

Joint Village Strategic Planning Report to Hopi Tribal Commissions

March 1, 2023 | Volume 7

As Requested by the Hopi Tribal Council H-51-2022 Resolution

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.

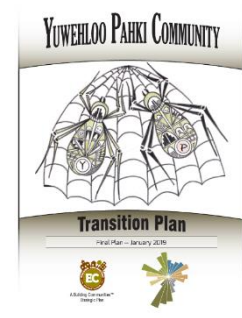
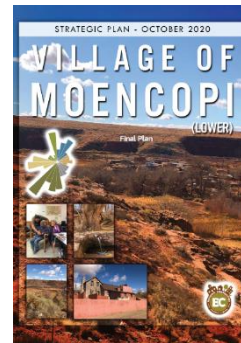
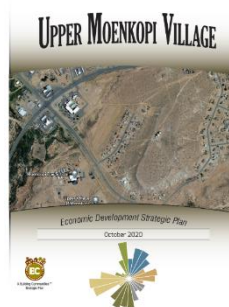
Joint Village Strategic Planning (JVSP) has been active since 2017.

JVSP has held weekly meetings virtually every Tuesday morning at 10 am MST since the spring of 2020.

It is Time for Action!

The Bennett Freeze ended in 2006. WHPacific analyzed the impacts to Navajo in 2008. President Barack Obama made this official in 2009. Over the past four years, nearly 1,000 people have been involved with planning and advocacy known as the Navajo Thaw and Hopi JVSP.

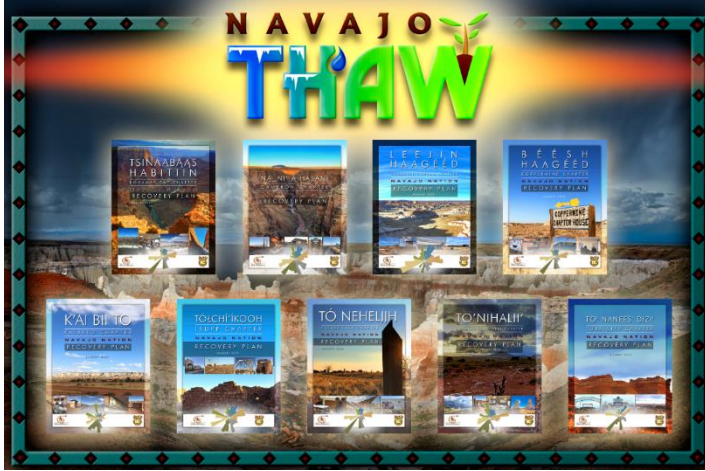
In March 2022, the message from the staff of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees indicated: *if you bring us a plan and involve the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, NPL, HPL, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, we will fund it.*



The planning for Navajo and Hopi is complete. The strategy is to repurpose an existing federal office to become the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Recovery (ONHIR). Funding would be channeled to ONHIR to implement the planning of the Navajo Thaw and Hopi JVSP over three phases over 10 years. In the first year of plan implementation, additional planning would define the needs of NPL, HPL, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe so they could participate in benefits.

For this to be successful, all interests must speak with one voice. We must come together to agree on the details for effective advocacy. Where related issues can be surfaced and resolved, they should be. If there are related issues that cannot be resolved, they should be addressed by a different group at a different time.

Building Communities is offering to host a retreat-style planning session that brings key executive and legislative members of the three Tribes together to: 1) understand the history of the matter, 2) review the existing plans, 3) discuss the need for additional planning, and 4) determine the immediate strategy for federal funding advocacy.



With a focused agenda, this can be accomplished during a lengthy one-day session. If there are still issues to understand and resolve, participants should be prepared to stay a second day. The planning event will take place in Flagstaff, Arizona sometime between March 13-March 21.

Bailey Anderson of Building Communities will be reaching out to all parties to determine the best days to meet.