

**Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC)**

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

To participate in the virtual meeting, click here:

<https://cadot.webex.com/cadot/j.php?MTID=mc8348ff1e3672d9a3ed7a623e9986202>

**A G E N D A**

Welcome/Introductions:	Erica Pinto, Chairwoman
Roll Call:	Caltrans Native American Liaison Branch (NALB)
Adopt Agenda:	Erica Pinto, Chairwoman
Caltrans Director Representatives:	Mike Keever, Chief Deputy Director; Velessata Kelley, Chief of Staff; Nailah Pope-Harden, Deputy Director, Equity & Tribal Affairs; Lonora Graves, Senior Tribal Advisor, Native American Liaison Branch

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Opening Prayer  | Lorenda Sanchez, NAAC   |
| 2. | Welcome, Member Introductions,<br>Minutes Review          | Chairwoman Pinto, NAAC  |
| 3. | NAAC Co-Chairs Report                                     | Chairwoman Pinto & Jacque<br>Hostler- Carmesin, NAAC                                  |
| 4. | California Department of Transportation Update            | Mike Keever, Caltrans   |
| 5. | Office of Equity & Tribal Affairs Update                  | Nailah Pope-Harden, Caltrans  |
| 6. | California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)<br>Update | Allison Joe, CalSTA   |
| 7. | California Transportation Commission (CTC)<br>Update      | Frances Dea-Sanchez, CTC  |
| 8. | Governor's Office of the Tribal Advisor Update            | Christina Snider-Ashtari,<br>Governor's Office, Loretta<br>Miranda, Governor's Office |
| 9. | Road User Charge Update                                   | Lauren Prehoda, Caltrans  |

- |     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 10. | Caltrans Federal Liasion Report Update   | Ryan Greenway, Caltrans,<br>Andrew Carhart, Caltrans   |
| 11. | Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating<br>Committee (TTPCC) Update                           | Jacque Hostler-Carmesin,<br>NAAC   |
| 12. | Apprenticeship Program Update  | Lorenda Sanchez, NAAC  |
| 13. | Active Transportation Resource Center - Tribal<br>Technical Assistance Effort for ATP Cycle 8    | Alexandra Doerr Westbrook,<br>Caltrans, Emma Mallonee,<br>Caltrans   |
| 14. | Cultural Studies Subcommittee Update   | Sarah Allred, Caltrans, Shasta<br>Gaughen, Pala Band of<br>Mission Indians, Buffy<br>McQuillen, Federated Indians<br>of the Graton Rancheria |
| 15. | Reconnecting Communities Update  | Adonia Lugo, Equity Research<br>Manager, UCLA  |
| 16. | Caltrans Planning Grant Update   | Kevin Mariant, Caltrans  |
| 17. | Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) Update   | Martha Armas-Kelly, EAC  |
| 18. | Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) UPDATE  | Chu D. Wei, BIA  |
| 19. | CHP Update   | Karie Mendoza, CHP Tribal<br>Affairs, Georgia Sherman,<br>CHP  |
| 20. | Caltrans Public Engagement System Update   | Emily Abrahams, Caltrans   |
| 21. | California Transportation Plan 2055 Update –<br>Tribal Outreach and Engagement Efforts<br>Update | Mike J. Jones, Caltrans  |
| 22. | Transit Policy Update  | Joshua Pulverman, Caltrans   |
| 23. | Mobility Hub and Design Operations Update  | Benjamin Rodriguez, Caltrans   |

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 24. | Western Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) Update | Carrie Brown, Western TTAP                       |
| 25. | Caltrans Tribal Affairs Update                            | Lonora Graves, Caltrans<br>David Price, Caltrans |
| 26. | Topics for the Next Meeting and Adjournment               | Chairwoman Pinto, NAAC                           |

**Remaining 2025 Quarterly NAAC Meeting Dates:**

Q2 NAAC - Wednesday, June 11, 2025  
Q3 NAAC - Wednesday, August 6, 2025  
Q4 NAAC - Wednesday, November 5, 2025

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / OPEN FORUM:**

**1. California Road Use Charge**

The state is working with a Technical Advisory Committee to study road charge as a potential replacement for the gas tax. Currently, the state's roadway network is funded primarily by fuel taxes. As Californians switch to more fuel-efficient vehicles, they are buying less gas and paying less gas tax. This means less funding to maintain the transportation system. A road use charge is an alternative funding mechanism that allows drivers to support road and highway maintenance based on how many miles they drive, instead of how many gallons of gas they use. Find out more at [www.caroadcharge.com](http://www.caroadcharge.com). Please visit this link for more information and to reference the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants Website.

**2. Grants Information**

FY2024 NAGPRA Repatriation Grants – Grant funds must be used for Repatriation under NAGPRA, which means the transfer of control of Native American human remains and/or cultural items to lineal descendants, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations. Repatriation includes disposition of culturally unidentifiable Native American human remains (CUI) according to 43 CFR § 10.11. Repatriation projects defray costs associated with the packaging, transportation, contamination removal, reburial, and/or storage of NAGPRA-related human remains and/or cultural items. NOFO [here](#). Current Closing Date for Applications: May 09, 2025.

**Emergency Response Grant:**

The Emergency Response Grant is made available to eligible tribes to respond to and provide relief for the immediate impacts of unexpected situations that

threaten the health and safety of tribal communities and require emergency action. Emergency Response Grant funds may be used to fund programs, procurement of supplies, and actions taken to respond to or provide relief for the immediate impacts of unexpected situations that threaten the health and safety of tribal communities and require emergency action, so long as those programs, supplies, and actions are not otherwise funded or provided by sources outside of the Tribal Nation Grant Fund.

Applications must have a Tribal Resolution indicating the intent to apply for the Emergency Response Grant, along with the name of the authorized contact. Applications must also have an Emergency Declaration uploaded that includes the date the emergency was declared.

Release Date: November 11, 2020

Close Date: Ongoing

Grant Amount: up to \$100,000

Who is Eligible: Non-Gaming Tribes and Limited-Gaming Tribes

### **Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program:**

On December 19, 2024, the Bureau issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for up to \$27 million in no-match grants on a first-come, first-served basis, with applications accepted beginning March 4, 2025, at 2 p.m. ET. Interested entities may access copies of the NOFO and application questions below to review and draft responses in advance. The application portal will close on April 3, 2025, at 4:59 p.m. Visit: Grants.gov: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/357673>

### **3. CalHR Tribal Consultation Training**

We highly recommend that everyone take this training - some folks are required to take it by law, but it is open to everyone. Here is how to register/sign up to take the course: Register for an account with **CalLearns**, search for the course: "Tribal Consultations Training" and add it to your cart. It's free to take but the system is set up like you're purchasing courses, "check-out" and then you'll be able to take the course.

### **4. Events**

National LTAP/TTAP Annual Conference Association – Annual Conference - July 20-25, 2025, Kansas City, MO

SAVE THE DATE – 28th National Transportation in Indian Country Conference (NTICC)

September 21-25, 2025, Chandler, AZ at Gila River Wild Horse Pass Resorts & Casino.

## 5. **Draft State Highway System Management Plan (SHSMP) - Comments**

The SHSMP presents a performance-driven and integrated management plan for the State Highway System (SHS) in California. SHS needs, investments, and resulting performance for the 10-year period are presented in the SHSMP. The SHSMP is organized to align with the California Department of Transportation Strategic Plan.

The SHSMP integrates the maintenance, rehabilitation, and operation of the SHS into a single management plan which implements a number of state and federal asset management requirements with new resources from California Senate Bill 1 (SB 1). The SHSMP operationalizes the California Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) by utilizing the CTC-adopted asset classes, performance measures, and performance targets as defined in California Senate Bill 486.

The draft 2025 SHSMP is available for download [here](#).

Comments for the draft 2025 SHSMP can be submitted [here](#). Comments will be accepted through March 31, 2025.

## 6. **Equity and Tribal Affairs Newsletter**

The Caltrans Director's Office of Equity & Tribal Affairs has launched a monthly newsletter in 2025! Each month will feature a member of the NAAC and highlight your background and work! By filling out [this short form](#), it will help in recording your NAAC member spotlight. If possible, we would appreciate receiving your profile by next Tuesday, March 18th, but the form will be ongoing.

## 7. **Useful Links**

[Calendars - California Interagency Council on Homelessness](#)

[Tribal Homekey+ | California Department of Housing and Community Development](#)

[California Interagency Council on Homelessness – Tribal Affairs](#)

[Resources for Tribal Libraries in California - California State Library](#)

[Emergency Preparedness](#)

[Indian Health Program](#)

[Tribal National Grant Fund as of November 5, 2024](#)