Background

The Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) is an important resource in a Tribe’s overall infrastructure investment strategy. The TTP provides funding to address the transportation needs of the 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages (Tribes). Tribes use TTP funds for construction, road and bridge maintenance, and other transportation related activities.

The Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Office of Federal Lands Highway and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Division of Transportation jointly administer the program in accordance with a memorandum of understanding. Tribes directly receive all TTP funding except for a 5-percent statutory set-aside which the BIA and FHWA use for program management and oversight (PM&O). The TTP funding that Tribes received in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 includes:

- the Tribal shares;
- the 2-percent Planning funds; and
- any TTP Bridge Program funds.

Program Management and Oversight

The PM&O funds are used to carry out stewardship and oversight of the TTP as well as other TTP activities that are deemed as inherently Federal in accordance with the appendix to Subpart E of 25 CFR Part 170. In FY 2019, $22,299,750 was made available to FHWA and BIA to carry out PM&O activities through the 5-percent statutory set-aside. These funds were used for:

- payroll and travel of the FHWA and BIA TTP staff;
- office space and supplies;
- Information Technology support and equipment;
- maintenance of the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory; and
- other special TTP-specific and required studies, technical assistance and activities such as:

  - Tribal Technical Assistance Program;
  - carrying out Tribal program reviews;
  - outreach on Tribal government recreation travel and tourism activities; and
  - conducting bridge inspections on the Tribal and BIA bridges across the country.
Program Funding

2019 Funding Levels

The FAST Act authorized the TTP in FY 2019 at a funded level of $495 million. After the application of a 9.9-percent obligation limitation, $445,995,000 remained for program activities. Of this amount, $8,919,900 was designated for each of the planning and safety set asides, $13,379,850 was designated for the Bridge Program and $22,299,750 went toward PM&O funds. The net result was $392,475,600 of FY 2019 TTP funding made available to the Tribes as formula Tribal shares. Additional background information about the TTP is provided as Attachment A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAST Act Funds Available for Programs</th>
<th>$445,995,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019 Tribal Shares</td>
<td>$392,475,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Management &amp; Oversight</td>
<td>$22,299,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge Program</td>
<td>$13,379,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Set Aside</td>
<td>$8,919,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Set Aside</td>
<td>$8,919,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further review of the data contained in the three-chapter reports show that in FY 2019 the Tribes expended funds on more than 691 design or construction projects with a total estimated cost of approximately $1.9 billion. In addition, the reports show that in FY 2019, the Tribes leveraged and expended an additional $110 million in non-TTP funds on those projects as well.
Data

Collection

DATA REQUIREMENTS

The FAST Act included language in 23 U.S.C. 201(c)(6)(C) that called for the collection of data on the obligation and expenditure of TTP funds. Specifically, the language states:

**Tribal Data Collection**

In addition to the data to be collected under subparagraph (A), not later than 90 days after the last day of each fiscal year, any entity carrying out a project under the tribal transportation program under section 202 shall submit to the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior, based on obligations and expenditures under the tribal transportation program during the preceding fiscal year, the following data:

(i) The names of projects and activities carried out by the entity under the tribal transportation program during the preceding fiscal year.

(ii) A description of the projects and activities identified under clause (i).

(iii) The current status of the projects and activities identified under clause (i).

(iv) An estimate of the number of jobs created and the number of jobs retained by the projects and activities identified under clause (i).

This Summary Data Report contains the data collected for FY 2019.

Reducing the Reporting Burden on Tribes

In order to meet FAST Act reporting requirements, FHWA and BIA worked closely with several Tribes to develop the TTP Online Reporting Tool (PORT) for gathering the required data. The PORT uses the MAX Survey platform on MAX.gov. The PORT is prepopulated with existing data to minimize the data entry work required of the Tribes. The Joint Agency Report System (JARS) is a Microsoft Access database used to collate and present the data collected in PORT with automated reports. The PORT data is broken into Construction Projects and Non-Construction Activities.

Over 98 percent of the Tribes that received TTP funds during FY 2019 entered data into the PORT System. The BIA and FHWA provided data on the receipt and use of the PM&O funds.
Fiscal Year 2019 Reports

Several reports were generated from the collected data and are available for review in the attachments or on the TTP Website. Highlights are summarized below. The reports included as attachments to this report as well as the report itself are posted on the FHWA TTP Website at https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-tribal/annual-report.

Chapter 1: National Financial Summary Report

The National Financial Summary Report shows the overall amount of TTP funding made available to and expended by each reporting Tribe in FY 2019, as well as the number of jobs created and the number of jobs retained through the projects and activities that were carried out.

The Chapter 1 Report shows that in FY 2019, $350,915,146 in TTP funding was made available to the Tribes that entered data into the PORT. The report also shows that these same Tribes expended $295,340,788 of TTP funds in FY 2019. The total funds available, $373,214,896, are the amounts reported by tribes, BIA and FHWA. The amount differs from the amount of TTP funds made available in FY 2019, $445,995,000, because amounts reported by tribes may also include funds awarded from previous fiscal years or from other fund sources.

In addition, the report shows that the TTP funded projects and activities in FY 2019 accounted for 1,456 permanent (retained) jobs as well as 4,278 other non-permanent (created) jobs.

In many cases the difference between the funds made available and expended may be that the Tribes are saving up or carrying over their funding to undertake a future project that requires the use of several years of Tribal shares. Or, the BIA or FHWA have obligated funds on a contract but the work has not yet been started or completed.

The Chapter 1 Report is included in this report as Attachment B.

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1 Reports reflect only amounts submitted to PORT by Tribes, so differ from total amounts authorized to the program. Set asides and bridge program funds are included in reported amount.
Chapter 2: Non-Construction Activities

This report contains overview information on all TTP-funded non-construction activities that were carried out by the reporting Tribes in FY 2019. The chart to the right summarizes the amounts expended in each non-construction category.

The Chapter 2 Report is included in this report as Attachment C. The jobs associated with these activities are included in the overall information contained in the Chapter 1 Report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Construction Spending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 3: Design and Construction Projects Report

This report contains overview information on all the TTP-funded design and construction projects and activities that were carried out by the reporting Tribes in FY 2019. The Construction Projects include all construction-related projects and activities, including projects funded through safety and bridge set-aside funding. The information provided in the report includes:

- Federal Project Number;
- Project Name;
- Percent (%) complete;
- Project Description;
- Progress Reported by Tribe;
- Estimated Project Cost; and
- TTP Funds Expended this FY.

The report lists the Tribes in alphabetical order. The Chapter 3 Report is included in this report as Attachment D.

Additional information/data on the specific bridge projects and safety projects contained in the Chapter 3 Report are included in this report as Attachment E and Attachment F.

The funding and jobs associated with these design and construction activities are included in the information contained in the Chapter 1 Report.