much of the public concern about speeding has been focused on high-speed Interstates, only 14 percent (1,344) occurred on interstate highways, rural and urban combined, while 86 percent of speeding-related fatalities occurred on non-interstate roadways. Speeding is a complex issue involving engineering, driving behavior, education, and enforcement.

FHWA is the lead agency accountable for the engineering actions. For additional information, visit

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/webinars>.

RECORDINGS OF ALL FHWA OTT ARCHIVED WEBINARS ARE AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://HIGHWAYS.DOT.GOV/FEDERAL-LANDS/PROGRAMS-TRIBAL/WEBINARS](https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/webinars)

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION TRAINING

Date: April 24 - 26, 2023

Location: Glenpool Convention Center | 12205 S. Yukon Ave. | Glenpool, OK 74033

Description: This training has been created specifically for tribes and is provided at no cost to tribal personnel. It is being provided through a partnership between Cross Timbers Consulting, FHWA and Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Please register in advance. Visit www.crosstimbersconsulting.com for more information including directions, hotels, and a printable agenda.

TRIBAL GIS CONFERENCE

Date: April 24 - 28, 2023

Location: Courtyard by Marriott Albuquerque | 5151 Journal Center Blvd. | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

Description: This conference is co-hosted by the National Tribal Geographic Information Support Center and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI). Attendees from across the country will have access to hands-on workshops & greater networking opportunities to support the utilization of Geospatial Information Technologies within Indian Country. For additional information, visit <https://ntgisc.regfox.com/13th-annual-national-tribal-gis-conference>.

NORTHWEST REGION BIA TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM

Date: May 16 - 17, 2023

Location: Northern Quest Resort and Casino | Airway Heights, WA

Hotel Reservations can be made by calling 1-877-871-6772. The room block is under "2023 NWRO Transportation Symposium".

The cut off date is April 13, 2023. For additional information click [here](#).

SWTTAP PLANNING & TTP 101 TRAINING

Date: May 23 - 25, 2023

Location: Indian Pueblo Cultural Center | 2401 12th St NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

Registration and session information coming soon.

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://ruralsafetycenter.org/national-summit-on-rural-road-safety/>.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION IN INDIAN COUNTRY CONFERENCE

Date: September 24 - 28, 2023

Location: Dena'ina Center, Anchorage, AK

For additional information visit <https://www.nticc.org/>

Build a Better MOUSETRAP

**FHWA CENTER FOR LOCAL AID SUPPORT
BUILD A BETTER MOUSETRAP COMPETITION
APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 9, 2023**

**2022 BABM
WINNERS
AT RIGHT**

DESCRIPTION: WHAT IS BUILD A BETTER MOUSETRAP?

The Build a Better Mousetrap (BABM) national recognition program highlights locally relevant, innovative solutions and provides a platform to share innovations to everyday challenges that local and tribal transportation professionals encounter on local roads. These local road solutions range from the development of new project delivery or design processes to the invention of new tools, equipment, or modifications that increase efficiency, enhance safety, reduce cost, and/or improve the quality of transportation on local roads.

WHAT ARE THE FOUR BABM CATEGORIES?

1. **Innovative Project:** Any solution that addresses any or all phase(s) of the "project" life cycle— Planning, Design/Engineering, Construction, Operations, and Maintenance. This project shall introduce new ideas and be locally relevant, original, and creative in thinking.
2. **SMART Transformation:** A locally relevant, significant change in any transportation activity or process that is SMART, "Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time bound," in nature that results in improved efficiencies.
3. **Bold Steps:** Any locally relevant, high risk project or process showing a breakthrough solution with demonstrated high reward.
4. **Pioneer:** A locally relevant, product/tool that is among the first to solve a maintenance problem with a home-grown solution.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

If you would like to submit an entry to the 2023 Build a Better Mousetrap Competition, email your application to SWTTAP Co-Director Becky Tremonte at becky@leneacorporation.com. The BABM application can be found at https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/clas/babm/Build-A-Better-Mousetrap-Planning-Guide_2023.pdf. Applications must be submitted to SWTTAP by June 9, 2023.

Build a Better
MOUSETRAP



INNOVATIVE PROJECT AWARD:
South Manheim Township, Schuylkill County (PA) for the 'Sidewinder', a truck attachment tool to improve the maintenance of water flow along the roadways.



SMART TRANSFORMATION AWARD:
Autonomous Municipality of Toa Baja (PR) for the Public Survey Tool for Emergency Events. This e-tool allows residents to report their damages via social media, which help emergency workers prioritize their response during an emergency event.



BOLD STEPS AWARD:
Walsh County Highway Department (ND) for the Guardrail Maintainer, a truck attachment tool that helps clear away debris from around the guardrails, keeping the roads safe.



PIONEER AWARD:
Washington County Department of Public Works (NY) for the Culvert Cleaner, a tool to safely, clear out dirt build-up in the culverts caused by beavers.

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 Malley, FHWA TTAP Program Manager

Morgan.Malley@dot.gov

FHWA OFFICE OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION

WEB: <https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/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/federal-lands/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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