

Joint Village Strategic Planning Report to Hopi Tribal Commissions

November 1, 2022 | Volume 3

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.

JVSP Urges the Hopi Tribe to “Close the Deal” During the Congressional Lame Duck Session

Community volunteers and Community Service Administrators in Upper Moenkopi Village (UMV), the Village of Moenkopi (Lower) (VML), and Yuwehloo Pahki Community (YPC) have met on a weekly basis since 2020 to advocate for funding to support projects that address the Bennett Freeze and Forced Relocation.

In the spring of 2020, community volunteers and staff members reviewed documentation developed under the leadership of Clayton Honyumtewa in 2010 for a similar purpose. Since then, a nucleus of about 18 Hopi volunteers and leaders have worked to update the projects and budget request while communicating with the Hopi Tribal Council. This has led to the passage of two Hopi Tribal Council resolutions supporting the efforts by JVSP.

JVSP members have learned that the likelihood of congressional funding increases if efforts are made to collaborate with the Navajo Nation.



33 Hopi and Navajo advocates met on October 19, 2022 at Upper Moenkopi Village to discuss a joint approach of working together to secure federal funding. The meeting was attended by Hopi Vice Chairman Craig Andrews and two members of Congressman O'Halleran Staff including Acting Chief of Staff Adam Finkel.

Fortunately, Navajo has had a similar project called the Navajo Thaw (www.navajothaw.com). This effort is similar to JVSP (www.hopiresilience.org/jvsp/).

For this reason, JVSP members have extended an invitation to collaborate with local Navajo leadership at the Chapter level. Joint Hopi/Navajo in-person meetings have been hosted at the Community Center at UMV in June, July, and October.

Congressman O'Halleran's Office is currently working on language that could be reviewed and approved by Congress directing as much as \$1.2 billion of funding responding to the needs identified by the JVSP participants. JVSP advocates for funding to be routed through a repurposed Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation to become the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian **Recovery**.

Immediate Opportunity

One opportunity to secure such funding could be in the "lame duck" session of Congress (the period of time between the November 8, 2022 election and the New Congress in January of 2023). ***Finalizing a specific, coordinated game plan for this funding is an immediate need.***