Joint Village Strategic Planning Report to Hopi Tribal Council

August 1, 2026 | Volume 48

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.

For more information, visit www.HopiResilience.org

Spotlight on Grant Writing

Since the formation of JVSP, one of the top priorities has been the pursuit of funding for priority projects especially through grant writing.

After a period in which the federal government has reevaluated and recalibrated many federal grant programs, a surge of funding opportunities opened up in the spring of 2026. Consistent with the goals of advancing JVSP priorities and supporting the implementation of the *2025-2030 Hopi Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)*, Building Communities and the JVSP team have successfully developed and facilitated the submission of many grant proposals.

Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS)

As reported in the June 1, 2026 report, the Hopi Tribe was notified by Senators Mark Kelly and Ruben Gallego regarding its funding request for substantial upgrades to the Moenkopi Utility Authority (MUA) Wastewater Treatment Facility. A potential funding award of $2 million remains under consideration throughout the remainder of the year.

BIA Energy and Minerals Development Program (EMDP) Grant

With one of the priorities of CEDS implementation being the identification of economic opportunities associated with New Land south of Inderstate 40, and at the direction of a member of the Hopi Tribal Council Water Energy Committee, Building Communities coordinated with DBS&A to prepare a narrative and associated federal grant application forms to analyze the economic potential of oil, natural gas, and helium. The funding proposal recommended the pursuit of a $324,500 request.

USDA RD RBDG Entrepreneurship and Business Planning Project

Encouraged by Hopi Tribe administrative staff, Building Communities prepared a $99,000 grant proposal to USDA Rural Development through their Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program to assist Hopi business owners and entrepreneurs to consider business establishment and growth.

USDA RD RBDG Business Development Staff Capacity
Per the request of the Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation (HTEDC) staff, Building Communities developed a narrative proposal for consideration by HTEDC to expand internal staff capacity in support of the Hopi CEDS.

Building on a Successful Legacy in Securing Grant Resources for Hopi
The four projects described above build upon a long-standing commitment by JVSP and Building Communities to support the Hopi Tribe and its Villages with grant writing services. Previous successful grant-funded initiatives include 2021 Hopi CARES Act Supplemental Assistance, 2019 Business Assistance for Hopi Entrepreneurs (USDA RD RBDG), 2019 Technical Assistance to 13 Hopi Villages and Communities (USDA RD CF TAT), 2019 Victim Services Program (OVC VSSA), 2020 Implementing the Hopi Tourism Strategic Plan (USDA RD RBDG), 2022 Victim Services Program (OVC TVSSA), and 2023 Hopi Tribe Water Infrastructure Improvement Project (CDS).