



Intertribal Transportation Association (ITA)

Annual Meeting | Flamingo Resort, LV

2022 Annual Report December 6, 2022

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ITA Annual 2022 President's Report

I would like to open my report with "Thank You" for giving me the opportunity to represent ITA as President for the past three years. As I mentioned three years ago when I accepted this challenge, it isn't 'me' it is each and every one of us helping to rebuild ITA and moving Tribal Transportation needs to the forefront. I believe, these past three years have been fruitful, but want to mention, it has been blood, sweat, and tears to get here and it will take the same effort to move forward. 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.

This past year has been challenging; to strengthen and rebuild ITA is timeless while keeping up with new opportunities, programs, and funding with the BIL Act. The various rollouts on revised and/or new programs such as HPP, Bridge, Safety Funding, Self-Governance, etc.....can be overwhelming, however with all of us working together and communicating makes it less burdensome.

I am pleased to report that the executive board continued their involvement throughout the year. Having a solid team encourages the success of ITA future. Utilizing the adopted guiding documents such as the By-Laws, Strategic Plan, Action Plan, and Tasks list kept meetings and discussion streamlined and moving ITA forward.

ITA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 was approved February 2021; 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. The Strategic Plan document can be found at ITA's website: www.tribaltransportation.weebly.com

During the virtual FY2021 Annual Meeting membership discussed FY22 direction; this discussion formed the 2022 Action Plan that was solicited for comments during January and February then approved during the March 2022 monthly meeting. The Action Plan follows the Strategic Plan's priorities. This Action Plan guided ITA through the 2022 year; at this time, ITA has accomplished 90% of the Tasks on that Plan.

ITA has diligently held monthly conference calls that are scheduled for the 4th Thursday beginning at 10:00-11:30 a.m. (PDT). In FY2022, ITA has held 9 monthly meetings in the past 11 months. 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 February, ITA Hosted a Rollout of BIL Act zoom meeting for Mr. Teller and Mr. Booth.

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. This year NCAI meetings were February, June, and November. The recent NCAI meeting in Sacramento, we had updates from USDOT Deputy Assistant Secretary Tribal Affairs, Legislative Update from Hobbs & Strass, FHWA, FTA, and BIADOT. It is critical for Tribes to participate in NCAI Transportation Committee meetings, especially when pushing change in tribal transportation. The cohesiveness of NCAI and ITA strengthens that 'voice' in Indian Country.

This past year, ITA has made presentations and updates to NTICC, Alaska, ATNI, and TTPO. ITA was aligned to travel to Oklahoma, however, due to illness was unable to participate.

The Governance Committee is Chaired by Vice President Hope. This Committee holds meetings when needed throughout the year. The highlighted actions this past year were three letters. 1) Letter dated July 14, 2022, to House and Senate regarding Full Funding Needed for FY 2023 Tribal Transportation Priorities; 2) Letter dated September 23, 2022 to USDOT Secretary regarding Current Plan for Re-Implementation of the Tribal Technical Assistance Program; and 3) Letter dated November 7, 2022 to USDOT Secretary regarding Benchmarking Equity and Mobility Needs for Tribal Governments.

ITA's Fiscal and Administrative control have been in place these past three years. The "Non-Profit Status" is certified and in good standing by the State of Montana. Financials are presented during monthly meetings. Our Treasure has made improvements this past year to assist in streamlining reports and banking statements. We had little activity throughout the year, however the past several months has been active due to registration for the Annual Meeting. At the end of the Annual meeting, ITA financials will be slim due to the inflation costs to hold an 'on-site' meeting.

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 rollcall. These past three years ITA slowly increasing membership and/or interest in meetings 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. To start off FY23, ITA has been invited to TRB during their January 8-12 meeting to do a presentation on "Infrastructure Policy Challenges & Opportunities".

Before I close, I would like to bring attention to two individuals that dedicated time, energy, experience, and knowledge for the benefit to ITA and tribal transportation. This past year we lost Mr. John Healy, Ft. who was one of the many that attended the initial meeting that brought

ITA to life in 1993 plus served various years as ITA President; and Mr. Joel Azure who served as Vice President of ITA for handful of years with great passion to keep ITA alive.

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 enjoy 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 2022 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