

**Joint Village Strategic Planning
MEETING NOTES
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
10 AM MST
Zoom Videoconference and Telephone**

Attendees

- Claudina Burgener, Andrew Gashwazra, Nikita Shukla, Le Roy Singoitewa, Sam Shingoitewa, Robert Sumatzkuku, Juwan Tawyesva, Josie Te Rata, Neil Yazzie and Brian Cole.

Primary Meeting “Take-aways:”

- Harvard report
 - Josie Te Rata noted that they were given the “green light to proceed with interviews” two weeks ago and then the process was stalled somewhat by the CPO.
 - Brian Cole stated he had a phone call with Professor Eric Henson and the professor indicated that there was nothing in this type of interview that ought to require a permit from a Native American Indian Tribe.
 - Andrew Gashwazra recommended a direct phone call between Professor Hensen and Stewart Koyiyumptewa. Every member of JVSP underscored that this was a Village-driven effort and not a tribally-driven effort and the process should proceed.
 - Several committee members expressed a concern that this matter was delaying the activities of the Harvard student and expressed a preference to proceed.
 - Le Roy Singoitewa noted that this was not a standard “research project,” but was rather a Village focused economic development project.
 - Josie Te Rata noted that the Harvard students only have 4-5 weeks left before they need to finish up their project.
- Congressionally directed spending process
 - After a lengthy conversation, all of the JVSP committee members recommended to Brian Cole that MUA assisted in uploading a request for \$1.7 million for the “funding gap” for the MUA water project.
 - Cole emphasized that he wanted to have clear communication with the Hopi Tribe and, especially, the Hopi Chairman.
 - Cole noted that he would not be assisting in uploading a CDS request because the Tribe had already submitted requests during this funding cycle.
 - The JVSP committee still urged the assistance of Building Communities, noting that this would be from the Village and the local utility, not the Tribe. Cole stated he would send a letter to the Chairman explaining this discussion.
- Claudina Burgener stated that YPC has drafted a letter explaining the need for road improvements, especially in the context of emergency services and local bus routes.

Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 10 am MST.