



**Intertribal Transportation Association
(ITA)**

**2021 Annual Report
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ITA Annual 2021 President's Report

I have been honored to represent Intertribal Transportation Association (ITA) as the President for the past two years. It has been a humbling experience working with an aggressive executive team plus the involvement of the active members and the federal partners. With this, I would like to present ITA's Annual President's Report.

Change can be challenging plus difficult to accept; however, without change, situations either stay the same or deteriorate. COVID has made massive changes on how we do business, whether it is meetings, shopping, or leisure activities. ITA faced the COVID challenge while working to reenergize ITA; I would like to take this time to say "Thank You" to everyone who has taken part in endless meetings, emails, calls, etc that is pushing ITA back to full force.

ITA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 was approved in February; this document serves as a guiding document for the next five years. The Mission Statement identifies the organization primary reason to exist: *"To foster excellence, effectiveness, and unity in Tribal Transportation by providing Tribal Leadership the tools and resources necessary to address the concerns, issues, and needs of its members so that new programs and policies may be developed and implemented which allow them to continue to evolve their transportation systems and programs"*. Within this document identified five overarching strategic priorities: A Unified Voice; Organizational Excellence; Training & Technical Assistance; Building Effective Partnerships; and Policy Advocacy. I believe ITA has moved forward on re-establishing the accountability, transparency, and communication of ITA. There is much more work to accomplish in the months and years ahead, especially regarding the Training & Technical Assistance aspect. Once TTAP is back on its feet, ITA will look forward to connect with TTAP on Training & Technical Assistance opportunities. The Strategic Plan document can be found at ITA's website: www.tribaltransportation.weebly.com

ITA has diligently held monthly conference calls each month with the exception of June (due to Mid-Year) and October; meetings are scheduled for the 4th Thursday beginning at 10:00-11:30 a.m. (PDT). The standard Agenda for each meeting includes approval of minutes, treasure report, committee report and new business and/or guest presentations/updates. Arlando Teller and Milo Booth joined several monthly meetings providing updates on Tribal Affairs and Self Governance plus the direction the new administration is taking regarding tribal consultation. In March, ITA hosted USDOT Tribal Consultation Listening Session for Mr. Booth.

The Governance Committee that is Chaired by Vice President Hope has been active this past year with all the numerous changes to various legislative actions for transportation. Kenneth Martin, EPW Committee Staffer plus Brittany Lundberg, T&I Committee Staffer joins the meetings as well. ITA approved and submitted approximately five letters this past year to various national committees that pertained to: USDOT Tribal Consultation; COVID-19 American Jobs; Obligation Limitation exemption; and support newly established USDOT Office of Tribal Government Affairs.

ITA participates as a Co-Chair to NCAI Transportation Task Force and NCAI Transportation Committee. ITA provides input to agenda items and assist in chairing/report out of meetings. It was an honor for ITA to be invited as one of the three presenters to USDOT Secretary Buttigieg regarding Tribal Transportation concerns back in February.

ITA's Financials have been recorded and accounted. As Treasurer Yockey mentioned, there has been little activity in expenditures due to holding "Virtual" meetings. Depending on COVID and Travel restrictions, ITA looks forward to holding the Mid-Year Meeting on-site this coming year.

Before I close, I would like to "thank" all the tribes and friends of ITA who re-established your ITA membership or is a fresh member of ITA. ITA was once a 'powerhouse' during the early years (1994) with over 300 attending the annual conferences. I remember it took most of a morning session to get through roll-call. These past two years ITA have been increasing membership but still have a lot more outreach to go. I ask you to share ITA with other tribes and we welcome your invite to participate at your regional meetings. It takes a village to nurture and grow ITA's membership.

In closing, ITA Vision and Mission is the cornerstone of ITA. ITA recognizes the strength of many tribal voices moving in the same direction; how this strength can gain support and entice possible change for the future. Yes, it is true that there are areas that tribes may not agree on, however, ITA recognizes that likelihood and ensures to tribes ITA will concede and not move forward advancing controversial position. ITA enforces the need to work together and stand together. I truly believe that all the hard work and efforts we have put forth is rebuilding the integrity of ITA. Please note, you can find documents, minutes, notices on ITA website.

Please enjoy the remainder of ITA Annual Meeting; you will notice the Agenda is packed with experts who are dedicated to Transportation in Indian Country. I invite you to listen, participate, and enjoy the next few days. I also want to gleam some light toward the "Friends" of ITA...the consultants who always contribute and support ITA.

With this, I respectfully present "ITA 2021 Annual President Report" to the membership and *future* members of ITA. Please reference ITA Website: www.tribaltransportation.weebly.com when looking for ITA's actions and upcoming meetings.


Mary Beth Frank Clark, ITA President