Involving Native American Indians in Transportation

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Focus Areas

• Dimensions of effort
  – Technology transfer
  – Technical assistance
  – Workforce development
  – Education
  – Research

• Key partners
  – TTAP centers (NPTTAP, NWTTAP); LTAP centers; Federal Lands Highway; BIA
North Dakota’s Reservations

North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission
South Dakota’s Reservations
Primary Tribal Partnerships

- Ft. Berthold (Three Affiliated Tribes: Mandan, Hidatsa, & Arikara)
- Standing Rock (Dakota & Nakota Sioux)
- Spirit Lake/Ft. Totten (Dakota & Nakota Sioux)
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
- Wind River (WY): Shoshone and Arapaho
NDSU Tribal College Partnership Program

- Primary tribal college linkages
  - Cankdeska Cikana Community College (Ft. Totten)
  - Sitting Bull College (Ft. Yates)
  - Turtle Mountain Community College
  - United Tribes Technical College (Bismarck)
  - Ft. Berthold Community College

- All Nations Louis Stokes Alliance for Minorities Program (ANSLAMP or AMP): STEM stipends

- Tribal Food Science (NDSU Food Science Department)

- Pre-Engineering Collaboration Program
Pipeline for Tribal Pre-Engineering to Society

- Student finishes preliminary degree at tribal community college
- Can transfer to NDSU into engineering major of choice
- Have opportunities to meet with professors at NDSU before they transfer
NDSU Pre-Engineering Education Collaboration (cont.)

- Student centered program
- Cohort approach
- Mentors: student and professional
- Summer internships / co-ops in local communities
- Financial aid/stipends available to help with financial needs
- Curriculum designed for more personalized approach to speed of classes
Current Projects

- Building a Sustainable GIS Framework for Supporting a Tribal Transportation Program
- Regional Implementation of Tribal Transportation Safety Program
- Developing Statistical Models for Crash Severity
- Evaluation and Development of Livability and Sustainability Programs for Indian Reservations
- IRR Database and Models
Approach

• **Long-term commitment:** not a project, or series of projects
• **Must build trust; make personal connections**
• **Knowledge of unique context**
  – Sovereign nation
  – Tribal governance
  – Land ownership: trust land, restricted fee land, fee land purchased by tribe
• **Technical assistance must go with technology transfer**