

# ADOT Multimodal Planning Division

## Tribal Transportation Updates

### **AZ Tribal Transportation Safety Roundtable & AZ Rural Transportation Summit - Tribal Component Update**

- The AZ Tribal Transportation Safety Roundtable planned for September 18-19 has been canceled with consensus from the core planning team.
  - It was determined that the scheduled Tribal Roundtable would conflict with a major Tribal event to be held on 9/18 and also limit participation at several major Arizona transportation conferences to be held soon after. This also takes into consideration travel time and costs for Tribal officials.
  - The Tribal Roundtable is anticipated to be rescheduled in 2025.
- ADOT Tribal outreach efforts will now focus on the Tribal component of the 2024 Arizona Rural Transportation Summit to be held on October 16-17.
  - The ADOT Tribal Relations Team is finalizing an agenda for a Tribal Track and Listening Session on October 16, in coordination with CYMPO, the lead agency and organizer for the Rural Transportation Summit.
  - A Save-the-Date announcement is forthcoming, and additional information will be disseminated to Tribes this month.

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### ADOT Strategic Highway Safety Plan & Alternative Transportation Safety Action Plan - Tribal Outreach Update

- ADOT is in the process of developing the Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and Active Transportation Safety Action Plan (ATSAP). ADOT recently hosted several Safety Stakeholder Workshops for local jurisdictions, transportation safety experts and Tribal Nations. Also formal Public Meetings were completed throughout the State.
- Tribes were notified and invited to these events and given the opportunity to provide comments on the Plans and encouraged to participate on a SHSP Tribal Lands Focus Area Team. The upcoming Team meetings would allow additional opportunity to strategize on future Tribal transportation safety initiatives.
- ADOT also expects to conduct Tribal outreach in August when the SHSP and ATSAP draft plans are expected to become available for public review. This is to ensure Tribes are aware of the opportunity to provide comments and will include invitation for virtual one-on-one meetings.

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### **Tohono O'odham Nation - Strategic Transportation Safety Plan**

- On July 1, 2024, the ADOT Traffic Safety Group, ADOT Southcentral District and ADOT MPD participated in a Stakeholder/Public Meeting for development of the Tohono O'odham Nation 2024 Strategic Transportation Safety Plan Update.
- The Nation's Project Team provided an overview of the draft priority findings from the plan with focus on several Indian Routes and State Route 86.
- ADOT representatives provided input on the Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan Update, ADOT Traffic Records and Criminal Software Program and ADOT Highway Safety Improvement Program.
- The Nation's project team will continue to accept community input through July and the final report is expected to be completed in August.

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### **Northern AZ Region - Upcoming Meetings**

- 8/1 - ADOT & Navajo Nation DOT Transportation Partnership Meeting
- 8/2 - ADOT & Pueblo of Zuni Program and Project Informational Meeting

### **Southern AZ Region - Upcoming Meetings**

- 8/15 - ADOT & San Carlos Apache Tribe Transportation Partnership Meeting

### **National Event**

- 8/25-29 - 2024 National Transportation in Indian Country Conference

# State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation (AZ SMART) Fund Program

## 2024 Program Revisions Update

Multimodal Planning Division

# Significant Changes

<i>Change</i>	<i>Background</i>	<i>Proposed Approach</i>
New project types are eligible such as transit, rail, studies, etc.	Certain applicants and their projects are currently precluded	Develop objective priority criteria to help Board compare projects.
Board may determine applicant technical and financial capacity	New applicant types, including tribes, non- and for-profits, COGs/MPOs	Require financial statements, IRS determination letters and other corporate info; governing body resolutions for all applications, etc. Perform financial ratio analysis.
2 year deadline for DOES*; no longer requires an “intergovernmental” agreement	Design takes minimum of 12-18 months and needs to start right away	Request for Project Grant Applications (combines application and agreement). All required docs are submitted with application. Project is ready to proceed after Board approval.

\*Design and other engineering services

# Significant Changes

<i>Change</i>	<i>Background</i>	<i>Proposed Approach</i>
Board can close applications	Sustain the program for as long as possible	Establish minimum fund balance to close applications and a recovery threshold (TBD) to restart applications applications
Board must rescind awards for apps receiving duplicative funding from another source	Avoid overfunding and help sustain the program	Establish guidelines, such as only one source of state funds (AZ SMART or appropriations, no scope increase or change, no betterments, etc.
Board may redistribute funding across categories	Uneven utilization across the categories	Guidelines to be developed this fall

# Program Revision Schedule

- Legislation is effective September 14, 2024
- Anticipated schedule:
  - August Board - review of revised Board policy and AZ SMART application materials
  - September Board - Final Board approval
  - October 1 - Request for Project Applications will be available on the AZ SMART webpage; will be continuously open
  - January Board - First funding redistribution