

It All Starts With Planning:

Why Your Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Matters

Miles Brookes, Tribal Coordinator
FHWA - Office of Tribal Transportation

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U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Where did the Project
come from?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- The purpose of a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- How the LRTP relates to the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory (NTTFI), Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP), and other plans
- To understand why a current/updated LRTP is important for your transportation program
- The process for updating a current or drafting a new LRTP

The Purpose of a LRTP

“...is to clearly demonstrate a Tribe's transportation needs and to develop strategies to meet these needs.”

- 25 CFR 170.409(a)

So, what does this mean?

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Demonstrating transportation needs:

- Setting goals and objectives for you transportation network
- Reviewing your current network
- Analysis of network gaps; comparing existing conditions against goals and objectives
- Setting priorities to fill the gaps

Setting goals and objectives for your network

Tribe considers overall goals for its transportation (all modes; surface, air, marine) network;

- How should the network be designed?
 - How should the network be built?
 - How should the network be operated?
 - How should the network be maintained?
- Goals and objectives are developed in a consultative manner; public involvement.

Where does the Tribe want to be in 20 years?

Reviewing your current network

- Tribe looks at its transportation (all modes; surface, air, marine) network as it exists;
 - What does the current network consist of?
 - How is the network used?
 - What is the condition of the network?
 - How is the network designed?
- Various resources available for reviewing current network; public involvement can supplement limited data

Where is the Tribe currently?

Analysis of network gaps

- Tribe compares its current network to its network goals and objectives: results in needs
 - What does the public (involvement) perceive the needs to be?
 - What are the various alternatives to eliminating the gaps?
 - What happens if the gaps/needs are not filled?
- Gaps begin to shape transportation program

What does the Tribe need to meet its network goals ?

Setting priorities to fill the gaps

- Tribe establishes which priorities take precedent:
 - What approach should the tribe take to prioritize projects?
 - What priorities should be addressed before others?
 - How do the Tribe's prioritization criteria meet the goals and needs of the plan?
- Public involvement contributes to criteria development.

How to prioritize one project over another?

Recap -

Demonstrating transportation needs:

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Developing Strategies:

- Establish a funding strategy
- Link needs gap and funding strategy
- Develop a program (TTIP) to carry out the plan
- Implement and monitor the plan

Establish a funding strategy:

- Create a funding plan not a “wish list”:
 - What is the Tribe’s financing capabilities?
 - How much money can the Tribe expect to receive for needs?
 - What funding opportunities exist to address needs?
- Public involvement and Tribal laws and policies play a role

How does the Tribe pay to build and operate the network?

Link needs gap and funding strategy:

- Begin to link project types with funding source eligibility:
 - What funding sources are available to fund specific projects?
 - Who is responsible for securing project funding?
 - Is the funding source predictable or short lived?
- Some projects or programs may be eligible for multiple funding sources

Connecting funding sources and projects

Develop a program (TTIP) to carry out plan:

The Tribe's transportation program is an ongoing initiative comprised of a **group of projects** or organized set of activities (**including other programs**):

- What programs are ongoing to meet needs?
- What projects can be delivered to meet needs?
- What is the schedule for the projects and programs?
- TTIP is developed from and consistent with LRTP

What is the Tribe ready to deliver?

Implement and monitor the plan:

- Tribe keeps the plan alive by reviewing annually and updating every 5 years:
 - Is there new information about the network to consider?
 - Have new gaps been identified?
 - Has the Tribe's prioritization process changed?
 - Is the program meeting the goals of objectives?
- Ongoing monitoring keeps LRTP on track

Are the Tribe's efforts (LRTP, TTIP, etc.) reducing or eliminating gaps?

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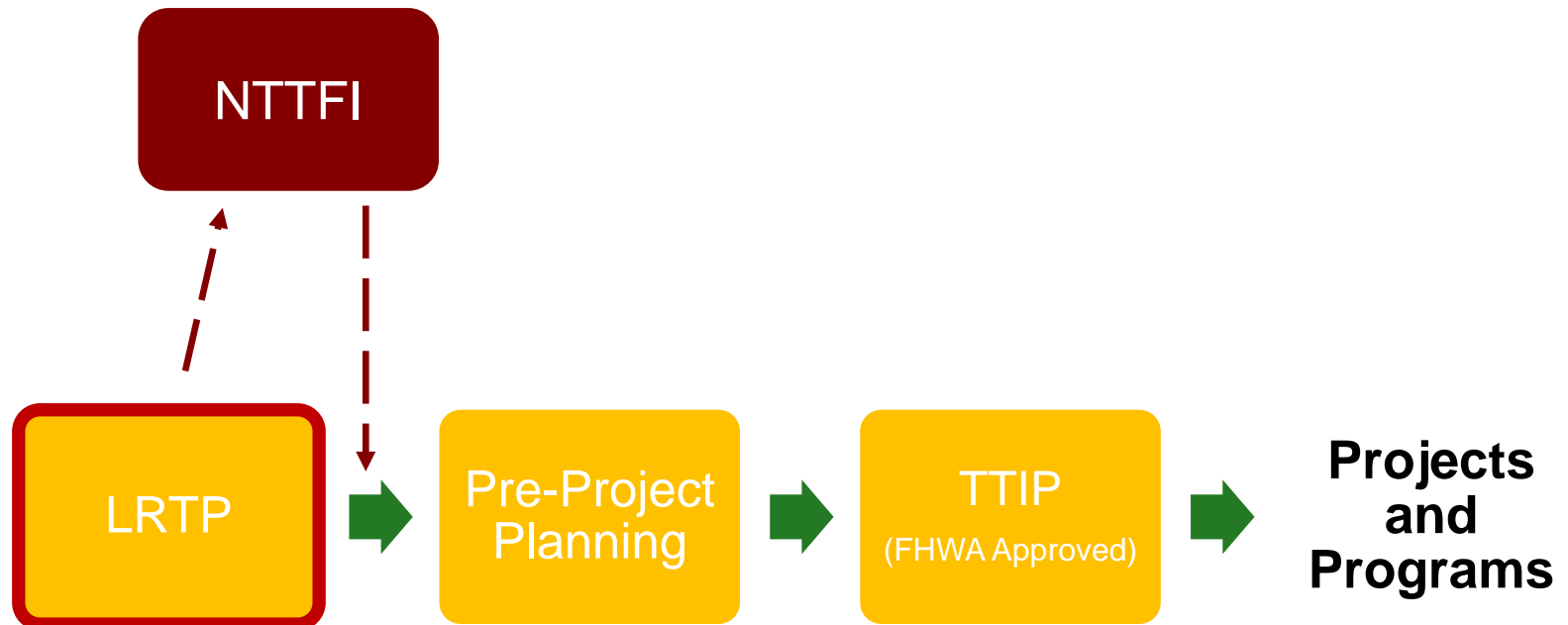
Remember the LRTP's
purpose...

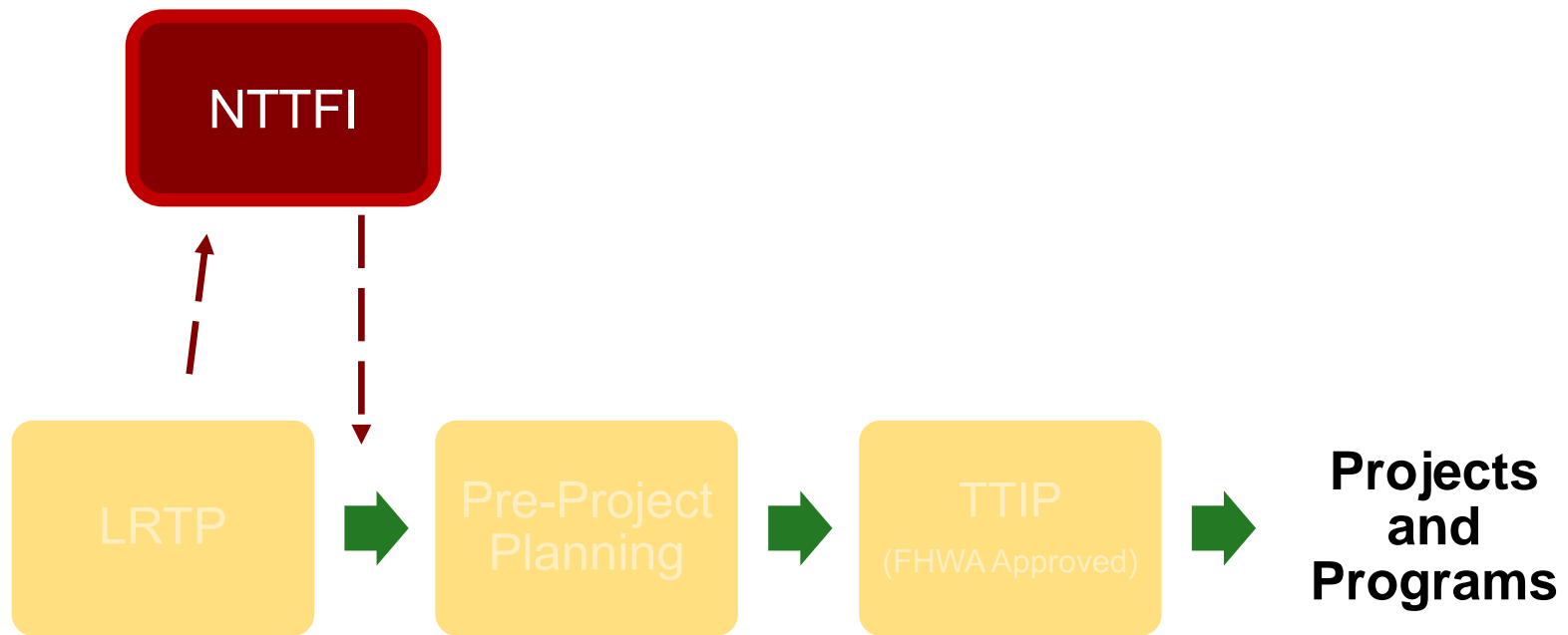
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L RTP's Relationship to the NTTFI, TTIP, & Other Plans

“...uses its TTP long-range transportation plan to develop transportation projects as documented in a Tribal priority list or TTIP and to identify and justify the Tribe's updates to the NTTFI.”

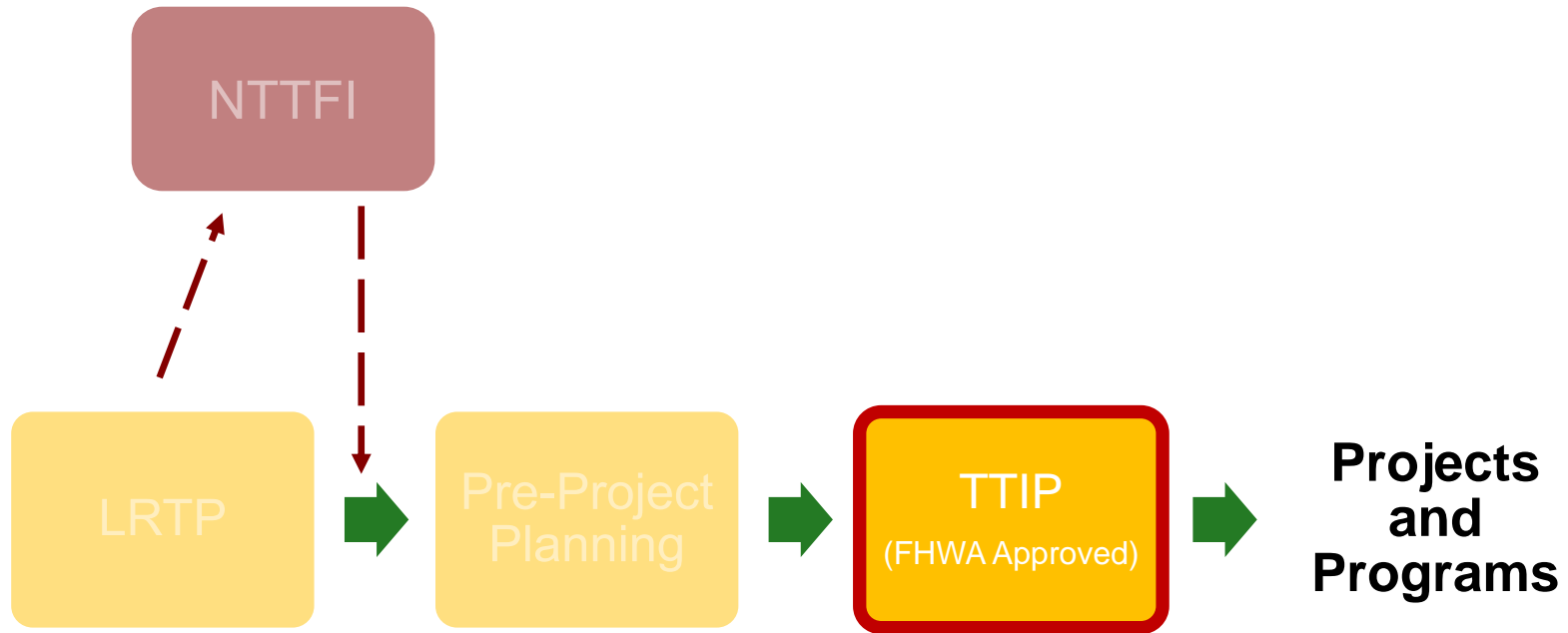
- 25 CFR 170.414





The NTTFI is:

- at a minimum, transportation facilities that are eligible for assistance under the Tribal Transportation Program 25 CFR 170.5
- can be used by Tribes to assist in transportation and project planning...identify transportation needs..." (25 CFR 170.442(b))
- Adding a facility is supported by L RTP documentation 25 CFR 170.446



The TTIP::

- Identifies all TTP funded projects and activities that the Tribe is expected to be carried out over a four-year period
- Is consistent with the Tribe's L RTP
- Is reviewed and updated by the Tribe as needed

Not included as a project or program in TTIP; cannot spend TTP funds on the activity.

L RTP link to other plans:

- L RTPs can be coordinated with Tribal cultural and economic plans (25 CFR 170.411 (c))
- Coordinating with States and their political subdivisions and appropriate planning authorities on regionally significant TTP projects (25 CFR 170.401 (d) and 402 (b)(1));
- AK DOT&PF L RTP: “we will cooperate with federal and tribal partners in the programming of projects developed through tribal L RTPs...” (pg. 25 Let's Keep Alaska Moving 2036)
- Alaska Federal Lands Collaborative L RTP, 2020-2040: Tribal efforts may overlap (pg. 101)

Importance of Keeping LRTP Current

Keeping LRTP current matters because:

- TTIPs must be consistent with the LRTP;
- Many BIL grant/priority opportunities require applicants/recipients to meet FHWA planning requirements
- Changes in network goals and conditions can affect gaps and priorities and thus the strategies

TTIPs must be consistent with LRTPs:

- The TTIP:
 - Must identify (year by year) all TTP funded projects and activities;
 - Must identify all projects and activities that are carried out by the Tribe in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 202(a)(9)
 - Must include public involvement
- Updated (current) LRTPs provide the context from which the Tribe develops its TTIP

Many BIL grant/priority opportunities require applicants/recipients to meet planning requirements:

- Planning requirements including LRTP and TTIP are included in BIL opportunities:
 - HPP: TTIP update required including awarded project
 - RAISE: obligation occurs when...satisfied administrative requirements such as planning
 - NSFLTP: applicable laws, rules, and regulations of FHWA will apply...including planning
- Other opportunities may require Tribe to follow planning requirements

Changes in network goals and conditions can affect gaps and priorities:

- Changes can include:
 - Gap elimination as projects are delivered;
 - Changes in goals and objectives
 - Influx of funding
 - Social and political changes
- As your network changes, the Tribe's goals and objectives will change, the LRTP should evolve to reflect such

Updating or Writing a New LRTP

- The LRTP is developed by:
 - “The **Tribe** working through a self-determination contract, self-governance agreement, Program Agreement; and other appropriate agreement; or”
 - “BIA or FHWA upon request of, and in consultation with, a **Tribe** ...agree[ment] on the methodology and elements...will be funded from the Tribe's share of the TTP funds.”
- The **Tribe** and BIA or FHWA conduct a joint midpoint review
- Public reviews draft LRTP; the **Tribe** refines the plan with received public input

- Public involvement is required
- Public involvement begins the moment LRTP development begins
- Public involvement should include range of users; private citizens and major public and private entities
- Public involvement must include either meetings or notices, or both
- Policies for public involvement:
 - **Tribe may use its established policies**; or
 - The process outlined at 25 CFR 170.413 (a) (b)

- Review LRTP annually
- Update LRTP every 5 years
- Ideas for LRTP reviews and updates
 - If needed create a Tribal policy or procedure (practice) to review and update the LRTP
 - If possible, assign initial review to a Tribal employee
 - Coordinate TTIP update with a LRTP review
 - Annual Tribal transportation meetings
- Don't let LRTP collect dust...

- LRTP's purpose is to “demonstrate needs and identifies strategies to meet those needs”
- LRTPs guide your inventory and transportation program through other plans
- Current LRTP can ensure needs and strategies align with current opportunities
- Updating LRTP is a tribally driven process with minimal regulatory requirements

Where did the Project
come from?

FHWA Tribal Transportation

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal>

Program Delivery Guide for Tribes with FHWA PA for TTP :

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/guide/tribal-transportation-program-delivery-guide>

FHWA Tribal Transportation Planning Modules

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/processes/tribal/planning_modules/

Office of Tribal Transportation – Finance

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/finance>

Your FHWA Tribal Coordinator or BIA POC

QUESTIONS

- Miles Brookes
miles.brookes@dot.gov
2901 E. Bogard Rd, Suite 103
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
(907) 419-3070 (receives texts)