National Transportation in Indian Country Conference

BIA TTP & TPA Road Maintenance Update
Big Sky, MT
September 17, 2019
Topics

- BIA TTP update
- BIA Road Maintenance update
  - TIBC Subcommittee on Road Maintenance
- Inventory & Maintenance statistics
- Implementation of NATIVE Act
BIA TTP update

- FY2019 authorized: $495,000,000
  - President signed full year bill on Feb. 15, 2019;
  - Final allocations are posted on FHWA and BIA Transportation webpages (adjusted to FY2019 %’s)
    - Obligation Limitation (Lop off): ~9.9%

- FY2020 authorized: $505,000,000
FY2018 review:

- Total Funding: $34,653,000 including
  - $1,000,000 for NATIVE Act
  - $1,000,000 to improve the condition of unpaved roads & bridges used by school buses transporting students
  - ~$32,653,000 distributed to Regions by historical distribution
FY2019 review:

- Total Funding: ~$35,800,000 including
  - $1,000,000 for NATIVE Act
  - $2,000,000 to improve the condition of unpaved roads & bridges used by school buses transporting students
  - ~ $32,800,000 distributed to Regions by historical distribution
The Native American Tourism Improving Visitor Experience Act (NATIVE Act) was adopted in 2016:

- Required the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or other agreement with an entity or organization with a demonstrated record in tribal communities of defining, introducing, developing, and sustaining American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian tourism and related activities in a manner that respects and honors native traditions and values.
NATIVE Act – Memorandum of Understanding

- The Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, along with Department of Commerce's Assistant Secretary of the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs on September 18, 2018:
  
  - Signed a three-party MOU with the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) to formalize the role of AIANTA in assisting the federal government with the implementation of the NATIVE Act.
Road Inventory statistics & Performance Data/Reporting

Road inventory statistics (miles)

- **BIA Roads (existing):** ~29,260
- **Tribal Roads (existing):** ~16,984
- **Other (existing):** ~98,360

Performance data (FY2019 Targets)

- % of BIA **roads** in acceptable condition: ~13%
- % of BIA **bridges** in acceptable condition: ~69%
- ~ deferred maintenance ~ $392,000,000/FY
Purpose:

Establish a workgroup of Bureau of Indian Affairs and TIBC members to analyze, record, and develop data for road maintenance budget needs.

- Established March 2016
Dec 2016: The subcommittee through the tribes in the Great Plains Region and BIA developed a on-line survey of tribes/BIA agency offices on road maintenance functions, costs, priorities and needs.

April 2018: DOJ and OMB approve distribution of road maintenance survey nation-wide.

Sept 2018: Survey link is closed and data finalized.
PRIORITIES (highest to lowest)

- Snow/Ice Removal
- Pavement Maintenance (potholes/pavement markings)
- Gravel Maintenance
- Signing
- Pavement Sealing
- ROW Maintenance (ditch mowing, tree removal, etc.)
- Culverts
- Remedial work on improved earth roads
Top 3 Road Maintenance issues

- **Funding** – 125
- **Equipment Needs** – 95
- **Paved Road Maint.** – 69
- **Winter Activities** – 38
- **Earth Road Maint.** – 36
- **Qualified Operators** – 19

**Question:** On your reservation, please identify the current 3 top road maintenance issues.
RIFDS Training – revised

- RIFDS training on the Road Inventory Field Data System (RIFDS)
  - 3–day session

- Training needs:
  - Contact the BIADOT(ABQ), Sheldon Kipp or Minerva Chavez at (505) 563–3320
Future goals . . .

- Continue on TTPCC initiatives
- Continue the TIBC coordination effort
  - Maint. Management software
  - tabular & spacial
- Review & adjust databases
  - GAO report recommendations
- Implementation of the NATIVE Act
- "school bus route" definition