“Navajo DOT: Direct Federal Funding and Project Priorities”

ASCE and ASHE Annual State Conference
Phoenix, AZ
September 11, 2014
- Total Paved Roads = 3,381 miles (23%)
- Total Unpaved Roads = 11,352 miles (77%)
  - Total Graveled Roads = 234 miles
- Road Construction/Maintenance is a partnership with 3 State DOTs, 11 County DOTs and the BIA
- 2010 Inventory
  - Total = 14,733 miles
    - State – 1,642 miles
    - Counties – 1,864 miles
    - BIA – 6,217 miles
    - NN – 5,010 miles
Direct Funding from FHWA

- Previously, BIA used to manage the Navajo Nation’s Road Construction Funds based on an approved Navajo Nation Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (NNTTIP)

- February 2012 – Navajo Nation receives Direct Funding from FHWA and manages its Road Construction Fund, including Programming the NNTTIP

- Authorizes the Nation to perform planning, design, construction and maintenance of highways, roads, and bridges

- BIA will continue to perform “inherent federal functions” such as right-of-way approvals and road inventory
Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP)

- FY2013 – Reduce TTIP from 38-Year “Wish List” to 5-Year “Focused List”
- FY2014 – Develop 5-Year “Financially Constrained” TTIP
- NDOT collaborated extensively with BIA to discuss TTIP project updates and expenditures
- Transition from 5-Agency to 24-Region Stakeholder Input
- Develop New Public Participation Process
### Tribal Transportation Program

**Transportation Improvement Program**

<table>
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<th>Agency: Northern Tribe</th>
<th>Priority No.:</th>
<th>To Be Delivered by: BIA</th>
<th>Date: 7/2/2013</th>
<th>Current FY: 2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>Funding Source: TTP</td>
<td>(Bridge, 2% Planning, Safety, etc)</td>
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**PROJECT INFORMATION:**

- **Project Name:** N5001(1), 1, 2, 4 w/N241 Newcomb to Toadlena
- **Location:** Newcomb to Toadlena
- **Type of Work:** Grade, Drain, Surfacing (Pavement), & Bridge Construction
- **Route Num and Section:** N5001
- **Length:** 6.1 Miles
- **State:** NM
- **Construction Year:** 2017
- **Comments:** ROW Needed. Alignment issues. Archaeological site. Build half the project with Bridge. Revisit SOW with BIA to define project limits. Total cost of project is about $12 million for the 13 mile. Project needs additional funds of $7 million. BE & EA need updated.

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**TOTAL:** $100,000 | $25,000 | $5,175,000 | $5,155,000 | $0 | $10,455,000
Navajo Nation’s Unmet Transportation Needs

- **Cost to improve 5,955 miles** to meet design standards will cost **$6.5 Billion**

- **Cost to address pavement deficiencies** of 1,341 miles of paved roads alone will cost **$1.4 Billion**

- Navajo Nation will need **$7.9 Billion**

- **Cost is Seven Times the current 20-Year Funding Level** of $1 Billion or $50 Million per year

*Source: 2009 Navajo Nation Long Range Transportation Plan*
Navajo Nation Road Construction Funds from FHWA

- Navajo Nation receives about $54 Million
- Approximately 20% goes towards Road Maintenance and Safety Projects – $11 Million
- Approximately 9% goes towards Preliminary Engineering & Construction Engineering - $5 Million
- Which leaves $38 Million for Construction
  - It costs $2 Million to Pave One (1) Mile
  - We can only build 19 miles of Roads Annually
  - If bridges are included, road miles decrease
Navajo Nation Long Range Transportation Plan

- **Scope of Work**
  - Establish Management Team
  - Existing Conditions Assessment
  - Future Conditions
  - Initial Public Involvement Activities
  - Improvement Strategies
  - Public Involvement
  - Long Range Transportation Plan
Navajo Nation Long Range Transportation Plan

Task 2: Existing Conditions

- Goal 1: Take Care of the System
- Goal 2: Create Connections
- Goal 3: Provide Options
- Goal 4: Promote Economic Development
- Goal 5: Enhance Safety
- Goal 6: Maximize Transportation Investment Effectiveness
- Goal 7: Enhance Existing Partnerships and Create New Partnerships
Navajo Nation Long Range Transportation Plan

Task 2 Findings

- Little to no LRTP and TTIP process awareness
- Community based planning to use Service Areas
- Pedestrian and bicycle accommodations
- Establish standard cross sections
- Need to integrate safety
- Last plan only had “earth” or “paved” options
Navajo Nation Long Range Transportation Plan

Task 5: Improvement Strategies

- Refine TTIP Process
- Refine TTIP Scoring to reflect goals
- Integrate Safety
- Need to define system goals
- Any refinements to cross sections
- Pavement versus Gravel versus Earth roads
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations
Transportation Challenges

- **Scope of Work – Grade, Drain and Gravel road improvement with culvert installations**
  - Survey, alignment, borrow source, and drainage studies
  - Cultural Resources, Biological Evaluation and Environmental Assessment – Clearances Required
  - 401/404 Permits
  - Procurement of Materials
  - Estimated Cost = $400,000 per mile
  - Navajo DOT equipment and personnel
“Red Dog Graveling Partnership Improves Quality of Life for the Black Mesa Region”

- **Issues:**
  - Hundred of miles in need of maintenance in Black Mesa
  - Expensive Haul-Cost to “Import Material” in Remote Locations

- **Solutions:**
  - Partnership between Navajo Nation, Navajo County, BIA, Peabody Coal, School Districts & Black Mesa Region Chapters
  - Availability of “Red Dog” Gravel from Peabody Coal Mine
  - Cost-Sharing to Crush, Haul and Place Gravel on Problem Areas
“NDOT and Tohajiilee Chapter Partner with Bernalillo County to Pave 3 Miles”

- **Issues:**
  - Improve Dirt Roads to Chapter and Healthcare Facilities
  - Paving one mile cost $1 Million

- **Solutions:**
  - Partnership between NDOT, Tohajiilee Chapter & Bernalillo County
  - NDOT and Tohajiilee Chapter provided 11,792 Tons of Asphalt
  - Bernalillo County provided in-kind services using their equipment and manpower

- **Cost-Sharing:**
  - Navajo DOT = $441,786
  - Tohajiilee Chapter = $295,000
  - Bernalillo County = $736,786
  - **Total Funds = $1,473,572**
“After 20 Years, Huerfano Bridge over Gallegos Wash will be replaced”

- **Issues:**
  - 356-Foot Long Single Lane “Military Bridge” built in 1978
  - Functionally Obsolete & Structurally Deficient

- **Solutions:**
  - Partnership between Navajo Nation, San Juan County, NMDOT, FHWA & Huerfano Community
  - MOU/IGA between Navajo Nation and San Juan County
  - Cost-Sharing to Fund $2.55 Million in Construction

- **Cost-Sharing:**
  - Navajo Nation = $1,500,000
  - San Juan County = $401,520
  - NMDOT/FHWA = $648,480
  - **Total Funds = $2,550,000**