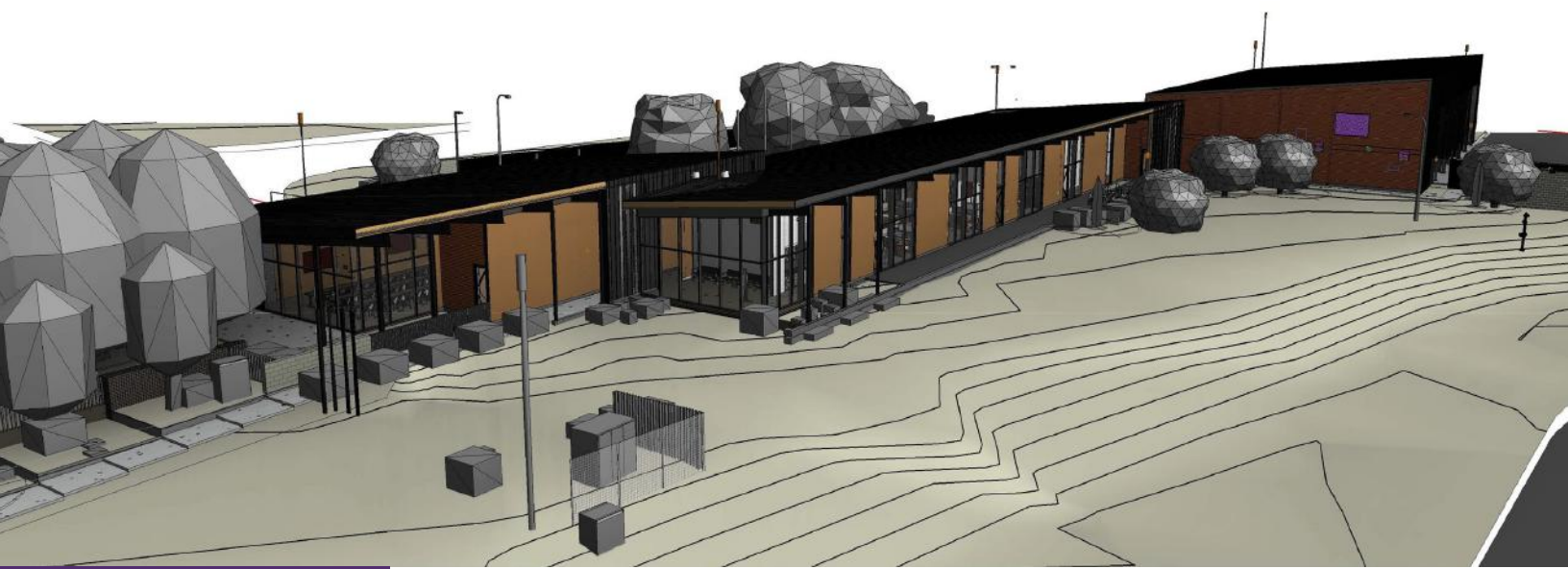




WMAT DOT NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Happy Halloween! I am excited to present our first newsletter to kick off Fiscal Year 2021. WMAT DOT was established on March 23, 2016 by Tribal Council Resolution No. 03-2016-55 "Establishment of the WMAT Division of Transportation". Since that time we have grown from a staff of one to eleven with five different programs: Transportation Planning, Fort Apache Connection, Road Maintenance, Airport Facilities, and Transportation Safety. This fiscal year we plan on implementing our GIS Program. Our amazing team are as follows:

- Cassie Kenton-Garcia, Fort Apache Connection (Transit) Manager
- LaReesa Sanchez, Administrative Assistant
- Marco Burnette, Transportation Specialist
- Ida Rose Cosay, GIS Technician
- Lisa Tessler, Fort Apache Connection (Transit) Dispatcher
- Carlos Hernandez, Fort Apache Connection (Transit) Driver
- Anthony Hill, Fort Apache Connection (Transit) Driver
- Leonard Pechuli, Fort Apache Connection (Transit) Driver
- Marty Celaya, Road Maintenance
- Velda Massey, Road Maintenance

We look forward to continuing to expand our team as well as continuing to secure funding for projects for the White Mountain Apache Tribe. We will be providing a monthly newsletter to include everyone in our journey. If you have any questions feel free to contact us at 928-338-5155 or info@wmatdot.com or find us on Facebook at White Mountain Apache Tribe Division of Transportation or visit our website at www.wmatdot.com

-- Tara Chief, WMAT DOT Director

WMAT DOT COMPLETES BUILDING DEMOLITION

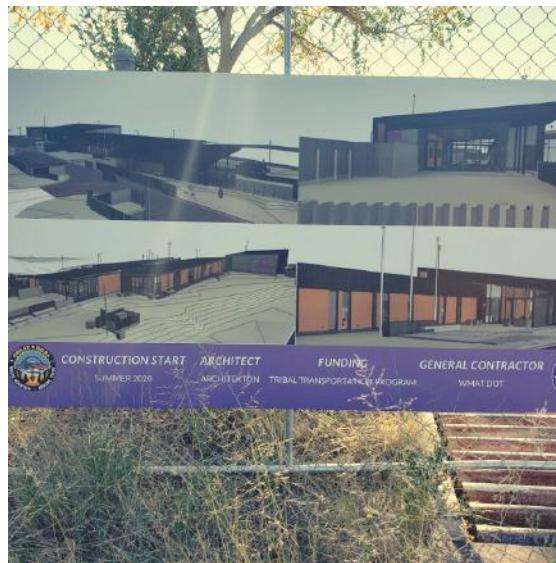
WMAT DOT completed the demolition of its former transportation complex in September 2020. With estimated completion in Fall 2021, the new transportation complex will house WMAT DOT and WMAT Transit. Pictured on page 1, the new transportation complex was designed by WMAT DOT and Architekton, an architectural firm in Tempe, Arizona. The WMAT DOT Transportation Complex will be 25,000 square feet. The main building consists of a 1,300 square foot training and community room, a 9,500 square foot departmental office space, and a 9,500 square foot preventative maintenance and bus garage. Detached from the main building is a 1,600 square foot vehicle wash bay, and a 2,700 square foot covered parking and sign storage structure.





**FOR YOUR
SAFETY,
PLEASE KEEP
OUT OF THE
CONSTRUCTION
SITE**

- WMAT DOT



TEMPORARY OFFICE LOCATION

WMAT DOT offices have temporarily moved during construction of the new transportation complex. The temporary location is:

**716 E General Crook St. Bldg 105
[Second Floor]
Fort Apache, AZ 85926**





CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY CLINIC

LOCK IN THE FUTURE!

It is crucial to our survival that our future generation rides safely in a properly installed car seat. It is important for caregivers to understand that holding a child in their lap or leaving children unrestrained presents great risk to the unbelted child.

The WMAT DOT office has three technicians on hand to educate families so they can properly install a car seat. WMAT DOT held six car seat appointments dates in September 2020. On September 18, 2020, WMAT DOT partnered with the WMAT Police Department for a Seat Belt Checkpoint Event. During this event, WMAT DOT and WMAT PD handed out 6 infant seats, 7 convertible seats, and 34 booster seats. Certified child passenger technicians were also available on-site to ensure the car seats were installed correctly. A total of 47 children were sent home safely with a properly installed car seat.

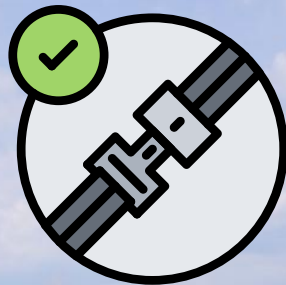
Follow the White Mountain Apache Tribe Division of Transportation on Facebook @WMATDOT or visit WMATDOT.COM for information on upcoming Child Passenger Safety Clinics.

Questions? Contact WMAT DOT at (928) 338-5155.





LOCK IN THE FUTURE!



WMAT DOT PROJECT UPDATES



F.A.I.R. 12 PROJECT

The F.A.I.R. 12 Project proposes to widen and reconstruct a 14.7-mile segment of Route 12 on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Route 12 serves as the single point of access for the 2,000+ population of White Mountain Apache Tribal members who reside in the community of Cibecue, Arizona. Safely traversing Route 12 is critical to the residents in this community. F.A.I.R. 12 will serve to compliment ongoing Tribal investments in the reconstruction of Route 12. F.A.I.R. 12 will benefit the 2,000+ Tribal residents who travel Route 12, by providing a safe and reliable connection to healthcare, employment, and a sustainable way of life.



SAFETY PROJECTS \$587,500

WMAT DOT received \$587,500 in two Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (TTPSF) Grants from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2019. TTPSF grants are available to federally recognized Indian tribes through a competitive, discretionary program. TTPSF Grants are competitive grants that are awarded annually to projects whose outcomes address the prevention and reduction of death or serious injuries in transportation related incidents, such as motor vehicle crashes. WMAT DOT received funding for the following projects:

1. **Pedestrian Safety along State Route 73: \$450,000**
2. **Road Safety Audit on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation: \$137,500**

WMAT DOT is working with project partners to complete these projects.

WMAT DOT PROJECT UPDATES

ENERGY & MINERAL DEVELOPMENT \$45,155

WMAT DOT received \$45,155 in Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP) Grant funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Department of the Interior in 2019. EMDP Grants are competitive grants that are awarded to projects that assess, evaluate, or otherwise promote the productive use or development of energy and mineral resources on Indian lands. WMAT DOT received funding for the following project:

- **Identify and develop sources for sand and gravel to meet the future needs on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.**

WMAT DOT is working with project partners to complete this exploratory project.



TRANSIT BUS SHELTER PROJECT \$13,100

WMAT DOT received \$13,100 in two Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (TTPSF) Grants from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2019. TTPSF grants are available to federally recognized Indian tribes through a competitive, discretionary program. TTPSF Grants are competitive grants that are awarded annually to projects whose outcomes address the prevention and reduction of death or serious injuries in transportation related incidents, such as motor vehicle crashes. WMAT DOT received funding for the following projects:

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WMAT DOT FUNDING Q&A

HOW IS WMAT DOT FUNDED?

WMAT DOT receives its funding from the Highway Trust Fund. This funding is allocated to tribes, and then dispersed through the United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration, Office of Tribal Transportation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Funds are allocated among Tribes using a formula based on tribal population, road mileage and average tribal shares of the former Tribal Transportation Allocation Methodology (TTAM) formula.

HOW CAN WMAT DOT USE THESE FUNDS?

All Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funds provided to Tribes can be expended only on eligible projects and activities identified in the federal regulations and included in an FHWA-approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Funds can be used for the following:

- Transportation planning, research, maintenance, engineering, rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction of tribal transportation facilities
- Operation and maintenance of transit programs and facilities that are located on, or provide access to, tribal land, or are administered by a tribal government
- Any transportation project eligible for assistance under this title that is located within, or that provides access to, tribal land, or is associated with a tribal government

WMAT DOT prepares the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a 5-year plan for improvements on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Each project on the TIP is supported by tribal resolution. WMAT DOT submits the TIP to the BIA Division of Transportation (BIADOT) for review and approval. BIADOT reviews, approves, and forwards the TIP to FHWA Federal Lands Highway Office (FLHO) for approval. WMAT DOT can allocate TTP funds for its projects once the TIP is approved by FHWA,

WHAT IS THE TTP?

The Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) is the largest program in the Office of Federal Lands Highway. Established in 23 U.S.C. 202 to address the transportation needs of Tribal governments throughout the United States, the program will receive \$505 million in FY 2020, as established in Public Law 114-94, Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (the FAST Act). The purpose of the TTP is to provide safe and adequate transportation and public road access to and within Indian reservations, Indian lands, and Alaska Native Village communities. A prime objective of the TTP is to contribute to the economic development, self-determination, and employment of Indians and Native Americans. The Tribal Transportation Program is funded by contract authority from the Highway Trust Fund and is subject to the overall Federal-aid obligation limitation.





THIS IS A PUBLICATION OF:
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION

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