

Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs

MAG Planners Stakeholders
Group Presentation

Presented by:

Kenneth G. Poocha

Executive Director

28th Annual Arizona Indian Town Hall

The 28th Annual Arizona Town Hall
Presented by First Nations Development
Institute

- Annual Event held on July 14-16th at the Carefree Resort in Carefree, AZ
- Theme: Protecting Our Land and Water
- Included approximately 75 participants

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□ Speakers included:

- Chairman Wendsler Nosie Sr.— San Carlos Apache Tribe
- Debby Tewa—Renewable and Tribal Energy Coordinator Arizona Dept. of Commerce
- Royce Jenkins—Director of Planning and Community Development for the Hopi Tribe
- Rep. Albert Tom LD2

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□ Topic Selection

- We carefully selected this years topic by listening to tribal and community leaders throughout the year.
- What seemed to be important to them (among many things) was how to protect natural resources in particular land and water
- Most tribal leaders indicated that they were unaware of the growth plans of the state nor had any long term growth plan

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- The AI TH process is participant centered meaning the content and ultimately the final report is driven by small group discussion throughout the town hall process
- To prepare participants for town hall the ACIA made available a background presentation that better prepared them for discussion in their small groups

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- Much of the information in the presentation was contributed by MAG including the “infamous” growth map that shows the potential for growth in Arizona by 2050
- Each small group was then charged with discussing the following multipart discussion questions:

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1. Identify and discuss the challenges and opportunities inherent with the projected growth and brainstorm proactive solutions to overcome the challenges and to take advantage of the opportunities
2. Identify resources and assets that tribes have and can use to sustain and grow within their communities
3. Identify proactive steps to deal with projected growth

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4. Expand partnerships between peoples, groups, and agencies to foster consultation, collaboration and coordination.

The raw data from these discussions formed the basis of the final report which is meant to be practical and usable

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□ AITH Conclusions

- Participants in all groups identified certain common themes and ideas that could help provide communities the tools to sustain and grow their respective communities in the face of projected population growth and demand for natural resources.
- These themes included:
 - Utilizing the strength of Indian youth
 - Creating partnerships with not just the “usual suspects”
 - Information management
 - Community Responsibility
 - Creating opportunities to engage the larger community

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- Both Executive Summary and Final Report are available for download at www.azcia.gov
- What's Next...
- Questions? Comments?

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