

Washington Tribal Transportation Planning Organization Survey

(Survey conducted January 2010)

Q1. I work for a:		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Tribe	74.2%	23
Public agency	16.1%	5
Private company	6.5%	2
Non-profit	3.2%	1
Other (please specify)		2
<i>answered question</i>		31
<i>skipped question</i>		2

Q2. TTPO meetings are held 4 times a year, how many times do you attend?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Once a year	12.5%	4
2 times	25.0%	8
3 times	25.0%	8
4 times	28.1%	9
0	9.4%	3
<i>answered question</i>		32

Q3. TTPO meeting content is most useful to me when:

Answer Options	My First Choice	My Second Choice	My Third Choice	My 4th Choice	My 5th Choice	Rating Average	Response Count
I learn something new	12	6	9	2	1	2.13	30
Content is delivered by a prominent speaker	1	2	2	9	15	4.21	29
Topics are about grants and money	6	8	9	4	4	2.74	31
Topics are about specific programs or issues	12	10	3	5	0	2.03	30
Topics are about larger regional or national issues	1	4	6	9	9	3.72	29
<i>answered question</i>							32
<i>skipped question</i>							1

Q4. Do you prefer that the TTPO rotate to different meeting sites?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	90.6%	29
No	9.4%	3
Comments?		12
answered question		32
skipped question		1

Comments?

1. most cost effective for all to attend.
2. Once again this is becoming a "wetside" organization. Having to fly to SEATAC is bad enough. Having to go into the city is even worse, although the new light rail might help. Important to Focus on WS/Tribal issues and see on sight what others are facing.
3. not necessarily tribally owned, but accessible to tribes.
4. I like supporting tribal enterprises by going to different tribal organizations. Makes sense to use BIA funding to support other tribes.
5. 1-2 of the meetings could rotate among tribal locations/conferences but the others should be at PSRC. ALL meetings need to be accessible by phone
6. tribal facilities anywhere on the sound for west side and in Spokane (Kalispel center) offering free parking
7. Meetings should be at tribes so that a portion of the meeting can be dedicated to seeing how that specific tribe is running their transportation program. The meetings also need to stay tribally focused. Holding meetings at state facilities takes away from the tribal focus.
8. My main concern: attracting as many attendees as possible, whether that is at a central location (downtown Seattle) or at a tribal facility is immaterial.
9. Tribal sites
10. It's easier to plan to attend when the location is consistent.
11. As a Tribal Organization, it is critical to meet in Indian Country to illustrate the difficulties of the IRR and the process to get roads built / maintained.
12. It really doesn't matter as long as it's not always in Seattle or beyond

Q5. When you couldn't attend a TTPO meeting, what was the main reason?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Cost to Travel	3.6%	1
Schedule conflicts	60.7%	17
Travel restrictions (weather-related, etc.)	3.6%	1
My Tribe, company, or agency, had other priorities for me	25.0%	7
Not interested in the agenda	7.1%	2
Other (please specify)		9
answered question		28
skipped question		5

Other (please specify)

1. If the issues on the agenda aren't pertinent, i will not be cleared for travel. Transportation is a second duty to my job so i need it to be relevant and informative.
2. not applicable
3. Hired for position within last 6 months
4. 2 of us here alternate to meetings, so one is usually in attendance
5. The agenda has to include some topic relevant to my tribe. My schedule is too busy to waste. Why not survey the tribes annually for agenda/topic ideas?
6. Not an option (I don't believe I've missed any).
7. all of the above at different times
8. Live project deadlines conflicted with last two meetings, both of which I'd planned to attend.
9. If it's Seattle or beyond it requires me to take 1.5-2 days from my schedule which makes justifying the time a lot harder

Q6. If a site were available to participate in a televised, or video conference meeting, how far would you travel to attend a video conferenced TTPO meeting?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I'd travel 1 - 2 hours away	90.0%	27
I'd travel 2 - 4 hours away	3.3%	1
I'd travel 3 + hours away	6.7%	2
	<i>answered question</i>	30
	<i>skipped question</i>	3

Q7. If the TTPO offered electronic meeting attendance capability, what is your preference?

Answer Options	My 1st Choice	My 2nd Choice	My 3rd Choice	My 4th Choice	My 5th Choice	Rating Average	Response Count
Live Video Feed on the Internet	4	8	6	5	5	2.96	28
Call-In telephone conference	1	6	2	6	11	3.77	26
Live Video Conference set up in a meeting room close by	1	9	7	5	4	3.08	26
GoTo Meeting with call-in capability	0	4	10	9	4	3.48	27
I prefer to attend in person	27	1	2	1	2	1.48	33
Other (please specify)							5
answered question							33
skipped question							0

Other (please specify)

1. GoTo meeting is just an example there are similar and better systems. The idea is ability to view documents/presentations on the internet and listen on phone. Response can be voice, controlled by host or e-mailed through meeting room on internet. Live Video Feed works OK too if there are not large audiences and if all works well. Having phone and internet is preferred, cause you can also just continue on the phone like a teleconference if the internet fails. FHWA has a Seminar Room which can be scheduled similar to GoToMeeting which is used for webconferencing, committee meetings, training, etc.
2. personal involvement in the group creates a stronger collective voice.
3. Go to meeting with call-in capacity ONLY if within 1-2 hours of my office. This would be a compromise in that you could meet with others and not need to travel great distances to a regular meeting.
4. our internet connection isn't always the fastest so its not the best option. webinars done with call in and powerpoint work well; but we'd need to improve the groups' focus to actually get work done.
5. Live video on the internet would be a great way to include tribes not able to travel. I really like this idea!!

Q8. Who do you think should be voting members of the TTPO?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Tribal Transportation Planners	62.1%	18
Transportation professionals (including consultants)	0.0%	0
Tribal, federal, state, and local government employees	24.1%	7
If the TTPO had annual membership dues, anyone who pays annual dues	13.8%	4
Other (please specify)		12
answered question		29
skipped question		4

Other (please specify)

1. It would be nice if all decisions could be by consensus, however, if it is going to be a Tribal Organization than the choices above should include "member tribe designated representative". I picked the closest choice. Bylaws should be clearer on membership and voting privileges. As an example Ex-officio members may or may not have voting privileges.
2. That Tribal needs are served should always be the core value, this should guide whoever votes.
3. One representative per Tribe
4. a little flexible on this position. as long as the goals, heart, and objectives of the organization work for tribes and don't become too 'white' then i don't care who can vote.
5. The designated tribal rep.
6. I thought we had settled this question - ?? There should be an official membership (with or without dues) that includes "participating" Tribes (WA), one vote per participating Tribe, others can be non-voting ex-officio members (e.g., state, federal, consultant -- this is the TRIBAL TPO)
7. My 2nd choice: all dues-paying members
8. WSDOT should not have voting rights nor consultants.
9. Each tribe should have one voting member chosen by the tribe. Voting members should be elected with a professional alternative, hopefully planners or engineers from the tribe.
10. depends on what they are voting about coul db e all of the above or even only elected officials /board members
11. Consultants are valued colleagues and good resources at meetings, but voting should be limited to TTP's.
12. One planner per Tribe

Q9. What support do you receive from your Tribe, company, or agency, to attend TTPO meetings? Check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Financial (Travel and Per Diem)	87.9%	29
Political (to help me advance my tribe/company/agency's Tribal Transportation & Transit issues)	63.6%	21
I attend on my own, my employer doesn't provide financial support	6.1%	2
Other (please specify)		5
answered question		33
skipped question		0

Other (please specify)

1. I am a member and support TTPO as a professional with experience and technical information. I do not promote one option over another but rather try to support an open and well informed decision making process.
2. only if approved by supervisor
3. funding support from BIA 638 funds
4. I can only attend if the location is within a relatively short driving distance because my tribe will not pay for hotel stays.
5. depends on topic location time of year etc

10. Who would you like to see function as the person handling the TTPO budget?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
A Tribe	9.7%	3
The TTPO Officers	74.2%	23
A professional accounting firm	16.1%	5
Other (please specify)		8
<i>answered question</i>		31
<i>skipped question</i>		2

Other (please specify)

1. The Budget or the actual money? Given the amounts involved, the treasurer should be able to handle it in a bank or credit union account requiring two signatures and clear rules. An Annual Budget that is amendable by the membership, ability to vote by e-mail for emergency expenditures and an annually appointed budget committee that includes at least one general member to review checkbook against reports and authorized expenditures. (2 hour meeting at most). As get bigger you can turn over to an accounting firm but keep accounts and signatory authority.
2. Hire an administrator who reports to the organization.
3. A Tribe with a 5-8% admin cost takedown, the Board or future exec to provide oversight.
4. it would be nice to have this organization become more than a networking and information organization. paid officers to handle the budget
5. The officers, an ED, or a professional accounting firm
6. we have a budget??? How about quarterly statements to participating Tribes - I don't think I've ever seen one.
7. TTPO Officers if the budget remains small. They shouldn't be expected to do it though with a larger budget.
8. Executive Officer of a 501c3 TTPO with the officers acting as an interim BOD.

Q11. If funding were available, would your Tribe, company, or agency support the idea of developing a full-time paid Executive Director's Office for the TTPO?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	35.5%	11
No	0.0%	0
Maybe (see comments)	64.5%	20
Comments		14
answered question		31
skipped question		2

1. Would have to get board approval first.
2. Depends what this would look like, ie. Staff, etc...
3. If funding is available, we would contribute \$5,000-\$10,000/year to run this office.
4. unknown. This is a policy call and the tribe would need to be ensured it is going to an organization that is providing a demonstrateable benefit to the tribe.
5. Depends on the source of the funding.
6. If funding was allowable through the BIA/IRR Inventory funds.
7. It must be made plain to all, that the TTPO does not speak for all Washington tribes.
8. perhaps call it something else -- TTPO Coordinator (as staff support to organization?) reporting to the the TTPO Board?
9. My tribe would not contribute our own funds for an Executive Director unless we were presented with a document that showed what we would gain through our financial support. TTPO would need to do more that what it currently does.
10. Would have to see the plan first.
11. I can't speak on behalf of my tribe. Perhaps.
12. If it is set up properly
13. Would depend on job description/selection process/reporting authority. After seeing the questions below, I wonder if the position would be paid by dues and/or fees, and if that's the purpose of levying same.
14. If the incorporation of the TTPO into a 501c3 educational group - eligible to receive funds from not only the Gas Tax II tribes, but from Casinos as part of their 2% contributions - yes. If only supported by dues - maybe no. But then I cannot speak for my Tribe as I work elsewhere - (?).

12. Do you think your Tribe, company, or agency would provide financial assistance to the TTPO?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	50.0%	11
No	50.0%	11
Maybe--to fund a specific position or activity as follows, or under the following conditions:		15
	<i>answered question</i>	22
	<i>skipped question</i>	11

Maybe-to fund a specific position or activity as follows, or under the following conditions:

1. Can support through membership, and possibly specific activity such as training but not LOBBYING or anything that even looks like lobbying or support of lobbying.
2. Have never asked them
3. Maybe
4. Not at this time
5. see answer to question 11.
6. Am working on it
7. As long as the legislature allows it.
8. Maybe
9. In the way of a meeting fee for my agency. Not a requirement for tribal entities. Only volunteer donations of support by individual tribes.
10. see above (keep it within reason) -- even funding a Coordinator-level position could cost ~\$40K (about \$2000/yr per Tribe -- ?) -- #13 conditioned on this
11. Not as the TTPO current operates now because we would not gain anything that we can't already just do ourselves.
12. Depends
13. Possibly, if it were in the form of annual dues, the costs were minimal, and I could reasonably-justify the return the tribe is getting on the expenditure.
14. maybe
15. The Tribe I work for has provided funds for meeting expenses and may do so again. But then I do not know the direction of the BOD regarding the newly signed Gas Tax II compact, so possibly yes.

Q13. Do you think the TTPO should charge fees for meetings or membership dues of any kind?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	62.5%	20
No	37.5%	12
<i>answered question</i>		32
<i>skipped question</i>		1

Q14. Beyond travel expenses, will your Tribe, company, or agency cover any costs for you to be a part of the TTPO, (eg. annual dues or meeting fees)?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	40.6%	13
No	25.0%	8
Maybe (see below)	34.4%	11
Please explain		10
<i>answered question</i>		32
<i>skipped question</i>		1

Maybe (see below)

1. annual dues commensurate with other like organizations.
2. see question 11. Plus, its hit or miss when the meetings are informative and productive. Consistently providing a result of the meeting would increase the likelihood of dues and other fees being paid.
3. Perhaps.
4. annual dues are not allowed by agency.
5. using BIA 638 funds
6. If the TTPO is going to start charging dues they need to show exactly how they will benefit the tribe. Right now it's just a place to share ideas. What's the TTPO's specific plans?
7. depends on cost.
8. Again, I can't speak for my tribe but possibly.
9. membership dues would be good
10. If the annual Tribal State Transportation Conferene is the annual fundraising event for the TTPO then yes for that meeting. It follows the larger meeting, larger meeting expenses rule. But for the smaller quarterly meetings, it should be paid for by the host tribe and organization.

15. What do you prefer most, annual membership dues, or a fee charged to attend each meeting?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Annual membership dues	56.3%	18
Meeting fee, charged at each meeting	12.5%	4
Combination, please explain below	9.4%	3
None of the above	21.9%	7
Combination, of the two as follows:		3
	<i>answered question</i>	32
	<i>skipped question</i>	1

Combination as follows:

1. I think we should have an annual dues amount depending on member status.
 We should charge each meeting (one group I belong to charges \$5.00) plus amount to cover a lunch if possible. Two or Three Choices within Per Diem rate. Brown baggers welcome.
2. membership dues won't support a position, unless they're around \$2000/yr per Tribe -- need dues and annual contributions (prefer not meeting charges)
3. 2% contributions, Gas Tax II funds, big meeting fees (potentially covered by vendor space sales / corporate sponsorship) and dues to Gas Tax I Tribes. There needs to be some sort of fee charged to partner transportation agencies and a seperate category for consultants.

Q16. Are you willing to personally pay your own annual membership/meeting registration fees?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	37.5%	12
No	62.5%	20
answered question		32
skipped question		1

Q 17. Should the TTPO budget be used to offer scholarships to members who cannot pay a meeting fee/annual dues?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	43.8%	14
No	25.0%	8
Maybe (see below)	31.3%	10
Please explain		11
answered question		32
skipped question		1

Maybe, see below

1. #16, yes depending on how high the amount is.
#17. All tribes should be encouraged to be represented. but not sure how this should work. There should be some commitment by the tribe that wants to be an active member \$\$ or In-kind?
2. Depends if there is enough in budget
3. Tribal planners who need travel support should continue to get it from a special fund.
4. only for tribal planners. depends how they are given out and selected. most tribes have IRR planning dollars to travel. if this organization provides a direct benefit to tribes, then tribes must provide a "buy-in"
5. needs further discussion
6. Any funds the TTPO receives should first be offered as scholarships so that al tribes can be included.
7. I think to qualify for TTPO funding, a planner should prove she/he went to all lengths to get approval from the employing tribe, not just "I'd prefer TTPO pay my way."
8. Only to other tribal transportation planners
9. How would this be determined? There are some real equity issues potentially.
10. I do not know how this differs from the current policy of providing expenses to attend meetings.
11. If they can prove that their Tribe really can't pay any of the costs through tribal and/or BIA-IRR funds which is allowable

18. Should the TTPO pay for TTPO Officers to attend transportation related meetings outside of the TTPO on its behalf?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	46.9%	15
No	25.0%	8
Maybe (see below)	28.1%	9
Please explain		9
<i>answered question</i>		32
<i>skipped question</i>		1

Maybe (see below)

1. Very limited.
2. With strict budget limits and controls, and defined approval requirements
3. participation and representation to other transportation conferences and meetings stitch the TTPO to the rest of the world.
4. Cost Reimbursement
5. Walk carefully with this one. my tribe has a strong separation between policy and admin. staff advise, but policy decides. it would be nice to be able to have a unified voice for staff, but not establishing policy OR have policy attend more often.
6. only if no other funds (e.g., BIA) available to cover
7. Only if the TTPO budget was flush and could afford it. Otherwise, the employing tribe should fund related travel.
8. Are we talking the IRRPCC? ATNI? NCAI? ITA? Are we talking trips to WA DC to discuss legislation? Olympia? I am torn, and want to say no.
9. On a cse-per-case basis following a proposal to the memvbership that inlcudes why the expenses should be paid and what the membership can expect to see as a result-the proposal would need to be voted on and approved

19. What do you feel is an appropriate cost for a TTPO meeting fee?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
\$25-\$30	17.9%	5
\$35-\$40	0.0%	0
\$45-\$50	7.1%	2
\$55-\$60	0.0%	0
None, prefer the TTPO charge an annual fee	75.0%	21
Other (please specify)		6
answered question		28
skipped question		5

Other (please specify)

1. Or Less as noted above
2. I don't think their should be any fees. These meetings are always mostly informational.
3. see above
4. No fees at all as the TTPO currently exists.
5. None. Period.
6. One big conference with 3 smaller business type meetings. Fees determined by the cost of the conference.

20. What do you think is an appropriate amount to charge for annual TTPO membership dues?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
\$35 - \$50	3.6%	1
\$50 - \$100	28.6%	8
\$100 - 150	14.3%	4
\$150 - \$300 or more	35.7%	10
None, Prefer the TTPO	17.9%	5
Charge a fee each meeting		
Other (please specify)		8
<i>answered question</i>		28
<i>skipped question</i>		5

Other (please specify)

1. Our national association dues just went up from \$300 to \$500 and I squawked. But they are accomplishing more so I don't feel as bad. Start low and then when members want more services they will move to increase and pay more.
2. Why don't you provide an option, "Prefer the TTPO not charge any fees....."
3. \$200/year
4. assuming 4 meetings at \$30 each. then if can't attend all meetings fee is smaller.
5. to help fund staff support (Coordinator?), will have to be on the higher side
6. No fees at all as the TTPO currently exists.
7. If TTPO begins membership dues please begin in 2011 at the earliest as our 2010 budget has been approved, but there are no additional funds available.
8. None. Period. Seems like a review/update of mission/vision/values/goals/objectives (strategic plan) is in order if TTPO is to become a membership rather than representative organization.