

## **Draft Project Description – Caltrans Environmental Justice Planning Grant Due: January 11, 2007**

Kern COG will act a lead for the eight San Joaquin Valley Councils of Governments (COGs) to hire a consultant to develop a program and collaborative group that would represent the common interests of the Tribal Nations in Central California. The following action plan was developed over 4 meeting between May and December 2007 as a jumping-off point for the development of the collaboration.

Grant funding will be used to fund a consultant to serve as secretariat for a this collaboration and to fund travel and food expenses for the tribal nations attending the meetings.

If you have any additions or changes to the following Action Plan, please contact Rob Ball immediately at 661-861-2191 or [rball@kerncog.org](mailto:rball@kerncog.org).

### **Draft Native American Action Plan Issues/Objectives**

- Regional Approach to Native American involvement
  - Historic tribal boundaries do not stop at county lines
  - Inter-tribal cooperation/organization needed
  - Coordinate with the SJV Partnership Strategic Action Plan
  - Coordinate with all 8-COG Blueprint Efforts
  - [Formalize involvement – MOU \(Government to Government\)](#)
  
- Environmental Justice
  - Housing Issues
    - Affordability in home communities – being priced out
    - Substandard
  - Job opportunities/Economic Development
  - [ICWA – Indian Child Welfare Act – federal law does not include non-federally recognized tribes. However, state interpretation includes all Tribal people. Need to educate county social programs and law enforcement](#)
  - [Tribal Trust Lands – Allotments need to be included in FEMA or Homeland security funding for fire protection, local law enforcement jurisdiction training/awareness, and protection of land from illegal dumping and usage of land \(i.e., planting illegal crops or meth labs\)](#)
  - [Waste Management Programs – county or state, need to include Tribal Allotment lands in their programs.](#)
  - [Water and Utilities need to be accessible to rural Tribal areas \(reservations, rancherias, and tribal allotments\).](#)
  
- Cultural Preservation
  - Native American Monitoring

- Defined and Uniform implementation of Early Consultation for CEQA/NEPA
  - Exemptions from CEQA and ministerial permitting circumventing early consultation
  - Training coordination with archeological information centers
  - Monitoring for urban infill developments – Existing cities develop on historic settlement locations
  - Consistent Compensation for Research, Review and Onsite Monitoring
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- Cultural sensitivity in naming locations
  - Land Reclamation
  - Leveraging other environmental resources to increase protection of culturally sensitive areas
  - Identify Cultural Conservation Easements
  - Protect Cultural Site Location Data
  - Tribes need to identify Tribal Members who have taken SB18, NAGRPA and other required monitor training (name, tribe, location, type of training, date of training).
  - Consideration of paying Tribal Monitors for on-site evaluation and review should be considered under the blue-print planning (need gas, research time, and resources to assist County with identification of Cultural significant resources).

## **Additional Issues Raised on Survey Forms From Meetings 1 & 2**

- Sustainability – Energy, land use
- Communications with tribes during all phases of development should be compensated to sustain/maintain program monitoring
- Create Training program w/tribes
- Delete exemption to 1 acre sites for ministerial permits/ re: grading, storm-water permits
- Focus on Federal Recognition for Non-Federally Recognized Tribal Groups
- Help our Youth and Elders
- Improve Water, Housing, Roads, Health, Access to electricity, telephone, employment
- Need Cultural Centers
- Need Food, Water, Shelter, for all tribal members
- [Members living above CA poverty level \(Did you mean “Below” poverty level?\)](#)
- Young Tribal Adults Understanding the importance of Government to Government relationships
- Funding & Access
- Tribal Consultation Meetings Need
  - Process: Development of Agenda, review prior to meeting/notes
  - Focus: Tangible – Strategies to tactical – Timelines, Master Calendar of meetings
  - Action Items: For each meeting

## **Environmental Resource Mapping Layer Rankings from Meeting II** (Coming Soon)

### [Helpful Resource Guide for Tribes](#)

[How do non-federally recognized Tribes protect existing tribal/family cemeteries?](#)

[What specific Cultural Monitoring Training are required by Tribal members to assist the County, local governments, and private land owners with cultural monitor of significant sites?](#)

[Native American Kern Area – Resource Guide \(listing out Native American Organizations, Federal/State/Local government – Tribal resources, and other Tribal services access\), and Tribal Contact Listing for KCOG.](#)

[Tubatulabals would like to have available County Resources to assist with FY-2008/2009 state funding opportunity for State Housing Development – Community Development Block grant. County would receive 7.5% indirect costs](#)

of potentially \$600,000 grant for public services, public works, community services, housing acquisition, and housing improvements. Web link to this grant site:

[http://www.hcd.ca.gov/fa/cdbg/funds/gna/2006\\_Native\\_American\\_NOFA.pdf](http://www.hcd.ca.gov/fa/cdbg/funds/gna/2006_Native_American_NOFA.pdf)