



2017 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #17 - 16

“APPOINTING TRIBAL/BIA REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PROGRAMMING DECISION COMMITTEE (PDC) AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) FOR THE FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM (FLAP) FOR WESTERN FEDERAL LANDS”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) was established by Congress for the purpose of providing funds for Federal Lands Access Transportation Facilities that are located on or adjacent to, or that provide access to Federal lands; and

WHEREAS, Tribes may apply for FLAP funding if the road or facility being proposed for funding is owned or operated by the Tribe and provides access to a Federally-owned land (not a Tribal land), i.e., a Tribally-owned road (as opposed to a BIA-owned road) that provides access to a national park or national forest is eligible for the Federal Lands Access Program; and

WHEREAS, Tribes have cultural resources and treaty interests on federal lands and tribal interests may require the maintenance or the improvement to federal land access roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, FLAP can provide an important funding source to achieve these improvements on non-tribal roads when partnering with a state or local agency which may own or maintain roads eligible for FLAP grants; and

WHEREAS, FLAP was created by Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) in 2013 and under the Fixing America's Service Transportation (FAST) Act, FLAP authorization will grow from \$250 million in 2016 to \$270 million in 2020; and

WHEREAS, FLAP funding is allocated among the states using a statutory formula based on road mileage, number of bridges, land area, and visitation; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, no Tribe has been a direct recipient of FLAP funding in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, or Montana; and

WHEREAS, the FLAP is administered by the Western Federal Lands (WFL) Highway Division Office in Vancouver, Washington for the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington; and

WHEREAS, grant funding decisions in each state are made by the Program Decision Committee (PDC), which is made up of representatives from the Federal Highway Administration, the State Department of Transportation, and a county road organization; and

WHEREAS, to assist the PDC there are Federal Lands Access Program Coordinators provided at the US Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the US Army Corps of Engineers that serve on TAG; and

WHEREAS, although Tribes are eligible for FLAP grants there is no WFL FLAP Coordinator designated at the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) or other tribal organization; and

WHEREAS, the BIA Northwest Regional Office provides transportation support to 44 tribes in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and one tribe in southeastern Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the BIA would have a peer relationship with the other federal agencies currently serving on the Technical Advisory Group (TAG); and

WHEREAS, the BIA Northwest Regional Office maintains regular contact with Tribes regarding transportation issues for the Tribes that it serves in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska and is in a position to assist Tribes interested in participating in FLAP; and

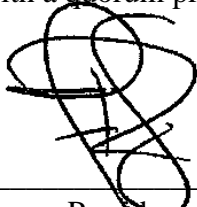
WHEREAS, the BIA Northwest Regional Office is willing to assist Tribes interested in participating in FLAP; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisory Highway Engineer for the BIA Northwest Region, Kurt Fredenberg, P.E., has expressed a willingness to serve as a BIA/tribal representative on the TAG until another tribal representative can be identified; now

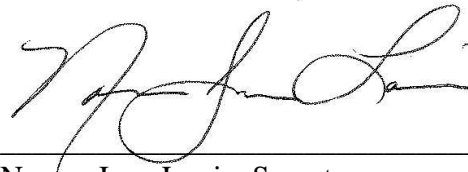
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby request that Western Federal Lands Highway Division invite the BIA Northwest Regional Office’s Supervisory Highway Engineer Kurt Fredenberg, P.E. to serve on the Programming Decision Committee which also serves as the Technical Advisory Group until such time as another tribal representative is identified.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington, on January 23 – 26, 2017, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary