

State of Arizona Tribal Liaison Group
Economic Development & Infrastructure Team
FACT SHEET

Background

Executive Order 2006-14: *Consultation and Cooperation with Arizona Tribes* was signed by Governor Janet Napolitano during the 12th Governor and Tribal Leader Summit held on September 14, 2006. The order requires all executive agencies to implement a tribal consultation policy and identify staff to assume implementation responsibility.

The Tribal Liaisons are organized into four unofficial bodies to efficiently identify and solve issues, which are: Health Services, Public Safety, Natural Resources, Economic Development and Infrastructure.

Purpose

The Economic Development & Infrastructure Team (EDIT) strives to progressively influence and advance state-to-tribal government relationships through shared information/networking and coordinated collaboration among group participants and other groups/agencies.

Within EDIT, there are eight Tribal Consultation Policies in place and eleven designated tribal liaisons. Four of those work full-time on Tribal issues related to economic development and infrastructure.

Guiding Principles

- Encourage a spirit of cooperation to guide the continuing government-to-government relationship between the State of Arizona and Tribes that call Arizona home;
- Ensure meaningful and timely consultation with Arizona Tribal Leaders to facilitate better understanding and informed decision making;
- Advocate for cultural diversity education and training;
- Provide support for excellence in customer service;
- Promote and support access to economic, infrastructure and regulatory resources
- Support the recruitment of qualified Native American professionals for State Employment opportunities
- Establish a spirit of cooperation and collaboration among State Agency Tribal Liaison's in order to share ideas, address needs and effectively implement the mandates outlined in EO 2006-14
- Ensure that state services and resources are available to all eligible state citizens residing in Arizona tribal communities to the same extent that such services are available to all other eligible state citizens.

Composition

EDIT members are selected based on agency mission and focus on workforce, economic, and/or community development. EDIT members and resources include:

- Arizona Department of Commerce
 - Economic, Workforce and Community Development

- Education outreach and Technical Assistance regarding renewable energy and efficiency
- Governor's Office of Equal Opportunity
 - Equal Employment Opportunity counseling
 - Facilitative mediation services for state employees
 - Recruitment to state service through job openings, boards and commission vacancies and state contracting opportunities
 - Regular public newsletters regarding jobs, scholarships, funding/grants, tax credits, financial education, small business, diverse community events and youth outreach
- Government Information Technology Agency
- Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
- Arizona Department of Housing
 - Technical Assistance for the planning, coordination, development, and funding of affordable housing through Tribal Set Aside
 - Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, Permanent and Transitional Rental Housing, including Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) gap financing, Homeownership New Development, and Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation and Emergency Repair
- Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records
- Arizona State Registrar of Contractors
 - Small Business Advocate training to assist in the contractor licensing process
 - Investigate and process complaints against licensed contractors
- Arizona Office of Tourism
 - Grant programs that enhance tourism promotion and development
 - Conduct topic-specific educational workshops
 - Provide tourism research information on-line
 - Create a positive brand image for Arizona through a comprehensive marketing program
- Arizona Department of Transportation
 - To ensure safe, efficient and cost-effective transportation of people and products throughout Arizona

The EDIT meets regularly throughout the calendar year meeting at host agencies.

Meeting Information: Contact the Kristine Thomas, EDIT Chair (602) 542-4421 or email kthomas@az.gov