

PARTNERING SUCCESS/OPPORTUNITY STORY

Hopi Partnership 2010

Situation: (provide a brief description/background of the situation):

The Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and Navajo County helped the Hopi Tribe apply for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery – “TIGER” Grant which was funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The team applied for \$20 Million which was the estimated project cost for the Northern Navajo County Regional Corridor Project which is a road improvement project that included paving a two-lane roadway, install drainage facilities, cattle passes, ROW fencing, , install of sign/post, and bridge construction, etc.

Challenges:

The first major challenge that the team had was meeting the September 15, 2009 Application Deadline. The team had approximately less than a month to try to meet as a group to compile information and present that information effectively in the application. Because of the limited number of meetings and time it was hard to gather the needed information.

Partnering Practices:

Leadership from all entities encouraged and displayed a cooperative behavior that was good for morale and production. There were no negative issues that came from this partnering effort.

Outcomes:

The successful outcome from the partnering effort was that the team was able to meet the September 15, 2009 application deadline. We were able to present effectively the information in the application but due to the high number of application and competitive petitioning from other entities the Hopi Tribe did not receive a TIGER Grant. This project let all team members be awareness the benefits of the proposed road improvement which were:

- Provides safe route for students between the Low Mountain, Pinon, Whippoorwill communities and the Polacca, Hano, and Keams Canyon communities.
- Lessens the time children spend on buses being transported to school facilities.
- H60 will provide critically needed access to the Hopi Healthcare Center, Flagstaff Medical Center, Winslow Memorial Hospital, and Summit Healthcare Regional Medical Center in Show Low.
- Increases response times of law enforcement officials between communities.
- Provides relief as an alternate paved route significantly decreasing mileage, travel time, dependence on fossil fuels, and vehicle maintenance due to excessive wear and tear for travel to/from economic hubs.
- Increases traffic flow in and out of Pinon, Polacca, Keams Canyon and neighboring communities.
- Creates short-term high wage construction jobs.
- Creates long-term economic opportunities and venues along this corridor.
- Preserves and retains quality of life benefits.

Lessons Learned:

The most important lesson learned was that meeting efforts and communications needed to be clear and concise and that everyone on the team is vital to the success of any project in an area that is limited in communication (i.e. internet, cell phones, etc.). Also having a cooperative attitude in critical to a successful outcome.