

**MT Department of Transportation
Native American Focus Projects for 2006**

1. Equipment Grants for Tribal Law Enforcement

- Letters were sent to the following reservations inviting Tribal Chief's to apply for DUI related equipment grants: Salish & Kootenai, Crow, Fort Peck, and Rocky Boy.
- The MT Department of Transportation is providing \$15,000 per tribe so they can purchase radars, Portable Breath Testers and In-Car Videos.
- As additional funding becomes available later this year, the MT Department of Transportation will send letters to the remaining tribes inviting them to apply for DUI equipment.

2. Selective Traffic Enforcement Program

- Funds have been provided to the Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribal Law Enforcement to conduct overtime traffic patrols known as Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) for DUI, speed and safety belt enforcement.

3. Safe Kids Safe Communities for Native American Populations

- Current SAFE KIDS/SAFE COMMUNITIES programs are under contract by the MT Department of Transportation to reach out to Native Americans both on and off the reservations.
- The goal is to have Native Americans establish their own local Safe Kids Coalitions.
- SKSC will also encourage Native Americans living off the reservations to become members of their local coalition.
- SKSC has over 16 coalitions plus catchment areas covering 30 counties throughout the state.
- SKSC is responsible for providing public information and education programs to the public on the importance of seatbelt usage and problems associated with drinking and driving as a strategy to help reduce fatalities and injuries on Montana's roadways.
- This is done through the production and dissemination of public service announcements, brochures, media releases, etc.

**Revenue & Transportation Committee Meeting
February 16 & 17, 2006**

Exhibit #4

4. **Public Information and Education to increase safety belt usage & reduce impaired driving.**
 - The objective of this program is to increase awareness of the value of safety belt usage and reduction in impaired driving.
 - Interns are hired through the Tribal Colleges on Fort Belknap, Fort Peck, Blackfeet and Rocky Boy Reservations.
 - These interns hold focus groups to develop local safety belt and impaired driving media messages.
 - The interns work with Banik Communications contracted by the MT Department of Transportation to publicize these messages on each of the reservations via radio and billboards on each of the reservations.

5. **ACT (Assessment, Course, Treatment) Curriculum for DUI Offenders to include culturally appropriate training and assessment for Native American Clients.**
 - The curriculum is used for DUI Offenders to educate them about the problems associated with drinking and driving.
 - This program is currently being updated to include information on working successfully with Native American clients on and off reservations.
 - This includes appropriate training techniques, information and client referral.

6. **Impaired Driving Assessment with Native American component**
 - Montana was the first state in the Nation to complete an impaired driving assessment that included Native American concerns.
 - The assessment panel for this project included 6 experts from out of state including a Native American that was hosted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
 - This panel interviewed various stakeholders from throughout the state to discuss their concerns about Montana's impaired driving issues.
 - Those interviewed included tribal law enforcement, Indian Health Services, Tribal Judge and Interns from the PI& E project.

- This assessment was conducted in May 2005 and provided guidance to help reduce impaired driving fatalities in Montana.

7. Montana Tribal Safety Conscious Planning Forum

- Held in July of 2005, representatives from Tribal Governments gathered in Helena to voice their concerns about traffic safety on their reservations.
- The MT Department of Transportation provided presentations to the tribal leaders including information about upcoming traffic safety programs available to the tribes during 2006.

9. Highway Safety Planning

- Representatives from Tribal Governments will be invited to the annual Highway Safety Planning meeting to be held April 27th, 2006.

10. Tri Party Gathering

- TriParty Gathering is planned for April 26th, 2006, to provide information on Traffic Safety Programs and to listen to Tribal Representatives about their concerns pertaining to traffic safety related problems on their reservations.