

# A5: Tourism Planning - Transportation

LeRoy Gishi, Chief, Division of Transportation,  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
AITC - 2017, Green Bay, WI  
September 12, 2017

# Impacts of Surface Transportation

- ▶ Transportation has been an integral part of the tourism industry;
- ▶ Transportation links tourists with various tourist attractions.
- ▶ There is a general agreement that tourism expands more when there are better transportation systems.
- ▶ One of the things mentioned as the reason for under performance is poor transportation systems.
- ▶ Transportation needs for tourism promotion and tourism development among others, to be maintenance of the existing roads, construction of more roads/rail track/sea and air transportation, and construction of local airports and enhancement of local flight operations.

# GAO: Funding the Nation's Surface

## Transportation System (This information appears as published in the 2017 High Risk Report.)

- ▶ The nation's surface transportation system—including highways, transit, maritime ports, and rail systems that move both people and freight—is critical to the economy and affects the daily lives of most Americans. However, the system is under growing strain, and the cost to repair and upgrade the system to meet current and future demands is estimated in the hundreds of billions of dollars. The oldest portions of the Interstate Highway System are approaching 60 years of age, and 10 percent of the nation's bridges were rated as structurally deficient in 2015. While this percentage of bridges rated as structurally deficient improved from 13 percent in 2006, bridge conditions may become more challenging to address as a growing proportion approach the end of their 50-year design life.

# Tribal Transportation Facilities

- ▶ Programs: Tribal Transportation Program, 23 USC 202; Road Maintenance Program, 25 USC 318a
  - ▶ Funding: TTP: \$475 M (in FY2017); and RMP: \$30.3 M (FY2017)
  - ▶ Miles of roads (total): ~150,000 miles of existing public roads
  - ▶ No. of Bridges: ~4,000 (varies), 915 BIA and Tribal Bridges
- 

# Performance Data

- ▶ For BIA Facilities (29,000 miles and 900 bridges)
  - % of roads in acceptable condition: 14%
  - % of bridges in acceptable condition: 65%
    - Structurally Deficient: ~20%
- ▶ Percentage of roads that are not paved: ~75%

# Transportation Planning

- ▶ 25 CFR Part 170.400 and 410, the purpose of transportation planning is to "clearly demonstrate a tribe's transportation needs and to fulfill tribal goals by developing strategies to meet transportation needs. These strategies address current and future land use, economic development, traffic demand, public safety, health, and social needs."
- ▶ **The long-range transportation plan development process allows for the inventory and analysis of infrastructure often in collaboration with State, Regional Planning Organizations, Cities, Counties, and other stakeholders to identify projects to improve multi-modal transportation options locally and regionally.**
- ▶ As referenced in 170.414, developing a long-range transportation plan is crucial in the formulation of a comprehensive **tribal priority list or Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP)** as a planning tool to program and deliver projects to meet the identified needs.

# The Planning Process

- ▶ Must include all aspects of tribal needs:
  - Health
  - Education
  - Economic Development
  - Tourism
  - Housing
  - Emergency / Disaster Planning
  - Others