

Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC)

August 6, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

To participate in the virtual meeting, click here:

A G E N D A

<https://cadot.webex.com/cadot/j.php?MTID=ma4bb72323372971930346fb084a45b98>

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

AGENDA ITEMS:

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| 1. | Opening Prayer | Lorenda Sanchez, NAAC |
| 2. | Welcome, Member Introductions, Minutes Review | Chairwoman Pinto, NAAC |
| 3. | NAAC Co-Chairs Report | Chairwoman Pinto & Jacque Hostler- Carmesin, NAAC |
| 4. | California Department of Transportation Update | Nailah Pope-Harden, Caltrans |
| 5. | Office of Equity & Tribal Affairs Update | Nailah Pope-Harden, Caltrans |
| 6. | California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) Update | Allison Joe, CalSTA |
| 7. | California Transportation Commission (CTC) Update | Brigitte Driller, CTC |
| 8. | Governor's Office of Tribal Affairs | Christina Snider-Ashtari, Governor's Office, Loretta Miranda, Governor's Office |
| 9. | Road User Charge Update | Lauren Prehoda, Caltrans |
| 10. | Federal Liaison Report Update | Ryan Greenway, Caltrans |

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| 11. | Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating Committee (TTPCC) Update | Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, NAAC |
| 12. | California Transportation Plan 2055 Update – Tribal Outreach and Engagement Efforts Update | Mike J. Jones, Caltrans |
| 13. | Program Reviews & Outreach Branch Office of Guidance & Oversight Update | Daniel Burke, Caltrans |
| 14. | National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Plan Update | Jimmy O'Dea, Caltrans |
| 15. | Cultural Studies Subcommittee Update | David Price, Caltrans, Shasta Gaughen, Pala Band of Mission Indians, Buffy McQuillen, Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria |
| 16. | Active Transportation resource Center (ATRC) Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ATP Cycle 8 DAC & Tribal Technical Assistance• 4 Tribes Participating• Counts + Technical Assistance Workshop• Project website | Alexandra Doerr, Caltrans, Emma Mallonee, Caltrans |
| 17. | Caltrans Planning Grant Update | Kevin Mariant, Caltrans |
| 18. | Reconnecting Communities Update | Leila Ullmann, UCLA, Gabriella Lassos (Gabrieliño Tongva) of Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples |
| 19. | Caltrans Freight Mobility Plan Update | Kiranjit Parmar, Caltrans |
| 20. | California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) Update | Janiece Brown, CWBD |
| 21. | Western Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) Update | Carrie Brown, Western TTAP |
| 22. | Caltrans Tribal Affairs Update | Lonora Graves, Caltrans David Price, Caltrans |

23. Topics for the Next Meeting and Adjournment Chairwoman Pinto, NAAC

Remaining 2025 Quarterly NAAC Meeting Dates:

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. Please visit this link for more information and to reference the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants Website.

2. Grants Information

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

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 [CalLeans](#), 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

28th National Transportation in Indian Country Conference (NTICC) - September 21-25, 2025, Chandler, AZ at Gila River Wild Horse Pass Resorts & Casino. [National Tribal Transportation in Indian Country | National Transportation in Indian Country Conference](#)

The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference is hosted by The Center for Tribal Transportation and is planned and organized by a Planning Committee comprised of Tribal transportation professionals from Tribes and Tribal organizations across the U.S. The 2025 NTICC will be attended by [700+ Tribal](#) transportation professionals.

Federal partners from the following agencies: US DOT, FHWA, NHTSA, FTA, FRA, MARAD, FMCSA, BIA and organizations that are dedicated to furthering Tribal Transportation initiatives.

NTICC features learning sessions and conference tracks tailored to fit the transportation related professional development needs in Indian Country. Some of the 2025 NTICC tracks include:

- Planning (Right-of-Way/Environmental)
- Transit
- Government - TTP 101/Tribal Transportation Fundamentals
- Safety
- Technology
- Project Development
- Certifications
- Road Management & Maintenance

WEBINAR - Join Us August 28!

Quick-Builds in Indian Country: Advancing Road Safety through Community Engagement - [RSVP Here!](#)

This webinar will provide tribes and other communities with a step-by-step process for planning, designing, and implementing quick-build traffic calming projects to address the disproportionate impact of pedestrian fatalities in Indian Country.

In 2024, the Pueblo of Jemez, Cherokee Nation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, University of Montana, and America Walks were awarded a Road to Zero traffic safety grant to develop effective strategies for addressing the disproportionate impact of pedestrian fatalities in Indian Country. According to Smart Growth America's Dangerous by Design, Native people are more than three times as likely to be killed while walking, compared with the average American. The project focused on engaging the community on the issue of road safety and then installing temporary structures which redesign roadway geometry to slow vehicle speeds.

Project team members will discuss the details involved in designing and implementing these “hands-on” public events and present the evaluation results and lessons learned. Plans to establish a national coalition focused on preventing traffic deaths and injuries in Indian Country will also be announced.

5. 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.

6. 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](#)