



**NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS
2009 Annual Conference & Trade Show
Palm Springs, California**

**TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION AT A CROSSROAD: TRIBAL LEADERS FORUM ON
THE CURRENT STATE OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION**

DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2009

LOCATION: PRIMROSE BALLROOM C-PALM SPRINGS CONVENTION CENTER

TIME: 1:00PM -5:00PM

Purpose: The negotiated formula and inventory for Indian Reservation Roads funding has become a hotly disputed issue in Indian Country. The conflict over who gets how much funding, with large-land base tribes pitted against smaller land base tribes, has reached an impasse. While the funding formula is important, it has distracted attention from other vital transportation needs and created a perception in Congress that Indian tribes are unable to resolve the issue. Without reaching agreement and resolution, tribes could soon find that the total tribal transportation appropriation is smaller than it could be if we were advocating for a unified position. Tribal leaders are being called upon to determine the course of tribal transportation for Indian Country. Now is the time for tribal leaders to weigh in and find solutions most beneficial to all our communities.

DRAFT AGENDA

1:00 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Opening Remarks and Welcome: Gwen Salt, NCAI

Moderator: NCAI Board Member

1:10 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Introduction: Federal Officials

Department of Transportation- John Baxter, Associate Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

Department of Interior- Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary- Indian Affairs

1:30 p.m. – 3:00pm

Presentation of Current Transportation Issues

LeRoy Gishi, BIA Transportation Chief

Robert Sparrow, IRR Program Manager, FLH

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tribal Leaders Discussion: How do we move forward on this issue?
Should we advocate for a new Negotiated Rulemaking?
What do we need to do about the road inventory?
How should Question 10 be interpreted?
Is the current structure of Indian Reservation Roads Program
Coordinating Committee working for Indian Country?

Ron His Horse Is Thunder, Chairman, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe & NCAI Regional
Vice-President (Invited)

Shirley Laos, Vice Chairwoman, Trinidad Rancheria

Ned Norris, Jr., Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation

Jefferson Keel, Lt. Governor, Chickasaw Nation

Bill Martin, President, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
(Invited)