

Joint Village Strategic Planning Report to Hopi Tribal Commissions

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Joint Village
Strategic Planning

UMV, VML & YPC

Project Purpose

The purpose of Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP) is to address the impacts of the Bennett Freeze and Forced Relocation by planning for infrastructure, housing, community facilities, and economic development investments. JVSP coordinates with the Hopi Tribal Council to advocate for such funding and investment.

Frequently Asked Questions About JVSP

In response to the pending closure of the Peabody Mine, the Hopi Office of Community Planning Economic Development and Land Information Services coordinated with Building Communities to conduct outreach to all Hopi Villages from 2017-2019. The goal of the outreach was to identify community and economic development projects that could soften the blow of the pending job losses associated with the mine and powerplant closure.

Simultaneously, three of the Villages/Communities (Upper Moenkopi Village, the Village of Moenkopi (Lower) and Yuwehloo Pahki Community) became very active with strategic planning and project advocacy. This effort became known as Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP).

The information below provides a high-level summary of the efforts and purpose of JVSP.

What is Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP)?

The two villages impacted by the Bennet Freeze (Upper Moenkopi Village (UMV) and the Village of Moenkopi (Lower)(VML)) have partnered with Yuwehloo Pahki Community (YPC) to develop and implement a plan that addresses the Bennett Freeze and Forced Relocation eras of Hopi history. YPC is the community established when Hopi members were forcibly relocated from Navajo Lands.

What is the "Plan?"

Each of the three villages/community have completed a plan that identifies the investments necessary to address the impacts of the injustices of Federal policy. All three plans are economic development strategic plans intended to lead to a diversified, sustainable economy while investing in the required housing, infrastructure, public facilities, and economic development needs.

Who Developed the Plans and Identified the Projects?

Each of the villages developed their own Steering Committee which completed a strategic planning process to identify economic development strategies and associated projects. In addition, historical information was collected, examined, and updated to identify specific projects and associated estimated project budgets.

The result is four documents including strategic plans for each of the participating villages/community as well as an overall project budget that combines the funding needs from all three participating areas.

What is the Total Budget Request?

The total request is for approximately \$1.2 billion over ten years over three phases.

How Much Funding is Requested for Each Phase?

Phase	Years	Budget	Percent of Total
Phase I	2023-2024	\$60 million	5%
Phase II	2025-2027	\$600 million	50%
Phase III	2028-2032	\$540 million	45%

Who Determined the Budget? Are the Cost Estimates Accurate?

The identified projects and their associated budgets were determined by each of the villages/community staff members based upon historical research and an estimate of current construction costs.

What Happens During Phase I?

The \$60 million to be invested in 2023-2024 will accomplish two overarching goals: 1) to construct *Immediate Recovery Projects*. These are projects that are local priorities that have all the clearances and plans in place for immediate construction. The remainder of the \$60 million will be invested in engineering, architecture, environmental site clearances, and other work to ensure the success of Phase II. During Phase I, all of the project cost estimates will be refined which could result in changes to the Phase II and Phase III funding request.

If Funding is Appropriated by Congress, how will it be Directed/Allocated?

The recommendation is for the repurposing of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation (ONHIR) to become the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian **Recovery**. That is, funding would be utilized by the “new ONHIR” under the supervision/direction of a Hopi committee to ensure that priority projects are completed.

Has there been Local Public Involvement in the Development of the Plan and Identification of Projects?

Yes. Originally, public outreach was conducted in 2010 when the original projects and budgets were identified. More recently, all three of the villages/community have had public involvement sessions in the development of their strategic plans.

Once these Public Improvements have been Developed, how will They be Maintained and Operated?

A maintenance and operation plan for all public improvements will be developed as a part of Phase I of the effort.

For More Information Contact

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