



**TRB Standing Committee on Archaeology and
Historic Preservation in Transportation**

AME60

2022 Midyear Meeting

August 23-25 2022

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Transportation Research Board AME 60 Committee
2022 Mid-Year Virtual Meeting Schedule
 (All times shown are Eastern Daylight Time)

Tuesday August 23		
	<i>Sessions will run approximately 1pm-4:30pm EDT/10am-1:30 PDT followed by informal networking/discussion each day</i>	
	<p>NCHRP Updates and Committee Business Meeting 1:00 Welcome – Mary Alfson Tinsman, JMT 1:30-2:00 NCHRP Updates – Emily Pettis, Dianna Litvak, and Christina Slattery, Mead and Hunt 2:00-2:15 Break 2:15-4:00 Business Meeting 4:30 Informal Networking/Discussion on Secondary Zoom Link</p>	
Wednesday August 24		
	<i>Sessions will run approximately 1pm-4:30pm EDT/10am-1:30 PDT followed by informal networking/discussion each day</i>	
	<p>12:30 Link Opens 1:00 Policy Updates from FHWA and ACHP – David Clarke, FHWA and Mandy Ranslow, ACHP 2:00-4:00 Session and Discussion Panel: Engaging Distant, Dispersed, and Disappeared Communities Moderator/Chair: Steve Archer, Maryland DOT State Highway Administration -Scott Sundermeyer, Oklahoma DOT -Erica L. Schneider and Jason A. Watkins, Ohio DOT -Jessica Feldman, Benjamin Vargas, & Margaret Roderick, ICF -Heather Mustonen Georgia DOT -Meesa Otani, FHWA 4:00-4:30 Discussion Panel with the Presenters and Ira L. Matt, ACHP 4:30 Informal Networking/Discussion on Secondary Zoom Link</p>	
Thursday August 25		
	<i>Sessions will run approximately 1pm-4:30pm EDT/10am-1:30 PDT followed by informal networking/discussion each day</i>	
	<p>12:30 Link Opens 1:00-3:00 Workshop: Historically Speaking: Engagement and Communications in the Context of Cultural and Historic Resources Facilitator/Chair: Rebekah Dobrasko and Linda Henderson, Texas DOT 3:00-4:00 Conference Wrap-up, Preview of 2023 Annual Meeting and Summer 2023 Mid-year Meeting – Mary Alfson Tinsman, JMT 4:00 Informal Networking/Discussion on Secondary Zoom Link</p>	

Transportation Research Board AME 60 Committee

2022 Mid-Year Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, August 24, 2:00-4:00 EDT

Session and Discussion Panel – Engaging Distant, Dispersed, and Disappeared Communities

Facilitator/Moderator: Steve Archer, Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

This session features case studies on achieving meaningful consultation and representation for resources with communities who are no longer present, inaccessible, or otherwise difficult to connect with.

Presentations and Discussion Panel with Presenters (2:00-4:30)

Building bridges with stakeholders: efforts to engage national consulting parties for the historic Bridgeport Bridge project on Route 66

Scott Sundermeyer, Cultural Resources Program Manager, Oklahoma Department of Transportation

The international appeal of Historic Route 66 cannot be overstated. Extending through eight states from Chicago to Santa Monica, the Route embodies a complex and rich history that extends beyond the roadbed itself. Oklahoma boasts more drivable miles of Route 66 than any other state, and several segments and road-related features are eligible for or listed on, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Bridgeport Bridge, tucked away on a 17.7 mile-long NRHP-listed roadbed segment in western Oklahoma, largely hidden from the commotion of Interstate 40, is Oklahoma's most historically significant bridge. This 38-span pony truss structure spans some 3900 feet over the Canadian River and is individually listed on the National Register. In 2013, Oklahoma DOT (ODOT) began the environmental process to complete a bridge and approaches project for this structure, which included two efforts to secure a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant from USDOT. Recognizing the international significance of the bridge, ODOT coordinated the effort to identify Section 106 consulting parties, most of which were non-local. Through continued efforts that included a routinely updated website, hybrid virtual and in-person consulting party meetings, public involvement, and overall transparency, ODOT was able to conclude the Section 106 process, complete the Section 4(f) component, and deliver the environmental document while securing a \$22 million BUILD Grant for the project.

These were their lands, this is their history: Reverberations of removal and engagement

Erica L. Schneider, Assistant Environmental Administrator, Ohio Department of Transportation

Jason A. Watkins, Staff Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison, Ohio Department of Transportation

It's one thing to engage with the underserved communities living in and around our projects. However, there are many times that DOTs need to consult with groups that are not living nearby. This is true of many federally recognized Indian tribes throughout the country. Ohio DOT currently consults with 20 federally recognized tribes, none of whom have reservations or tribal trust lands in Ohio. These tribes are distributed throughout several states including Oklahoma, New York, North Dakota, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Kansas. In this presentation Ohio DOT will discuss how we maintain open, clear, accessible lines of communication with our tribal partners despite the distances that separate us as well as our efforts to work with the tribes to improve public understanding and knowledge of tribal history in Ohio.

Inclusive Consultation in California: Challenges and Best Practices

Jessica Feldman, Senior Architectural Historian, ICF

Benjamin Vargas, Archaeological Principal Investigator and Senior Manager, ICF

Margaret Roderick, Historic Preservation Manager, ICF

As agencies and consultants, we adhere to laws regarding consultation for environmental projects and grapple with ethical obligations in inclusively engaging with all relevant communities, some of which are distant, dispersed, or disappeared. In California, two regulations govern cultural resources and their consultation: Section 106 for federal projects and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/Assembly Bill (AB) 52 for state projects. As part of the CEQA process, AB52 specifically applies to Native American Tribes, and there is no specific mechanism for consultation with other groups. How do we achieve an ethical and inclusive good faith effort when we encounter challenges in identifying or reaching communities? This presentation discusses the regulations in California and their applications, focusing on implementing best practices even in challenging situations.

(Continued on next page)

Transportation Research Board AME 60 Committee 2022 Mid-Year Virtual Meeting Session Descriptions

Wednesday, August 24, 2:00-4:00 EDT (Continued)

Oops, I think you were on mute...:Efforts at Meaningful Consultation with Removed or Distant Communities in Georgia

Heather Mustonen, Cultural Resources Section Manager, Georgia Department of Transportation

The Georgia Department of Transportation consults with up to twenty federally recognized tribes with ancestral lands in Georgia, however none are currently located within the state. Long before virtual meetings were a commonplace part of daily work life, webinars proved to be a valuable consultation tool for working with tribes located across seven states. The use and availability of different technologies to help engage with removed tribal communities has increased over time and has also been beneficial in engaging with other communities such as the Gullah-Geechee people along coastal Georgia. This presentation will share GDOT's efforts and experiences consulting with removed tribes and communities, as well as how outreach and consultation have changed over time.

Consultation in the 50th State

Meesa Otani, Environmental Engineer, Federal Highway Administration

Hawaii is the most remote island chain in the world and is considered the state with the most diverse population. There are lots of Native Hawaiian organizations and special interest groups that participate in project development. Given these factors, there are some unique challenges and opportunities to conducting consultation.

Discussion Panel with the Presenters and Ira L. Matt

Ira L. Matt, Director, Office of Native American Affairs, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Transportation Research Board AME 60 Committee 2022 Mid-Year Virtual Meeting Session Descriptions

Thursday, August 25, 1:00-4:00 EDT

Workshop: Historically Speaking: Engagement and Communications in the Context of Cultural and Historic Resources (1:00-3:00)

Facilitators/Chairs: Rebekah Dobrasko and Linda Henderson, TxDOT

Join us for a repeat of this popular workshop unveiled at the 2022 TRB Annual Meeting! Walk through the process of engaging the public on which places, properties, or landscapes are important to a community and why, and what kinds of effects our transportation projects might have on them. We will look at the path a project follows, including planning, project development/scoping, schematics/environmental, utilities/ROW/final design, construction, and finally maintenance and operation of system. At all phases of this project path, we'll think about how and when our organizations do public involvement and how/when we should talk about cultural resources at those phases—what would that look like? Who should be involved? When do we need to start identifying our stakeholders?

Conference Wrap-up, Preview of 2023 Annual Meeting and Summer 2023 Mid-year Meeting (3:00-4:00)

Mary Alfson Tinsman, JMT

Transportation Research Board AME 60 Committee 2022 Mid-Year Virtual Meeting Schedule Presenter Bios

Scott Sundermeyer

Scott serves as the Program Manager for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Cultural Resources Program where his responsibilities include assisting the Department in regulatory compliance with state and federal cultural resources laws. While his professional attention is devoted to Section 106 and environmental processes and policies, Scott's regional interests include Late Prehistoric through Protohistoric Plains Village societies from North Dakota to Texas. Scott completed his Master's degree thesis on a protohistoric Wichita village in central Kansas in which he addressed economic specialization through an analysis of artifacts recovered from 21 excavated storage pits.

Erica Schneider

Erica oversees the Environmental Policy and Cultural Resources Sections in the Ohio Department of Transportation's Office of Environmental Services. She has been with ODOT since 2010 and is responsible for ODOT's NEPA Assignment program; NEPA document review; development of manuals, guidance, and training; Section 4(f); Section 106; Section 6 (f); Public Involvement; Environmental Justice/Underserved Populations; air quality; and noise analysis. Erica has over 20 years of experience in cultural resources management and environmental project management. She is active in several TRB and AASHTO committees. She received her bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in Anthropology from Northern Arizona University.

Jason Watkins

Jason Watkins is a staff archaeologist for the Ohio Department of Transportation, where he started as an intern over two decades ago. In addition to managing projects through the Section 106 process and directing archaeological research and field investigations, Jason has served as the department's tribal liaison since 2018, working to build and maintain relationships with Federally-recognized Tribes that have historic and ancestral ties to the State of Ohio. Jason was a member of the team that planned and developed the Tribal Coordination feature of EnviroNet – a tool designed to assist with tribal consultation. He has also been part of the team that plans and organizes the annual Ohio Tribal Nations Conference since its inaugural year in 2016.

Jessica Feldman

Jessica is a Senior Architectural Historian with ICF, working out of the Los Angeles office since 2011. With more than 20 years of experience, she has been extensively involved in the management of and participation in cultural resource investigations in compliance with the NEPA, NHPA, and other federal, state, and local cultural resource regulations. In addition, she is an expert at research and analysis of architectural resources, with a focus on transportation, engineering and industrial resources. A native of New York State, she has a Master of Arts in Historic Preservation Planning from Cornell University.

Benjamin Vargas

Benjamin is an archaeological Principal Investigator and Senior Manager with ICF who has over 30 years of experience conducting cultural resources studies throughout California and the southwestern United States. Benjamin has experience on all phases of cultural resources investigations including both prehistoric and historical period archaeology. He has a BA in Anthropology from California State University, Fullerton and an MA in Anthropology from California State University, Long Beach. Benjamin's research interests focus on the interactions between indigenous communities and colonial/settler populations in Alta California.

Margaret Roderick

Margaret is a Historic Preservation Manager with ICF, with over 5 years of experience. Margaret has ample experience working on small to large scale transportation projects throughout southern California. She obtained a Master of Heritage Conservation from the University of Southern California and also has a background in Art History. Her research interests focus on port-related buildings and infrastructure and post-war fast food architecture.

Transportation Research Board AME 60 Committee 2022 Mid-Year Virtual Meeting Schedule Presenter Bios

Meesa Otani

Ms. Otani joined the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2009. Since 2012, Ms. Otani has been in the FHWA Hawaii Division as the Environmental Engineer, where she manages the Environmental Program and serves as an Area Engineer. Prior to this, she served as an Environmental Coordinator in the FHWA Arizona Division.

Ira Matt

Ira is the Director for the ACHP's Office of Native American Affairs. He has 23 years of historic preservation and resource management experience at both the Tribal and federal levels. His prior federal experience includes serving as a Federal Preservation Officer/National Archaeologist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and as a Tribal Affairs Program Manager for the Department of Energy. Prior to Ira's federal service he worked for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes as a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Supervisory Archaeologist, and as a wildland firefighter. Throughout his career Ira has regularly worked with Cultural Committees, Tribal Councils, elected officials, and federal and state agencies to generate positive outcomes in cultural resource management by implementing historic preservation as a tool to effectuate cultural perpetuation. Ira is an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of western Montana. He received his BA and MA in Anthropology from the University of Montana and a Master of Jurisprudence in Indian Law from the University of Tulsa College of Law.

Rebekah Dobrasko

Rebekah is TxDOT's Cultural Resource Management Section Director. She has been at TxDOT since 2013. Prior to coming to TxDOT, Rebekah worked at the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office for 10 years. Rebekah has a bachelor's degree in history from Tulane University and a master's degree in public history from the University of South Carolina. She is the co-founder of TxDOT's Beyond The Road campaign and is an enthusiastic champion of public engagement.

Linda Henderson

After 20 years at the Texas SHPO, Linda Henderson became a Texas DOT Historic Preservation Specialist in 2018. She has degrees in Architectural Studies, English, and Public Affairs, all from the University of Texas at Austin, where she's lived since 1992. On the side, she writes poetry, fiction, and music.