Joint Village Strategic Planning Report to Hopi Tribal Council

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

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 most Tuesday mornings at 10 am MST since the spring of 2020.

MUA Wastewater Project Well Positioned for CDS Application

Similar to the situation four years ago, once again the Moenkopi Utility Authority (MUA) finds itself well positioned to seek funding from the Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) process. The CDS process is offered annually by members of Congress to solicit project proposals from communities and villages that have needs that are aligned with existing federal programs. In 2022, JVSP assisted the Hopi Tribe to successfully apply for $1.5 million in CDS funding for Water Well Project #2 (now referred to as Well #6).

MUA also operates a Wastewater Treatment Plant that serves the needs of Upper Moenkopi Village as well as the administrative facility and five homes for the Lower Village. Last month, the MUA General Manager hosted a plant tour for Luther Lee, Director of Tribal Engagement for the Office of Senator Kelly. Also on the tour were Andrew Gashwazra from the Office of Community Planning and Economic Development (OCPED) and Brian Cole of Building Communities.

MUA operates a very advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Plant was established in 2007 and utilized some equipment that was already considered outdated by industry standards. The plant is now nearly 19-years old, and largely beyond its useful life. Through strategic investments in equipment and upgrades, the plant can successfully serve not only the existing population, but the forecasted increase in population and business activity stemming from the tremendous success on water development projects (projects advanced by both MUA and the Hopi Utilities Corporation (HUC)).

Once again, Building Communities is assisting JVSP to develop CDS proposals that can compete for federal funding through the annual funding cycle.

A strong set of letters of support was assembled and submitted in conjunction with this request, demonstrating broad community and institutional alignment. These include a letter from Chairman Lamar Keevama of the Hopi Tribe, followed by support from the Office of Community Planning and Economic Development and Land Information Systems (OCPEDLIS), the Hopi Water and Energy Team, the Upper Village of Moenkopi, the Village of Moencopi (Lower), the Moenkopi Developers Corporation, Moenkopi Day School, the Moenkopi Senior Center, and the Moenkopi Utility Authority. Collectively, these letters underscore the critical importance of the proposed wastewater system improvements and reflect unified support across tribal leadership, community organizations, and key stakeholders.