

CONVERSATIONS WITH TRIBAL NATIONS

STATEWIDE PLAN DISCUSSIONS
ABOUT PRESERVATION PRIORITIES

OUR RESILIENT
HERITAGE ★ ≡

2022 - 2032

TEXAS STATEWIDE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION 
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

JANUARY 2023

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

OUR RESILIENT HERITAGE—2022-2032 TEXAS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

The Texas Historical Commission and the Planning Committee for Our Resilient Heritage 2022-2032 Texas' Statewide Historic Preservation Plan sincerely thank each tribal representative who shared histories, stories, and concerns with our SWP Planning Team, even more that they approved the publication of notes from these discussions in this document. We commit to reinforcing the preservation priorities developed from these conversations by seeking out ways to improve the Commission's and the public's awareness, understanding, and respect for Native peoples, tribal histories, and Traditional Cultural Places, as well as cultural traditions, practices, and languages of tribal communities.

The following tribes participated in one or more of the listening sessions highlighted in this document.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
Choctaw Nation
Comanche Nation
Delaware Nation
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

Mescalero Apache Tribe
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Quapaw Nation
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Shawnee Tribe
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Wichita and Affiliated Tribes
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

PLANNING TEAM AND CONTRIBUTORS

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CONTEXT

This document was developed in cooperation with the 2022-2032 Statewide Historic Preservation Plan—Our Resilient Heritage. The National Park Service recommends that statewide plan engagement activities incorporate robust efforts to involve Native American tribes associated with the state's historic and cultural resources regardless of residency. The tribal representatives who participated in this process asked that their comments be reflected in a stand-alone document rather than incorporated into the narrative of the formal statewide plan. This document—*Conversations with Tribal Nations*—provides notes from monthly Tribal Nations virtual meetings that took place from April to November 2022.

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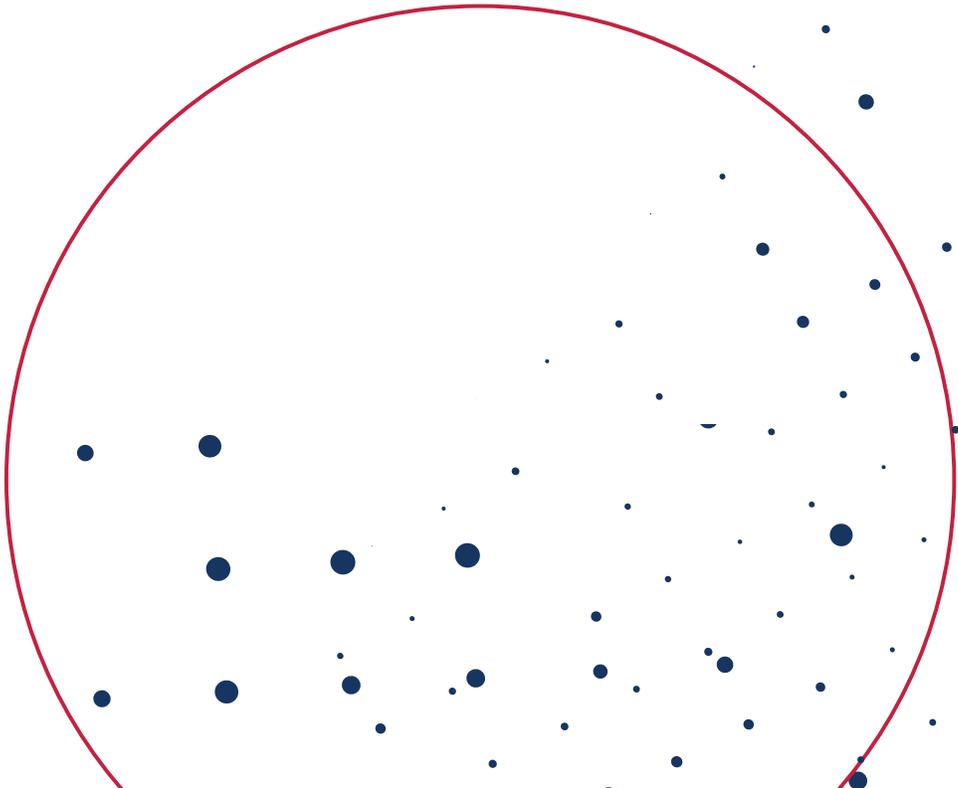
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CONVERSATION WITH TRIBAL NATIONS — INTRODUCTION

As part of the creation of the Our Resilient Heritage—2022–2032 Texas Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SWP), the Texas Historical Commission (THC) initiated conversations about preservation priorities with representatives from the 29 federally recognized tribes that maintain connections and interest in what is now known as Texas. This included the three federally recognized tribes—the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe, and the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo – who are located in Texas, as well as the 26 other federally recognized tribes with connections. To ensure broader representation, these conversations took place during regularly scheduled Tribal Nations Calls, which currently are held by the THC Archeology Division as virtual meetings. All 29 federally recognized tribes were invited to the monthly Tribal Nations Calls.

These conversations provided opportunities for the THC to identify and better understand Tribal Nation needs, interests, and collaboration opportunities for preserving cultural sites and resources of significance to the Tribal Nations, in addition to exploring appropriate ways to connect the public to tribal histories and tribal representatives. Preservation priorities identified by tribal representatives are included in this document, as well as included in the new Plan.

The general planning process started in October 2021 with a program of regional workshops and online town halls open to public participation. During this time, the SWP Planning Team worked with THC staff to provide SWP updates to tribal representatives and consider how best to gather comment from tribal representatives. Formal listening sessions with representatives of federally recognized tribes took place from April to November 2022 during THC’s monthly Tribal Nations Calls. This document summarizes the proceedings of the virtual listening sessions in a narrative, unabridged format. The THC facilitated the sessions with members of the THC-SWP Committee, THC Archeology staff, and personnel from the SWP Planning Team tasked with assisting the THC to document preservation priorities of the tribal representatives who participated in these conversations.

Tribes that participated in the listening sessions included:

- Absentee Shawnee
- Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
- Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma
- Choctaw Nation
- Comanche Nation
- Delaware Nation
- Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
- Quapaw Nation
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- Shawnee Tribe
- Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

Facilitators included:

- Marie Archambeault, Tribal Liaison/Archeologist, THC Archeology Division
- Mikayla Brown, Blanton & Associates, Inc. SWP Planning Team
- Amy Hammons, Texas Main Street Coordinator, THC Community Heritage Development Division and THC-SWP Committee
- Heather Goodson, Blanton & Associates, Inc., SWP Planning Team
- Bradford Jones, THC Archeology Division Director and State Archeologist
- Arlo McKee, THC Regional Archeologist and THC-SWP Committee
- Maggie Moore, THC Regional Archeologist
- Maryellen Russo, Blanton & Associates, Inc., SWP Planning Team

To facilitate conversation during the listening session, the THC provided three sets of questions for consideration by Tribal Nation participants. These questions included:

1. We would appreciate knowing more about preservation efforts and needs for sites, features, landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural and spiritual value to your tribe.
 - Can you describe the issues related to the preservation of your tribe's cultural and historic resources?
 - What are the key preservation issues for your tribe related to these resources?
 - Can you share anything about what your tribe may be currently working on to address these issues? Are there partnerships currently working to address these issues?
2. We would appreciate your help to enhance existing partnerships and create new ones with your tribes. Our hope is to relay your tribe's priorities related to the preservation of historic and cultural resources through the plan's goals and objectives.
 - We would appreciate your help in determining to connect communities and agencies to your tribes, including contact information and protocol.
 - We also would like the plan to indicate how you would prefer communities to be involved in your preservation work.
3. This statewide planning effort includes an examination of disaster preparedness and recovery efforts in our state—what is ongoing and what should be modified or added.
 - Would you share how tribes have been affected by natural or human-made disasters?
 - What are the main concerns related to how these disasters affect tribes and their cultural resources?
 - Are there ongoing efforts to address these concerns or ideas about how to address concerns in the future?

This *Conversations with Tribal Nations* document is available on the SWP project website,, <https://www.texaspreservationplan.com/>

SESSION #1

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #1



Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2022



Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Devin Frazier-Smith—Absentee Shawnee Tribe
 Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
 Max Bear—Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma
 Maddie Currie—Choctaw Nation
 Holly Houghten—Mescalero Apache Tribe
 Turner Hunt—Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
 Everett Bandy—Quapaw Nation
 Ben Yahola—Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
 Chief Benjamin Barnes—Shawnee Tribe

THC Staff

Marie Archambeault—THC
 Maggie Moore—THC
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 Amy Hammons—THC

SWP Planning Team

Maryellen Russo—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
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 Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.



Discussion

During the monthly Tribal Nations/Texas Historical Commission meeting on April 12, 2022, Amy Hammons provided an overview of the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SWP) and the process, which is currently underway, to develop it. See the April 12, 2022, Memorandum from Amy Hammons for more details about the SWP development process. The following provides a summary of the discussion meeting attendees held after Ms. Hammons's overview.

Holly Houghten discussed that Native history is lacking. She recommended the SWP include information about tribes with traditional homelands in Texas. She also recommended the SWP include contacts for tribal representatives, such as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and Tribal Governors, so users of the SWP know who to contact for input on interpretative activities, consultation, etc. Ms. Houghten also recommended that the plan encourage the public to reach more often to the tribes. She also recommended the SWP include a goal to work on relationships with the tribes.

In response to a question about when the SWP would be completed, Ms. Hammons indicated that 95 percent of the SWP would be completed by the end of the year. She also indicated the SWP could point users to tribes for information and resources and for a better understanding of tribal history beyond just an answer to a question. She also reviewed the SWP development timeline (see Ms. Hammons's April 12, 2022, memorandum for the timeline). THC's vision is to convey the tribes' content in a holistic manner in the SWP, not a summary of it. Bryant Celestine then asked how other states' plans address tribes. Ms. Hammons responded that it varies. THC will provide links to other states' plans for review. Mr. Celestine also stated that he does not want the tribes' information to be included in an appendix to the SWP.

Chief Barnes asked about the breadth of the SWP and whether it would include information for the public, such as inadvertent discovery procedures, legal rights to artifacts found on private property, and programmatic agreements. Ms. Hammons indicated that it is a broad plan that includes themes/initiatives and objectives. Some legal information is provided in the SWP. There is an opportunity to get specific about tribes' priorities in the SWP. She also indicated the SWP can be the start of something to develop goals and objectives going forward.

The SWP is not an all or nothing type of document. Additionally, she mentioned there are laws in places that the general public is not aware of. One of the SWP goals might be to educate the public about the laws. Mr. Celestine discussed the correlation between historic preservation principles being part of the educational curriculum. He is concerned about the Texas legislative bill to displace Critical Race Theory, which would, in turn, displace American Indian history. This is an issue intent on limiting the tribal voice and history. He also discussed concerns about American Indian history not aligning with textbooks. He indicated the SWP needs to consider what textbooks include about American Indian history. The extent of the American Indian history provided in textbooks has decreased over the years. He also indicated that education on American Indian history is not just for those who go to school, the legislators, textbook authors, etc. need to be educated as well. Ms. Hammons indicated the SWP is an opportunity to determine how to educate each other and how to engage people of all ages and backgrounds. Mr. Celestine also discussed issues with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 (of the National Historic Preservation Act) processes, particularly when a project is a Categorical Exclusion (CatEx) under NEPA. CatEx projects sometimes move forward without anyone realizing there are any tribal issues. He discussed two project examples in which tribal considerations or history were not incorporated in the project development or NEPA process. Ms. Hammons mentioned the last SWP did not include much for professionals. This SWP could include goals and objectives to address issues like Mr. Celestine described.

The section of the meeting about the SWP ended with discussion about how to move the discussions forward and incorporate information from the tribes into the SWP. Mr. Celestine indicated another virtual meeting would be beneficial. Ultimately, the decision was to continue the discussions at the May 10th tribal consultation meeting. Lastly, Ms. Hammons indicated that tribal representatives are welcome to provide written responses to the questions she posed (see her April 12, 2022, memorandum), if they would like. The detailed notes are intended to provide options and questions for consideration, not to specifically define something.

SESSION #2

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #2



Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022



Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Tribal Representatives Present

Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

Maddie Currie—Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

David Frank—Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Devin Frazier-Smith—Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Ben Yahola—Seminole Nation of Oklahoma



THC Staff

Marie Archambeault—THC

Maggie Moore—THC

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Amy Hammons—THC



SWP Planning Team

Maryellen Russo—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.



Discussion

During the monthly Tribal Nations/Texas Historical Commission meeting on May 10, 2022, Amy Hammons provided a summary of the information about the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SWP) and the process to develop it, which is currently underway, that was provided during the April 12, 2022, monthly meeting. See the May 10, 2022, meeting notes from Amy Hammons for more details about the SWP development process. The following provides a summary of the discussion meeting attendees held after Ms. Hammons's summary and the presentation of three sets of questions for tribal leaders' consideration and response.

Bryant Celestine requested the SWP timeline provided to tribal leaders be incorporated into the agenda for the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meetings. Ms. Hammons indicated the detailed information about the timeline is her meeting notes document, and she will provide a bulleted timeline.

In response to Ms. Hammons reviewing the three sets of questions the Planning Team developed for the tribal leaders' consideration, Mr. Celestine asked if all tribes are receiving the same questions. Ms. Hammons confirmed all tribal leaders are receiving the same questions. Mr. Celestine recommended the SWP include a statement as to why there is a section/chapter/separate document for federally recognized tribes since there are many different groups of people across the state that did not receive such one-on-one and collaborative consultation for the SWP.

After a short break, Ms. Hammons reviewed the first set of questions presented for tribal leaders' consideration and response. Marie Archambeault asked if anyone had an opportunity to review other states' preservation plans and asked meeting attendees to let the THC know which ones are good from their perspectives once they have had an opportunity to review them. Ms. Hammons noted that the THC wants the SWP to include actionable goals and objectives with timelines.

Ms. Hammons then reviewed the second and third sets of questions presented for tribal leaders' consideration and response. She also reminded attendees of Holly Houghton's suggestion in the April 2022 meeting to provide contact information for tribal leaders in the SWP.

Mr. Celestine indicated the three sets of questions are good questions to a certain point, that they are only as good as the people who have read and understood the SWP. Repeatedly, he has seen people who impact, destroy, or cause harm to historic and cultural resources. It is incumbent upon all to understand the SWP and what it says. He offered the example of continuing to deal with schools that have Indian mascots and the disrespect and harmful effects of having these mascots. He noted that education at all levels, including the Governor, State Legislature, etc., is important in the implementation of the SWP. He also noted that after education, partnerships can be created.

Ms. Hammons noted Mr. Celestine's example was a good one to share to help understand the issue and what needs to be done to address the issue. She also noted the importance preserving intangible resources that impact tangible resources. Tribal Nations are losing pieces of their culture, and the THC wants to help people understand the importance of all cultures.

Ben Yahola discussed his visits to many sacred places in several states across the country and their importance to the educational process about tribal culture and heritage. He noted that some property owners do not want to disclose the locations of the sacred places to protect them. Mr. Yahola also discussed impacts to sacred places due to development because people are not educated about their importance. Education and how to educate people is important to preserving sacred places, he noted. Ms. Hammons followed with a question about how Mr. Yahola feels, with regard to the larger story, about people choosing not to disclose the locations of sacred places because of fears about potential impacts. Mr. Yahola indicated his goals are to honor ancestors and protect the environment. With government-to-government actions and relations, there is a lot of red tape involved. He looks at the environment and how it has sustained people as one.

Mr. Celestine also discussed concerns about the public knowing the locations of sacred places because of potential for exploitation, looting, and vandalism. He noted that for sites located on federal property, there are federal laws with some teeth that provide protection. However, there is no state level protection for sites located on non-federal land. He discussed that sometimes

sites are labeled as environmentally sensitive areas, rather than as archeological sites, so as to not attract undue attention to the site. He mentioned that fencing and lights, which are sometimes used for protection, around sites alert people to the sites' presence. Mr. Celestine noted three examples of issues his tribe has dealt with: 1. Annihilation of a village with last minute THC intervention; 2. Calls from people about pipelines going through their property and concerns about impacts to resources; and 3. A Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) project for which the tribe has requested involvement early in the planning process due to concerns about potential impacts to Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs).

Ms. Hammons noted there seems to be a disconnect between the way a tribal member views historic sites and the way a historian views them. Historians have a very linear, traditional view on the potential for a site to educate, etc. The difference is in how sites are viewed and how sites are protected. Tribes have a better understanding on why something is important and what the appropriate protection would be, as demonstrated with stories. Mr. Celestine confirmed that looking at things from a tribal perspective is different. For example, traditional and medicinal plant use is learned from ancestors, not through formal education. He also offered the example of the roundabout the Georgia Department of Transportation constructed and the plans for the installation of a historical marker about a Cherokee princess. The historical marker was eliminated from the plans due to safety considerations. However, there never was a Cherokee princess. The concept of princesses in tribes was something adopted over time but never actually occurred. Ms. Hammons noted that understanding history, demonstrating priorities, and correcting misconceptions are important to knowing how best to celebrate our stories, sites, etc.

Mr. Celestine noted that there are sacred sites everywhere. He also discussed that the treatment plans for sacred sites are of concern for tribes. He identified impacts, such as mowing, erosion, etc., that are affecting the sites. Mr. Celestine also discussed impacts to sacred sites' view sheds, such as from cell towers. For example, he noted the mound that has been nominated as a world heritage site and the nighttime experience from the top of the mound of being able to see the red lights of a cell tower four to five miles down the road. He also discussed the example of how the U.S. Forest Service needs to consider the impacts of prescribed burns to mounds on federal property. Ms. Hammons noted that viewshed considerations are challenging when assessing impacts to historic and cultural resources. She explained that in disaster preparedness planning there is often a lot of concern for buildings but not as much of a focus on cultural sites and the landscape.

Mr. Yahola discussed how man-made structures, such as dams and bridges, changed the landscape but there are still flooding issues, for example. Climate change and damage to the environment caused by pesticides and fertilizers are an issue as well. He noted that we need to consider what will replace capitalism. Mr. Yahola explained that we used to have a community-based system, and we need to start thinking communally again. Reframing how we think is a small but real step. Ms. Hammons noted that nature has a place and forces change it. She asked what is the balance between what nature does to the land and how humans impact the land?

Mr. Yahola discussed the strange things nature does. Indigenous people believe their ancestors are made of all the elements. There are ancient prayers indigenous people recite at times of great need. Love, obedience, and humility are the ancestors' guides. One's mindset has to be in tune with earth and mother nature. It is a different understanding of the land and life. Ms. Hammons commented that in the workshops and stakeholder listening sessions, people said they did not try to control disasters, so they did not have big plans. They just tried to figure out how to make it through. They were the most resilient people.

Ms. Archambeault concluded the portion of the meeting focused on the SWP with a reminder that tribal leaders could email comments and responses to her by the end of June.

SESSION #3

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #3



Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022



Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Turner Hunt—Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
Ben Yahola—Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Rick Quezada—Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

THC Staff

Amy Hammons—THC
Arlo McKee—THC
Maggie Moore—THC

SWP Planning Team

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Discussion

On June 14, 2022, the monthly Tribal Nations/Texas Historical Commission (THC) meeting opened with introductions and Brad Jones offering a few remarks about the meeting being an open, informal session. The meeting did not have a formal agenda and a majority of it focused on the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SWP). Amy Hammons provided an overview of the SWP and provided updates about the timeline for the Tribal Nations' involvement in the plan development process. She indicated the date by which the THC would like to receive Tribal Nations' comments/information for the SWP is June 30, 2022. She also restated the questions for the Tribal Nations' consideration presented in the May's Tribal Nations/THC meetings. (For reference, please see the May 10, 2022, meeting notes Amy Hammons provided for more details about the SWP development process and the questions for consideration.)

The 50 Percent Draft of the SWP will be available for review by July 1, 2022. Review of the 50 Percent Draft will provide the Tribal Nations an opportunity to decide where they

would like to have their information incorporated into the SWP – if it would be incorporated within the various chapters, would be provided in a separate chapter of the SWP, or would be a standalone document. Ms. Hammons discussed that the Tribal Nations’ comments will be handled differently from the public’s comments. The public’s comments are being summarized and incorporated with the statewide survey results into the various chapters of the SWP. Rather than summarizing comments and feedback from the Tribal Nations, the SWP will notate any Tribal feedback as close to verbatim as possible. THC would like to be respectful and flexible with how Tribal Nations’ comments are incorporated into the SWP. Ms. Hammons also discussed the upcoming virtual meetings to present the 50 Percent Draft of the SWP to the public. There will be eight meetings in July and August, and one of the meetings will be held at a mutually acceptable time for the Tribal Nations. Ms. Hammons and representatives of the SWP Planning Team will attend future monthly Tribal Nations/THC meetings to provide updates about the SWP process and the timeline, but it will not be the primary agenda item for those meetings.

Bryant Celestine asked clarifying questions about the 50 Percent Draft SWP and whether or not it will incorporate information the Tribal Nation representatives have already provided. Ms. Hammons clarified that the 50 Percent Draft SWP will not include Tribal Nation representatives’ information because THC wants to have the information packaged together. The 50 Percent Draft SWP will include feedback received from the general public and the analysis of that information. Mr. Celestine discussed the National Park Service’s concerns about the SWP omitting Tribal Nations’ voices. He stated that he prefers the Tribal Nations have a separate section/chapter in the SWP and not have their information interspersed within the various chapters so that their voices do not get lost.

Ms. Hammons next asked the Tribal Nations representatives about partnerships. She discussed the example of a partnership between THC Museum Services, Tribal Nations, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Environmental Affairs Division, and the Bullock Texas State History Museum to provide a series of workshops to help museums have a better understanding and interpretation of Tribal Nations’ history. Marie Archambeault provided a summary of the project and indicated that Bryant Celestine is a tribal advisor to the partnership and could provide additional comments. Mr. Celestine also discussed issues with Texas educational curriculum dropping Tribal Nations’ histories from their social studies textbooks, that museums provide an opportunity to fill that gap, but that there are similar issues with museum exhibits across the state not providing accurate tribal histories. He offered the example of a museum on the Texas Gulf Coast with an exhibit incorporating a teepee. However, the Tribes along the Gulf Coast did not use teepees for shelter. This illustrates the need to educate people. Mr. Celestine also discussed the challenges presented by some groups that have self-identified themselves as a tribe and/or have had multiple name changes that take advantage of community services, etc., but those non-federally recognized groups did not and do not face the same discrimination that the federally recognized Tribes have experienced. Mr. Celestine reiterated the need to continue to work on issues regarding Tribal Nations’ histories. Education is key, including convincing the Governor and State Legislators to address issues. He noted that good strides are being made, but everyone needs to accept tribal perspectives. He discussed the example of the ongoing challenge to remove Indian mascots from schools and that they have to combat generational acceptance of those mascots as a barrier to change.

Ms. Archambeault also mentioned that Ben Yahola is a tribal advisor to the partnership discussed above. Ms. Hammons then asked several questions for consideration:

- Are there other ongoing efforts to preserve Tribal Nations’ histories that anyone would like to share?

- What are the preservation challenges Tribal Nations are facing?
- What is your priority preservation projects?
- Are there any preservation projects that are not going right?

Mr. Celestine offered two examples of ongoing efforts to preserve the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe's history. First, he discussed the Tribe's concerns about burials and ways to protect them. In some cases, they have dealt with excavations and exhumations because there was a review process that instigated the work. They have had challenges finding federal lands to use for reinternments. They were in discussions with the National Guard to set aside some federal land for burials, but the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who manages Guard property, has refused to allow the use of federal land for the creation of a cemetery. He mentioned that Fort Hood has a reinternment site, but it is only for their collections. The situation highlights the need for a reburial place that is beneficial to Tribes. The second example Mr. Celestine discussed is the work a researcher with knowledge of their Tribe's history conducted in the 1970s and 1980s to establish the locations of the Tribe's trails in Polk County and the subsequent work to erect signage marking the trails. Over time, the signage has disappeared through theft or damage. Of the original 67 signs, only 17 still exist. Tribal representatives will work with the Polk County Historical Commission to install new signs.

Rick Quezada mentioned the issue of missing historical markers in the past and asked him to elaborate on the matter. Mr. Quezada discussed the missing 1936 Centennial Marker that was at the old Ysleta Mission built in 1682. He described the famous photo of his Tribe celebrating its history during the placement of the Centennial marker in 1936. He also discussed the issues his Tribe has with erasure, especially the Tigua. This illustrates the need to speak up for themselves and to protect their history. Mr. Celestine noted the marker Mr. Quezada describes would be the same as what the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas has in front of their headquarters. The markers were commissioned by the State Legislature in 1936. Ms. Archambeault described them as the large, pink granite markers located throughout the state. Brad Jones discussed that they have tried to locate the marker Mr. Quezada identified but that the THC does not have information in their files to indicate it is missing. Mr. Jones indicated he would follow-up with Mr. Quezada on the matter.

Ms. Hammons asked about the ways the Tribal Nations want to share their information with people. Ms. Archambeault also mentioned the pamphlets about Tribal histories that TxDOT prepared and asked for feedback about those, also. Mr. Quezada discussed his involvement with the TxDOT project and said that it was great for the Tribe to be highlighted. He suggested that other agencies consider creating similar documents or that they would, at least, benefit from reading TxDOT's pamphlets, because they highlight the histories of Tribal Nations within Texas. Ms. Hammons asked what it was about how the process was done that made it more of an interest for the Tribe to participate in the process. Mr. Quezada discussed Mary Jo's [Galindo, of Galindo Environmental Consulting] process of meeting face to face and one-on-one with them to ask questions. She was attentive to the Tribe's needs and respectful.

Ms. Hammons discussed that some historic sites are trying to update the curriculum that is used by public and private schools and homeschool groups to incorporate Tribal Nations' histories. She asked if the Tribal Nations are interested in that format and the efforts to develop curricula? Turner Hunt discussed an example of this type of initiative the Muscogee Nation has been involved with. The initiative is development of educational materials about Charlestown from 1670-1675 and the Georgia cattle/beef market that sustained the Caribbean. They want to tell the story using faunal (cattle) remains and what can be learned from them. The Tribe has consulted on the script, photos, and an understanding of the attire Tribal members wore for different activities. He mentioned one

of the products will be a comic book for kids and will provide more information about the initiative to Ms. Archambeault. Mr. Celestine noted that Tribal consultation from start to finish on any project is important for accuracy. He also discussed that any publication his office is involved with must go before the Tribal Council for review before it is published. Tribal histories must not be sensationalized, dramatized, or taken out of context. They have procedures in place to protect the Tribe. One cannot use certain words if not in the culture. For example, someone who is not a Tribal member cannot use the word “rez” as an abbreviation for “reservation.” Mr. Celestine also noted that any publications must incorporate Tribal research, access tribal archives, and authors should also visit sites important to the Tribes. He noted that the purpose of the Texas Tribal Histories project was to inform readers of the native experience across Texas, about the importance of Tribal histories, and how Tribes influenced the state’s landscape, including how early inhabitants had to use what Creator gave them to survive and that they did not have modern conveniences.

Ms. Archambeault mentioned the email she sent out to Tribal representatives about historical markers (which included a database of historic markers referencing specific tribes). Mr. Jones noted that he looked forward to hearing what Tribal representatives have to say about it. He also mentioned that he would not be in the July meeting because he would be in Finland at that time.

Ms. Hammons mentioned that she worked with County Historical Commissions (CHCs) for over ten years and was often challenged by CHCs’ dependency on historical markers, which have only three paragraphs of information, to tell stories. She always asked the CHCs what else they were doing to tell stories and share histories, such as home demonstrations, tours, online resources, etc. She asked what ways the Tribal Nations are telling their stories? What are the effective ways to tell the stories? Mr. Yahola discussed the idea of how music reaches the mind when words alone will not, unless done in a melodic way. He indicated that stories/histories should be presented in this way at times. Ms. Hammons noted that the voice used to tell a story should be considered, too. Mr. Yahola further discussed that some languages, like the Muskogean language, is melodic when slowed down. He is a folk singer and song writer and uses his songs to provide messages. Ms. Hammons also noted that delivery has a lot to do with how people receive messages, and that words on a page do not do the job sufficiently.

Ms. Hammons noted the group discussed existing partnerships already, and asked Tribal Nations representatives if there are any partnerships, they wish to see established in the next two to five years that could help expedite issues? The partnerships could be with individual organizations or types of groups. Mr. Celestine discussed that collaboration and interconnecting history and archeological sites across a landscape, even if they are not considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), are necessary to tell the whole story of the landscape. Even if a site is not NRHP eligible does not mean there is no significance to a site. Materials for building homesteads, making tools, and harvesting foods could only occur in specific areas. The whole story is not told when not all associated sites are included. He discussed the example of Alabama-Coushatta sites south of his location [Livingston, Texas] for which information was lost because of digging parties in the 1960s. He also mentioned the Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP) there and along highway. He noted the property owner is aware of the sites and TCPs and does as little as possible to impact them. The property owner lets fallen trees deteriorate in place, rather than removing them, and only uses the land for cattle. Mr. Celestine also discussed a future TxDOT project that may have impacts to these sites and the Tribe’s request to TxDOT to be involved from the outset of the project development process. He also mentioned their concerns about the potential Interstate Highway 14 project and the potential impacts to the reservation and the Tribal community.

Ms. Hammons asked if, looking into the future, there are any particular issues that have not already been mentioned and if there are any partnerships that would be helpful to the Tribal Nations? Ms. Archambeault asked if there were any particular agencies the Tribal Nations would like to partner with regarding disaster preparedness and resilience?

Mr. Celestine discussed that Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) recently finalized a programmatic agreement (PA) to streamline Section 106 (of the National Historic Preservation Act) procedures in Texas. The PA has a very streamlined process that goes fast to capitalize on disaster funding. Of the 24 Tribes invited to be signatories on the PA, only the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and one other Tribe were involved in the PA development process and are signatories to the PA. Mr. Celestine also discussed the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 106 process. It capitalizes on funding for communities and natural disasters. HUD does consultation different than other federal agencies, but the Tribes do not challenge this. Mr. Celestine indicated there is a need for Tribes to challenge federal agencies to consult with them on projects. He also indicated that everyone needs to accept the SWP.

Ms. Hammons continued with the disaster topic by asking several questions: what natural disasters have impacted Tribal Nations? How they have been impacted? What type of damage occurred? How have the Tribal Nations handled natural disasters and their impacts? She noted that through the SWP process, they have learned that many communities do not have formal natural disaster plans. She also asked how the Tribal Nations feel about formalized plans? How do they view the importance and usefulness of them for communities? Mr. Celestine discussed that his Tribe formalized their disaster preparedness plans in 2008. For Hurricane Ike, they had meetings before and after the hurricane made landfall and identified the responsibilities each Tribal government department had to address. A few years later when Hurricane Harvey hit, they used the plan again. They have also been impacted by wildfires and straight-line wind events. He discussed the example of a property on which the owner cut down and sold all the timber. In a straight-line wind event, the wind hit that cut line, went straight up, and then came down on their community, causing damage and power outages. They had nothing prepared for that situation. Mr. Celestine concluded that they have plans in place and review them every five years. At signs of impending disasters, they assign responsibilities as necessary.

Ms. Hammons concluded the SWP discussion by stating the THC is happy to take comments in whatever way the Tribal Nation representatives would like to provide them. **The THC would like to receive comments by the end of June 2022.** Once comments are received, the SWP Planning Team will prepare them for inclusion in the SWP and will send the draft out to Tribal Nation representatives to review and comment on it. In next month's Tribal Nations/THC meeting, the SWP Team will discuss how the information Tribal Nations are providing will be prepared and shared through the SWP.

Ms. Archambeault noted that if anyone has comments about the historical marker email she sent out to send those to Brad Jones or herself directly. The email will be discussed in a future monthly Tribal Nations/THC meeting. Mr. Yahola discussed an issue that is dear to him: climate and how issues will be addressed as it changes. When he thinks of disasters, numerous types come to his mind. He considers how all the issues will be addressed as climate changes and how will we feed our people. He suggested that a plan should be drafted for seven generations into the future.

Ms. Archambeault concluded the meeting by noting that she will send out send a link to the 50% draft SWPP to the Tribal Nation representatives as soon as it is available.

SESSION #4

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #4



Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2022



Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Mary Botone—Wichita and Affiliated Tribes
Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Holly Houghten—Mescalero Apache Tribe
Rick Quezada—Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Carissa Speck—Delaware Nation
Ben Yahola—Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

THC Staff

Amy Hammons—THC
Arlo McKee—THC
Maggie Moore—THC

SWP Planning Team

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.



Discussion

*Notes: Requests to Tribal Nation representatives contained in the following notes are in **bold** text. These items are also summarized at the end of the document. Additionally, some text has been added in parentheses to define acronyms or brackets to clarify information contained in the notes.*

On July 12, 2022, the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meeting opened with introductions. The meeting did not have a formal agenda, and it focused on the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SWP). Following introductions, Amy Hammons recapped the SWP development process, the public involvement process, and the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meetings the SWP Team has participated in. She reminded attendees that the SWP

is a public plan for the state as a whole. THC is hosting the SWP, but it is not the agency's plan. The aim of the SWP is to provide a practical plan with goals and objectives that reflect public input received over the last six to nine months with ways to move forward collectively in preserving our state's heritage. The SWP Planning Team received a lot of information from the public via online forums, workshops, and the project website. The SWP Planning Team summarized the information, identified priorities, and prepared the 50 Percent Draft SWP. The THC now has the 50 Percent Draft SWP and has been reviewing it over the last several weeks to provide feedback to the SWP Team. It is not yet ready for public consumption and the Tribal Nations' representatives are seeing it first.

Ms. Hammons noted that sovereign nations are not considered as the general public, the body of people considered to be the primary users and audiences engaged in the planning process. However, Tribal Nations are stakeholders in the SWP, and therefore, potentially impacted by the planning process and its implementation recommendations. For that reason, we (SWP Planning Team/THC) have the responsibility to incorporate the Tribal Nations' information about priorities and how the Tribal Nations view preservation into the plan development process. One thing the SWP Planning Team has learned from the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meetings they have attended is that Tribal Nations have some things that are important for preservation that differ from what the National Register of Historic Places considers.

Ms. Hammons went on to discuss how the Tribal Nations' information will be incorporated into the SWP development process. The SWP Team has taken notes at each of the monthly meetings they have attended. THC will provide those notes to Tribal Nations' representatives in one compiled document to make sure they say what the representatives want to say. It was the general opinion that a stand-alone document with its own identity will be prepared, rather than including the Tribal Nations' information in the SWP. It will be a companion document to the SWP. [For the remainder of these notes, the Tribal Nations' companion document will be called "Conversations with Tribal Nations" to distinguish it from the SWP. It is anticipated the companion document will be renamed at some point in the development process.] THC wants to make sure it is the type of document the Tribal Nations' representatives want it to be. She also noted that because this is a planning process, the idea is to move forward and to outline how to do that appropriately. **To that end, Ms. Hammons stated the SWP team would like to have specific, measurable action items from the Tribal Nations' representatives for the public in the Report.** The action items need to be measurable to move things in a direction that Tribes feel is effective. The discussion returned to the topic of action items later in the meeting.

Ms. Hammons then turned to three documents she would show to attendees during the meeting for discussion purposes. She noted the three documents are: 1) The updated SWP development process timeline and how the Tribal Nations representatives' input fits into the process; 2) a document combining the Tribal Nations/THC meeting notes pertaining to the SWP to-date; and 3) the 50 Percent Draft SWP. She noted the 50 Percent Draft SWP is still in the THC review process and resulting edits, but that she wanted to show as much as possible in the meeting. Ms. Hammons noted that the 50 Percent Draft SWP might serve as a platform for moving forward in identifying their priorities and obtaining a better understanding of what they want to achieve about preservation going forward.

Bryant Celestine noted that he was recently reviewing a programmatic agreement (PA) that had been in existence for ten to 12 years and was ready to be renewed. He did not realize the document had language in it about this other entity's agreement to contribute to the statewide preservation plan. He stated he did not realize that was a requirement to do so and asked if it is a requirement for other agencies to contribute to the current SWP. Ms. Hammons responded that it was not a regulatory requirement for other agencies to

contribute to the SWP. Ms. Hammons offered a related example of documents and entities contributing to the statewide preservation plan in the past. She noted that in the past THC's Texas Preservation Trust Fund Grant application had a place where the applicant had to explain how the proposed project contributes to the goals and objectives of the statewide preservation plan. This reinforces statewide unity of looking beyond an individual project to the big picture. She also discussed how one of Preservation Texas' programs [the program for identifying endangered properties] incorporated references as to how the nominated project would contribute to the goals and objectives of the statewide preservation plan. This is an example of other organizations using the plan to make people aware and accountable that we are trying to do this together. She also noted that she did not know other agencies were including that type of language [that Mr. Celestine discussed] because she is not on the regulatory side of the business but is not surprised by it.

Marie Archambeault noted that ten years ago, the statewide preservation plan was two years old. She guessed that PA is referencing the statewide preservation plan as a guideline document. She thought it was interesting to hear and definitely thinks there is potential for other agencies to be much more involved in the SWP. She is not familiar with the particulars off-hand of the PA and would have to research it.

Ms. Hammons responded that planning documents, such as the SWP, are challenging. Some sit on a shelf forever without use and some are used. A challenge the THC had with the previous statewide preservation plan is that public involvement activities were completed in 2010, and they published the statewide preservation plan in 2011. Around the same time, the THC's budget was substantially cut, and it took the wind out of their sails, so to speak. Prior to the budget cuts, one of the THC's planned activities was to upload case studies and projects that showed how they aligned with the plan's goals and objectives. However, after the budget cuts, the person doing the uploads left the agency, and other staff were not able to pick up the work due to other budget cut-related issues. Ms. Archambeault responded that it makes her think someone figured out to work some of the SWP goals into the PA Mr. Celestine discussed to pick up the gap due to the THC budget cuts.

Ms. Hammons noted there has been a general change in how the SWP is viewed. THC is currently developing an agency plan that will reflect the SWP. She has good feeling about what the SWP will do to focus and remember what we [preservation community] are trying to do and not get lost in the side pieces that take us off the primary focus. She noted that she can discuss Mr. Celestine's question with regulatory staff.

Mr. Celestine noted the discussion answered some questions but brings up others. He noted that if an agency is making a plan, that some requirement to be in compliance with the SWP is a good idea. He noted that it is one thing to have a preservation plan, but it is another to have agencies adhere to the plan and held accountable through agreement documents. He also discussed the importance of making other agencies understand the government-to-government consultation process. For Tribes, it is important for them to be able to answer phone calls and letters. They do not delegate the work to others. They are appointed by their Tribe, and do not take tribal sovereignty lightly. There should be an expectation to honor that. If an agency is delegating consultation, they are not in compliance. A requirement for the agencies and the public to consult with tribes is important to Tribes. They need to work with Tribes to document sites, etc. and to protect tribal history. There is a need to make agencies accountable.

Ms. Hammons responded that people are looting but they do not view their actions as looting or detrimental. It is our responsibility to help them understand what they are doing is wrong, who to talk to for guidance, etc. when they find artifacts. She asked the

questions: How do we advertise those basic pieces of preservation to the public? How do we reach those who are digging up artifacts and putting them in museums without context? Mr. Celestine stated that was an ideal expectation. Unfortunately, there is more private land in Texas than public lands. As alluded to, state agencies are constricted to funding provided for in state budgets. They understand, but at the same time there has to be better education for all. One of the key players is always law enforcement. Trained and educated officers in the field are needed to protect sites rather than letting neighbors get away with looting. There needs to be protection to prevent digging up artifacts and other important resources.

Mr. Celestine mentioned he was curious that with the *Conversations* document how people would read the SWP versus the tribal contribution. He questions whether they would read both sides of the plan. Ms. Hammons responded there are ways to reinforce action items in the education process. Maybe it is a series of meetings with Tribes and the public that focus on how people use the documents [SWP and *Conversations* document]. Consider ways to make action items associated with, and reflective of, the Report. She relayed a story about historical markers and looting. Vandalism to historical markers is always happening. Stealing a historical marker is a felony because it is state property. Some years ago, the THC marker program made a flyer that it was a felony, why it was felony, and who to call. They disseminated the flyer to County Historical Commissions, police, junk yards, foundries, etc., which began to help people understand the value of the historical markers. She noted that maybe there are similar ways Tribal Nations' representatives can identify specific things that are not going well and layer a way of informing the public about what is going on and how to address the issues, including pointing the public back to the Tribes. This could focus on what the priorities and measurable action items are to move forward toward better relationships and understanding what is going on.

Ms. Archambeault noted that Ben Yahola of the Seminole Nation joined the meeting. Mr. Yahola introduced himself to attendees.

Ms. Hammons shared the calendar of milestones via screen share with attendees. She also noted the calendar would be sent out to Tribal Nations' representatives after the meeting. She discussed that up to this point, she had been sharing a narrative schedule, but that now that the SWP development process was into the deliverables, the THC and SWP Team have gotten more specific with due dates. The document she shared identifies the milestones for the Tribal Nations representatives. Currently, the SWP development process is a month behind schedule, so the dates discussed in past meetings have shifted. She also noted that in future Tribal Nations/THC monthly meetings, the SWP Team will only have check-in opportunities and will not take the full meeting to discuss the SWP and *Conversations* document. As soon as the link to the 50 Percent Draft SWP is available, THC staff will send it out to the Tribal Nations Representatives. As Ms. Hammons reviewed the calendar, she noted that in August, there will be a series of virtual meetings to discuss SWP comments. There will be an opportunity for tribes to have their own meeting, and Ms. Archambeault will work with Tribal Nation representatives to determine the date for the meeting. Everyone is also invited to the four meetings that will be scheduled for the general public, as well. She also noted the following points on the calendar:

- **September 2022:** The THC will develop a more formatted version of the *Conversations* document with action items. The SWP Planning Team will keep comments orderly fashion but will not be revising or summarizing the information.
- **October 2022:** The THC will provide a link to the 75 Percent Draft SWP. This should allow Tribal Nation representatives to see SWP and *Conversations* document side-by-side. In the SWP, a paragraph explains that THC has conducted an informal consultation

process with the Tribes. Anytime the SWP references tribal interactions, the THC wants Tribal Nation representatives to have an opportunity to review the text to make sure it accurately reflects their information and discussions.

- **November 2022:** The Conversations document should conform to what Tribal Nations' representatives want so that they can take the SWP and Conversations document back to tribal councils for approval of the documents. The THC wants tribal council approval by January 10, 2023. THC has a hard deadline of February 1, 2023, to finalize the SWP, Conversations document, and other associated documents, including disaster resilience-related documents. This schedule provides two months for tribal council review and approval and allows time to address tribal council comments. If that is not sufficient time, the THC will determine how to address the matter.

Ms. Hammons asked if anyone had any questions about the timeline. Rick Quezada asked if the THC would share the 50 Percent Draft SWP and Conversations document with Tribal Nations representatives. Ms. Hammons clarified that THC would send the link to the 50 Percent Draft SWP to Tribal Nations' representatives for their review once it has been posted for the public on the internet, which is expected to occur in August, and will send the report to them in September for review.

Ms. Archambeault introduced Mary Botone with the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, who had joined the meeting.

Next, Ms. Hammons shared the meeting notes document via screen share. The document is the last three meetings' worth of notes combined together. The SWP Team will be using this content to inform the Report. **Ms. Hammons requested that all Tribal Nations' representatives review the information again to make sure it is correct, attribution is correct, etc. and to let the SWP Team or Ms. Archambeault know if there are any corrections that need to be made.** She reminded attendees that information the public has provided throughout the SWP development process has been distilled down into themes, goals, and objectives. However, the SWP Team will not be doing that with the information the Tribal Nations' representatives have provided in the meetings. The Tribal Nations representatives' information will be shared without it being distilled. Ms. Archambeault will send out the meeting notes document to the Tribal Nations' representatives for their review. It will be sent out after the notes from today's meeting are prepared and incorporated into the document.

Ms. Hammons asked if anyone had any questions about the meeting notes document or general questions. Holly Houghten noted that the spelling of her name needed to be corrected. It is "ten" not "ton." **Ms. Hammons reiterated the request that Tribal Nations' representatives let THC know about any other edits to the meeting notes.**

Ms. Hammons then shared the 50 Percent Draft SWP via screen share. She reiterated that it is not yet ready for public consumption and that meeting attendees will see the marked-up version with comments. She is sharing the 50 Percent Draft SWP so that Tribal Nations' representatives know what to expect of the SWP. They will have a similar look in terms of font, color, title bars, etc. but it will not be as animated because the information provided during these Tribal Nations calls does not necessarily lend itself to the graphics used in the SWP document [that illustrated statistics and survey results].

Ms. Hammons provided an overview of how the SWP is broken down:

THE DRAFT SWP INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

- **Cover Page**
- **Acknowledgments**
- **Table of Contents**
- **Chapter 1** – Chapter 1 is the introduction and discusses the disaster resiliency component of the SWP. This planning process will result in several products: the SWP, Conversations document, a Statewide Disaster Assessment, and disaster resiliency guides for historic property owners and local governments. The chapter also includes summaries of the themes that rose up from the public engagement program. The order of the themes is not final.
- **Chapter 2** – Chapter 2 provides examples of case studies and quotes from stakeholders garnered through the engagement process. The chapter distills the public involvement activities undertaken for the development of the SWP. The chapter has a Tribal consultation paragraph, which the THC will revise for the next draft. It will include a reference to the Conversations document. Tribes are stakeholders in the SWP.
- **Chapter 3** – Chapter 3 provides an overview of the current state of preservation, including a breakdown of the various preservation programs and preservation partners. She noted that the National Park Service (NPS) wants the SWP to talk about historic contexts. However, that is challenging since it is such a broad topic. There is so much in Texas, and it is difficult to make sure we have a handle on all the resources. It may become an action item in the SWP to improve upon the historic contexts. This could also be a theme for the Conversations document.
- **Chapter 4** – This chapter discusses themes and presents goals and objectives. Each theme has a narrative, goals, itemized objectives, and case studies. The THC then asked that Tribal Nation representatives review the case studies. Different people provided the team with case studies, and they are wide-ranging in the representation of the state. Several of them may have language that is not entirely right. To help direct the Tribal Nations' attention when reviewing the SWP, THC's Arlo McKee will provide a short list of places in the SWP they should review.
- **Chapter 5** – The THC will more fully develop this chapter in the 75 percent draft.

Ms. Hammons finished the overview of the SWP by stating that one theme in particular – the theme related to diversity - needs a lot of work on what is said and how it is said so that it reflects the whole population. She noted that the idea with the SWP is that the more engaging the content, the more people will use it. The 75 Percent Draft SWP will drill down on the goals and objectives to be more specific to help preservationists in Texas use the SWP to do their work. The SWP will also help the THC guide their work.

Ms. Hammons stated that the SWP Team would like to work with the Tribal Nations' representatives to define some specific things that will take place to inform the public and make sure they are interacting with Tribes. The THC will send the link to the 50 Percent Draft SWP and the meeting notes document to the Tribal Nations' representatives for their review. The Planning Team wants to make sure the meeting notes reflect their information in an appropriate way. She has been calling the Tribal Nations' document "Report," but it can also be called something different. We can discuss the title as we go forward. She then called for any questions or comments.

Ms. Archambeault asked if the SWP Team was on track for the 50 Percent Draft to go out on August 1, 2022. Ms. Hammons responded that is what she is hoping for. The THC returned their comments to the project team. She would also like Ms. Archambeault and Anjali Zutshi [Executive Director of Friends of the Texas Historic Commission] to review the diversity theme in detail and to provide comments. Ms. Archambeault also noted that it will be easier for Tribal Nations' representatives to provide comments once the 50 Percent Draft SWP is released. Ms. Hammons agreed but wanted to share the current document today since she made a commitment to show the Tribal Nations' representatives the draft document by this time, but the 50 Percent Draft SWP is behind schedule. She wanted them to see how the SWP and the report document might look side-by-side. Ms. Archambeault will send out the meeting notes document, which will incorporate today's meeting notes, and the calendar by the end of the week to Tribal Nations' representatives for their review.

Next, Ms. Hammons turned to a discussion about what the action items for the report might be. She mentioned that she discussed this with Ms. Archambeault to help generate the conversation. Ms. Hammons noted that a common thread through all the Tribal Nations/THC meetings the SWP Team has attended is better connectivity and people going to the Tribal Nations' representatives to obtain and to provide information. She suggested a potential action item could be that THC sends out Tribal Nations representatives' contact information once a year to their audiences. This would remind people that the Tribal Nations are valued partners and provide the public with information on who needs to be contacted. If someone had a project at hand that had not been discussed or thought through recently with Tribal Nations representatives, this yearly email would provide the reminder to reach out to the Tribal Nations to have a better representation of the story that needs to be told. The yearly reminder could go out via email to THC's general contact list with over 40,000 people or it could go out through the program specific contact lists, such as the County Historical Commissions and Main Street program. Ms. Archambeault noted that this yearly email would not replace the spreadsheet of Tribal Nations' representatives that lives on the THC website. The yearly email would reference the spreadsheet and how it is updated on a regular basis. Ms. Hammons noted this potential action item is an opportunity for THC to commit to working with the public to be more responsive and communicative and to reinforce the Tribes' authority and knowledge.

She went on to suggest another potential action item for the report: Session(s) at the annual Real Places Conference about topics of Tribes' choice.

Ms. Hammons noted that a lot of the ideas for action items she and Ms. Archambeault thought about are ones that the THC could make sure would happen from year to year and all are public facing. **Ms. Hammons requested that Tribal Nations' representatives share their ideas about action items to improve communication and to improve understanding that could be included in the report.**

Ms. Archambeault shared several other ideas she and Ms. Hammons had about potential action items:

- Measurable steps to increase communication.
- Opportunities to share Tribes' histories. Be the example in providing other forums for Tribes to convey whatever information they would like to convey. For example, the forums with archeologists in which Ms. Houghten and Mr. Celestine shared their Tribes' histories and Mr. Quezada and Javier Loera introduced the newly established Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Mr. Celestine discussed one action item should be finding ways to hold other agencies accountable for the SWP. For example, including compliance with the SWP in more Programmatic Agreements.

Ms. Archambeault noted that she would like to **hear from Tribal Nations' representatives after they have had an opportunity to review the 50 Percent Draft SWP to see what may be mirrored in the report, as well as what should be mirrored in the SWP goals and objectives from the report.**

Ms. Hammons emphasized the desire for feasible action items. **She encouraged Tribal Nations' representatives to look at the big picture to be accomplished and to identify some specific, measurable action items that will make us better next year than right now, how to give people a better understanding next year than right now, etc.** For example, let us make sure people understand the applicable laws, what are the missteps, and what needs to be done to correct them. With the action items, there might be specific problems to address and figure out how to fix them.

Ms. Archambeault noted the meeting was at the end of the designated time and asked if anyone had any last-minute comments. Mr. Quezada noted that the 50 Percent Draft SWP looks very nice. Ms. Hammons stated that THC is very happy it is an exciting document and that the SWP Team spent a lot of time pulling out the information to make sure it is reader friendly.

Mr. Celestine recounted the discussion about PAs and putting some requirements in them. He also discussed how circumstances will be different for the entire state because of the differences across the state. He is not sure how to reach other tribes that have not been involved in these discussions. His Tribe has incorporated a lot of things in PAs that are important to its members. He noted there is a lot to think about as the SWP comes together. Disasters, economic development, roadways, etc., and there is still a lot that has to be considered. He mentioned that it is not a requirement for state agencies to use sterile soils when completing work such as repairs or installing culverts [immediately following a disaster]. One of the things agencies have done is head toward the big mound of dirt that has not been touched, but there could be artifacts, human remains, etc. that are being spread out. There are also a lot of things to think about when dealing with natural disasters. Fires were important to ceremonial sites. There needs to be ways to close ceremonies that have been accidentally opened. There are Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) important to Tribes that are at risk for looting. Some agencies believe that all TCPs are National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible. However, some are not NRHP eligible, and some Tribes do not want them to be NRHP listed. Many people do not agree with their perspectives. He hopes the SWP can be used to educate all people from babies to the governor. His Tribe has had a recent success in the gaming industry, but the three Tribes in Texas still have an uphill battle with regard to sovereignty. There is still a lot to gain in the economic development and education arenas. He concluded by saying he would like to make the SWP a living document.

Ms. Hammons responded by saying that she has been in preservation for 20 years. So much of the tribal consultation work, because it was so important, was particularly geared toward those who were trained in how to have the interactions with the Tribes, but there is a whole realm of professional preservationists who need the education, especially those who work with the NRHP. There are many opportunities for us to do some specific work to get us farther down the road. Mr. Celestine expanded on that by discussing the presentations he has done for Texas Archeological Society, United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Coast Guard, Texas Military Department, THC Stewardship Program, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He has also attended meetings across the state for social services programs. He noted the opportunity is always there. He has been invited to some locations but can not do everything. He has been invited to SEAC (Southeastern Archaeological Conference) and

SAs (Society for American Archeology). Tribal offices are well aware of the laws and will hold agencies to them. Professional organizations have an opportunity to gain by sitting and listening to the sessions and hearing what Tribes have to say. Whether it is through THC webinars or other opportunities, there need to be opportunities for Tribes to share their histories. Professional communities need to come out to those sessions. It is eye opening for Tribal members and for participants when those sessions occur. He offered the example of learning how water is such an important component of who they are as a people through such a session.

Ms. Hammons encouraged the Tribal Nations' representatives to think about the interactions, projects, and events that have been the most meaningful about conveying their histories and what is important to the Tribes. Think about the opportunities and how we can make connections – better and new connections. Those are the types of things we can make actionable items in the SWP and report. She thanked Tribal Nations' representatives for their time and the information they have provided over the last few months. She recognized they have given a lot of information. The THC will be sending the information out to them for review, as discussed earlier in the meeting. She noted that if anyone had any questions to contact Ms. Archambeault. She also noted that she and Ms. Archambeault are available for one-on-one sessions about the SWP and report for anyone who is interested in the opportunity.

Summary of Bolded Items --- for Tribal Nation Consideration

For the Conversations with Tribal Nations report:

- Review compiled Tribal Nations-THC monthly meeting notes to ensure the correct information and attributions.
- Specific, measurable action items for the public.
 - » Consider the big picture of preservation issues and identify action items that will make the preservation community better next year than right now.
 - » Consider interactions, projects, and events that have been the most meaningful in conveying Tribal histories and what is important to the Tribes. Consider the opportunities and the broader preservation communities can make better and more effective connections and partnerships.

Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (Plan)

- The THC will share a web link to this document with Tribal Nations' representatives via Ms. Archambeault once the 50 Percent Draft is ready for review.
- Review case studies included in SWP to ensure information is correct, in addition to the general notes and reference within the SWP to the Tribal Nations' accompanying report that is in progress.
- Identify information that should mirror goals, objectives, and action items between the SWP and the report.
- The THC will give Tribal Nation representatives a list of pages and sections within the Draft SWP that reference Tribes or related material. However, feel free to share comments on the document as a whole.

SESSION #5

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #5

 **Date:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022

 **Time:** 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Bryant Celestine — Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
 Maddie Currie—Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
 Jacob Daukei—Mescalero Apache Tribe
 Kassie Battise Dawsey—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
 Turner Hunt—Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
 Martina Minthorn—Comanche Nation
 Rick Quezada—Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
 Carissa Speck—Delaware Nation

THC Staff

Bradford Jones—THC
 Marie Archambeault—THC
 Maggie Moore—THC
 Amy Hammons—THC

SWP Planning Team

Maryellen Russo—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
 Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
 Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Discussion

*Notes: Requests to Tribal Nation representatives contained in the following notes are in **bold** text. These items are also summarized at the end of the document.*

Amy Hammons and members of the Statewide Preservation Plan (SWP) joined the last 30 minutes of the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meeting at 2:00 p.m. to provide an update about the SWP and to discuss action items for inclusion in the report. The report will be a stand-alone

document from the SWP with its own identity that will contain the Tribal Nations' information, rather than incorporating the Tribal Nations' information into the SWP. [The Tribal Nations' companion document is called "Report" for the time being to distinguish it from the SWP. It is anticipated the companion document will be renamed at some point in the development process.] The other item for discussion was the topic or topics to be covered during THC's portion of the Tribal Nations/Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Annual Tribal Consultation Meeting to be held on September 21, 2022, in conjunction with the TxDOT Environmental Conference in Fort Worth.

Ms. Hammons opened the discussion with a review of the SWP and its purpose. She mentioned the SWP is a public plan and that sovereign nations are not considered as the general public, the body of people considered to be the primary users and audiences engaged in the planning process. However, Tribal Nations are stakeholders in the SWP, and therefore, potentially impacted by the planning process and its implementation recommendations. Ms. Hammons and the members of the SWP Planning Team have been attending the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meetings for several months to receive Tribal Nations' representatives' information. She presented a series of questions related to preservation priorities and the information to convey to the public for Tribal Nations' representatives' consideration. The SWP Team put together minutes from each of those meetings and has sent them back to the Tribal Nations' representatives for review and comment. These minutes will serve as the content for the Report.

Ms. Hammons noted that we now need to focus on action items to focus on the following types of considerations:

- **help the public have improved relationships with the Tribes**
- **information Tribes would like to convey to the public**
- **understanding of Tribal preservation priorities**

Ms. Hammons also provided more information about the invitation extended to THC to attend the Tribal Nations/TxDOT meeting on September 21, 2022, to give an overview of the SWP development process. Rick Quezada asked about the timeline for having the 50 Percent Draft SWP available for review. Ms. Hammons indicated she would send out a revised SWP timeline the week of August 15, 2022, to reflect the updated schedule for publication of the 50 Percent Draft SWP. It is anticipated the 50 Percent Draft SWP will be published online this week for review and comment. As soon as it is published, the THC will send an email to Tribal Nations' representatives with a link to the 50 Percent Draft SWP. Ms. Hammons also indicated the Tribal Nations' representatives have already received the content for the Report to-date. A link to the SWP website, where the 50 Percent Draft will be made available for public view, was shared with meeting attendees in the chat. The content will be comprised of the meeting minutes that have been taken in each of the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meetings since April 12, 2022 and will include the notes from today's (August 9, 2022) meeting. The meeting minutes will be reformatted to look similar to the SWP, but the content will not be changed. The draft report is anticipated to be completed before the September 13, 2022, Tribal Nations/THC monthly meeting.

Marie Archambeault asked if anyone has suggestions on what to cover during SWP session at the Tribal Nations/TxDOT meeting on September 21, 2022. She offered the suggestions of developing action items and/or reviewing comments received on the Report content. Bryant Celestine noted that he would like to see the comments from the general public and their perspectives. Ms. Hammons indicated that Tribal Nations' information will be in the 50 Percent Draft SWP and suggested that the 50 Percent Draft SWP could be discussed in the September 21st meeting.

Carissa Speck asked who will attend the September 21st TxDOT Tribal Consultation meeting. Ms. Archambeault indicated attendees are typically representatives of the Tribal Nations who consult with TxDOT, agency representatives, and invited speakers. She noted that it is a good opportunity to meet TxDOT staff and indicated Rebekah Dobrasko, TxDOT's Cultural Resources Section Director, and Scott Pletka, TxDOT's Archeology Branch Supervisor, will be attending the meeting. Ms. Speck noted that she did not have any comments on the SWP and that being able to see it first would be ideal.

Ms. Hammons noted the SWP Planning team could have a special meeting in September with Tribal Nations' representatives, if they would like to have one, to discuss comments on the 50 Percent Draft SWP and/or discussion of action items for the Report. This meeting would be in addition to the September 13, 2022, Tribal Nations/THC monthly meeting and the September 21, 2022, Tribal Nations/TxDOT meeting in Fort Worth.

Ms. Archambeault mentioned that some of the information in the 50 Percent Draft SWP will be revised as the SWP continues to be developed. Ms. Hammons noted that she always has to remember the SWP is the public's document. It was prepared based on the information and feedback received over the last ten months through a variety of community engagement activities. She offered the example that archival work rose to the top of the preservation priorities during the community engagement process. For her personally, she is more concerned with building preservation because of her background in architecture. However, the plan's purpose is not to document Ms. Hammons' priorities or even those of the THC; the plan reflects the public input provided during the engagement phase of the planning process, including the priorities of the individuals who participated in the engagement phase. Ms. Hammons also noted that implementation steps will be included in the 75 Percent Draft SWP, which is expected to be published in October or November 2022.

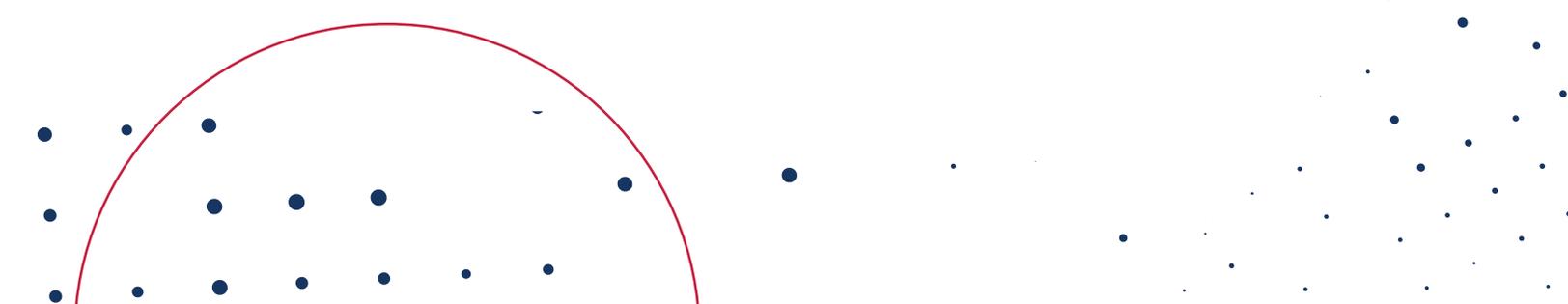
Ms. Archambeault noted for attendees that Mikayla Brown, who was in the meeting as a member of the SWP Team, will also be assisting TxDOT with Tribal Nations' representatives' travel arrangements for the Tribal Nations/TxDOT meeting on September 21, 2022.

Ms. Hammons asked what the SWP Planning Team can do to be of service going forward to the Tribal Nations' representatives regarding the SWP and the Report. She offered the following suggestions:

- Provide a bulleted list of ideas of actions items mentioned in the July 2022 Tribal Nations/THC monthly meeting
- Narrative of information to consider and to facilitate discussion about the SWP and Report

No responses were received to Ms. Hammons' question.

Ms. Archambeault concluded this segment of the meeting by indicating the October Tribal Nations/THC monthly meeting may again be devoted to the SWP and Report.



Summary of Bolded Items for Tribal Nation Consideration

For the Conversations with Tribal Nation's report:

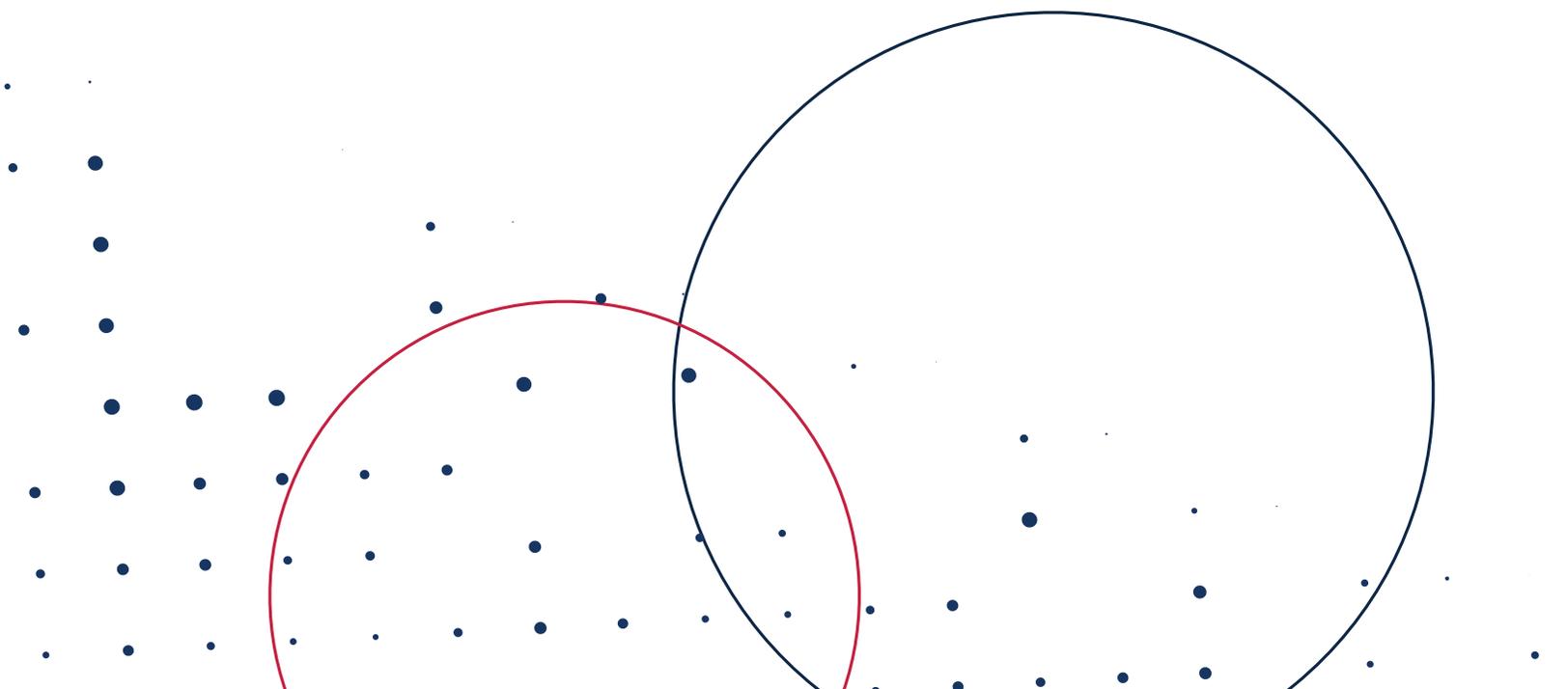
- Specific, measurable action items for the public. For example, action items may include:
 - » Help the public have improved relationships with the Tribes.
 - » Address how Tribes would like to convey information to the public; and provide a greater understanding of Tribes' preservation priorities.

Statewide Preservation Historic Plan (SWP)

- The THC could have a special meeting in September with Tribal Nation representatives, if they would like to have one, to discuss comments on the 50 Percent Draft SWP action items for the Report.
- What can the THC-SWP Committee and the SWP Planning Team do to be of service to the Tribal Nations' representatives regarding the SWPP and the Report?

For the Tribal Nations' Report

- Consider what topics to discuss in the SWP session at the meeting.



SESSION #6

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #6



Date: Tuesday, September 13, 2022



Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

Maddie Currie—Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

David Frank—Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Holly Houghten—Mescalero Apache Tribe

Martina Minthorn—Comanche Nation

Ben Yahola—Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

David Frank—Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

THC Staff

Bradford Jones—THC

Marie Archambeault—THC

Maggie Moore—THC

Amy Hammons—THC

SWP Planning Team

Maryellen Russo—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Discussion

*Notes: Requests to Tribal Nation representatives contained in the following notes are in **bold** text. These items are also summarized at the end of the document.*

Amy Hammons and members of the Statewide Preservation Plan (SWP) Planning Team joined the last 30 minutes of the monthly Tribal Nations/THC meeting at 2:00 p.m. to provide an update about the SWP. Ms. Hammons introduced herself and described her role

at the THC and with the SWP Team. She provided a brief overview of the SWP and stated that the 50 Percent Draft is available for review on the project website at <https://www.texaspreservationplan.com/documents>. Marie Archambeault also provided the link in the chat box during the meeting. THC previously provided a link to the 50 Percent Draft SWP to tribal representatives via email in August. Ms. Hammons mentioned two upcoming virtual meetings to provide feedback about the 50 Percent Draft SWP. The meetings will be on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. The meetings will be promoted through THC channels and Marie Archambeault will share the information with tribal representatives. Ms. Hammons noted that during last month's Tribal Nations/THC meeting, she shared a copy of the 50 Percent Draft SWP to review how it is set up and its content. She also discussed the separate but parallel effort to have a consultation process with Tribal Nations. Ms. Hammons noted that she and members of the SWP Team have been attending the Tribal Nations/THC meetings since April 2022. In those meetings, attendees have discussed preservation challenges to bring to the forefront. The SWP Planning Team would like to develop associated action items to bring to the public.

Although not considered as the general public, tribal communities are stakeholders in the SWP. Earlier this year, attendees for these Tribal Nations Calls agreed that the information from SWP consultation would be provided in a stand-alone document. The document, called the *Conversations with Tribal Nations*, will provide the minutes from each month's meeting, April through October 2022. Instead of having the heavier hand of summarizing information collected through the consultation process, like the SWP does, the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report does not summarize or analyze, shares tribal call meeting notes and the notes from the THC's SWP session at the Annual TxDOT-Tribal Consultation Meeting to be held on September 21, 2022. The report will not include notes from meetings after October 11, 2022; however, that does not mean THC is closing consultation on the subject of Tribal Nations' preservation priorities. It is necessary to have a cut-off point for information and feedback to be included in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report so that the draft can be finalized to allow for it to be presented to the Tribal Nations for review and comment, as well as to present to Tribal Councils for approval.

The *Conversations with Tribal Nations* is the formalized version of the meeting minutes. It has the visual tone of the SWP. Ms. Hammons shared the document with meeting attendees and reviewed the contents. She noted that she and Ms. Archambeault would edit the introduction and then send the Report out to the tribal representatives for review. She anticipates the document being sent out prior to the Annual TxDOT-Tribal Consultation Meeting on September 21, 2022, since she will discuss it during the SWP session at the meeting.

The following is a summary of the information about the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report, Ms. Hammons reviewed:

Acknowledgments and notes at the beginning of the document, which is similar to the format of the SWP.

- Table of Contents
- Introduction - Ms. Hammons and Ms. Archambeault will revise the text.
- Each listening session as its own chapter.
 - » Date, time, attendees, discussion
 - » Change heading for "Tribal Representatives Present" since the attendee list includes THC staff and SWP Planning Team members.

- Only difference from meeting minutes sent out each month and the Tribal Nations Report is a change in the acronym used for the Statewide Preservation Plan.
- Appendix - includes the initial information THC sent out in April to tribal representatives for review and consideration.

The THC made the commitment with the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* to share the comments from conversations held since April and to not distill the information. The *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will be sent out to tribal representatives after the introduction has been revised.

The timeline for the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report and the SWP going forward is as follows:

- These minutes and those of the SWP session during the Annual TxDOT-Tribal Consultation Meeting on September 21st will be included in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report.
- The draft *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report is the first publication of the tribal consultation process. The approach going forward is to pull together action items. Example action items may include improving relationships; helping the public understand Tribal Nations' preservation priorities; and helping the public understand how Tribal Nations' preservation priorities may be different and why they may be different.
- Virtual feedback meetings on September 27, 2022, at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. for the 50 Percent Draft SWP.
- Continued discussions with Tribal Nations.
- Draft *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report presented in November so those tribal representatives can take it to Tribal Councils.
- Final *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report in January.

Ms. Hammons next turned to the topic of the presentation agenda for the SWP session at the Annual TxDOT Tribal Consultation Meeting on September 21, 2022. She noted that TxDOT invited THC to attend the meeting for a 30-minute session to make a brief presentation about the SWP and the tribal consultation process. Ms. Hammons presented the following proposed agenda for the brief presentation:

- Purpose of SWP.
- General clarifications associated with this plan.
- Planning process/timeline.
- How consultation with tribes is different than with the general public.
- Overview of SWP.
- Overview of the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report.
- Comments for one or two who have contributed information/ideas during Tribal Nations/ THC Monthly Meetings*
- Float out ideas related to action items to build stronger partnerships and understanding with public.

***Ms. Hammons noted that she would like to have tribal representatives who have been participating in the tribal consultation process and willing to say a few words about their experience, what they see as working well, not working well, or whatever they would like to share, participate in the presentation.** She noted that this would not have to be a formal presentation.

Ms. Hammons also noted that she and Ms. Archambeault proposed some action items to the meeting attendees but would like to have additional discussion about them during the September 21st session. **Ms. Hammons then asked several questions about the proposed presentation content:**

- **If anyone had any thoughts on the proposed presentation content?**
- **Is there anything that needs to be done differently?**
- **Is there anything else that needs to be covered in meeting?**
- **Does this [proposed agenda] work or does this not work?**

Holly Houghten asked for how long the presentation is scheduled, to which Ms. Hammons responded that the session has been assigned 30 minutes. Her portion of the session would be as short as possible to leave time for discussion and questions. Ms. Houghten commented the proposed agenda looks good for 30 minutes and that hopefully she can get through all that. Ms. Hammons noted that she is pulling together information to be as tight as possible and that it is the plan to give time for people to talk.

Ms. Hammons also asked if there is anything that is really important that the audience at the September 21st SWP session should know about the consultation process? Is there anything the tribal representatives are concerned about? Is there anything specific that should be pulled out and named during the meeting? No responses were received to Ms. Hammons' question.

Ms. Archambeault noted that earlier in the meeting, several people said they would be at the meeting, in-person, next week, and some will be attending virtually. **She reiterated that they would like to hear from tribal representatives who have been participants in the process [tribal consultation process for the SWP] and what they think is important.**

Ms. Hammons noted that she would have the presentation for the September 21st session done on Monday, September 19th. **If between the September 13th meeting and Friday, September 16th, any tribal representatives have information to add to the presentation, please email Ms. Archambeault with the information. Ms. Hammons also requested that tribal representatives who have been participating in the Tribal Nations/THC Monthly Meetings since April offer comments about the process during the September 21st SWP session. She also asked that anyone willing to make comments about the process to let Ms. Archambeault know.** She reiterated that any comments do not need to be extensive or a formal presentation. The comments can be just a few minutes to help people understand the value of the consultation, things that need to be done better in the future, etc.

Ms. Archambeault noted that she and Ms. Hammons would work on some additional ideas about action items to discuss in the September 21st SWP session. **She asked that if anyone has any key points or key trends that would inform action items to let her know.**

Ms. Hammons noted that she will be covering a lot of information in a short period of time during the September 21st SWP session. She asked if it would be better to offer the presentation slides to anyone who is interested in follow-up about the session, or should she bring a one-page information sheet that could be passed out? Ms. Houghten indicated a one-page information sheet with a link to the 50 Percent Draft SWP would be good. Ms. Hammons discussed that in terms of action items, she was trying to think of some things that would help the discussion. She asked if there is anything else she can do to be helpful in this effort, whether in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report or to pulling together more action items? She noted the process is for the Tribal Nations and that if there is anything she can do to help, to move the process forward, to let her know.

Ms. Archambeault closed the meeting for the day. She noted that the October Tribal Nations/THC Monthly Meeting may include a longer-than-30 minutes conversation about the Tribal Nations Consultation Report and that the group may be able to work through some action items during that meeting, too. Ms. Hammons noted that she would not be able to attend next month's meeting but that she can provide some talking points and suggestion for action items to facilitate the discussion.

Summary of Bolded Items --- for Tribal Nation Consideration

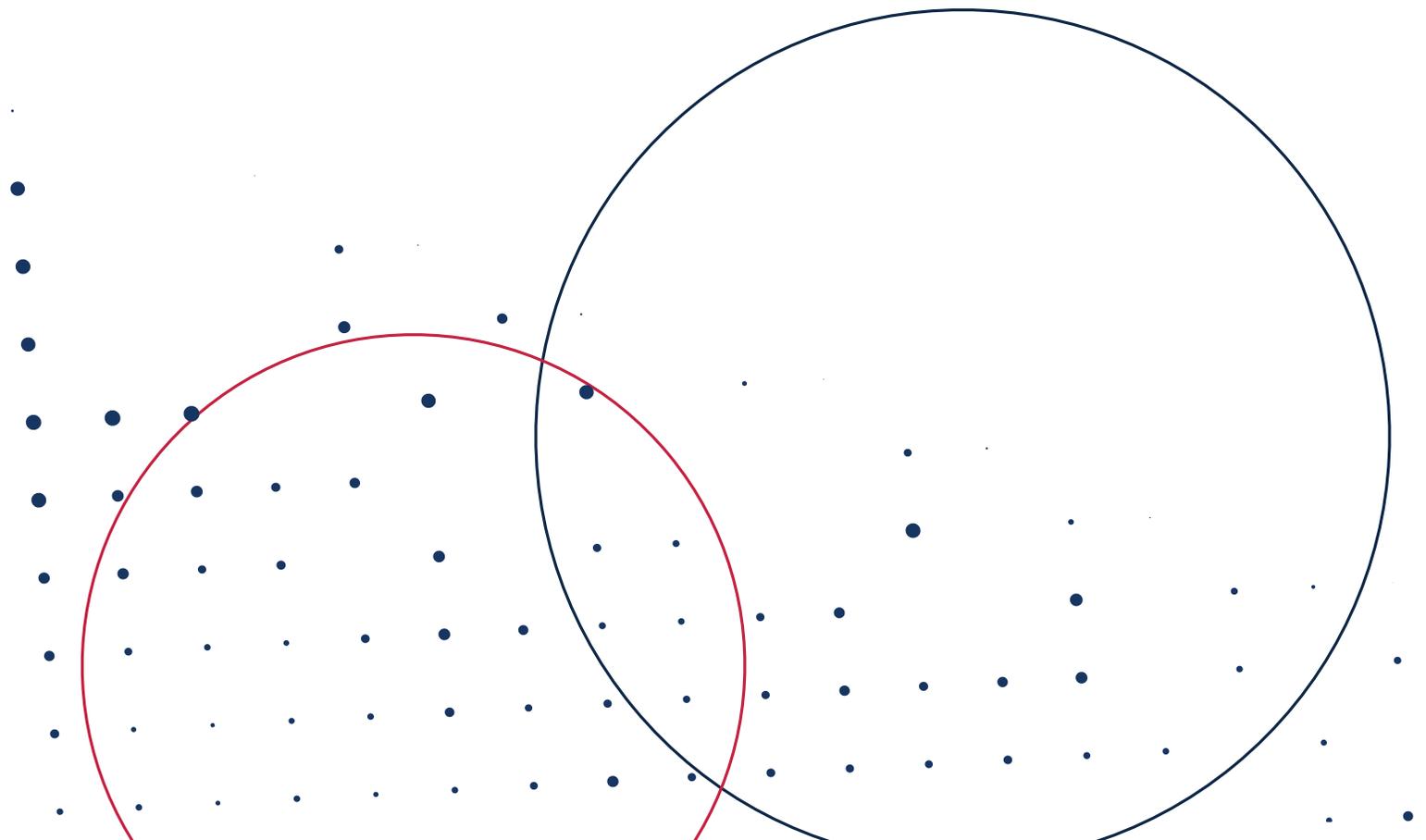
For the Conversations with Tribal Nations report:

- Specific, measurable action items:
 - » Let Ms. Archambeault know if anyone has any key points or key trends that would inform action items.
 - » Let Ms. Archambeault know if there is anything else Ms. Hammons can do to be helpful in this effort, whether in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report or to pull together more action items.

SWP Session at Annual TxDOT-Tribal Consultation Meeting on September 21, 2022

- Request for tribal representatives who have been participating in the tribal consultation process and willing to say a few words about their experience, what they see as working well, not working well, or other information they would like to share, to participate in the SWP session discussion.
 - » Does not need to be a formal presentation – just a few words about experience.
 - » Let Ms. Archambeault know if willing to participate in this way.

- Consider the following questions about the proposed content for the SWP session on September 21st and let Ms. Archambeault and Ms. Hammons know by the end of the day on **Friday, September 16, 2022**, if there is additional information to add to the presentation.
 - » If anyone had any thoughts on the proposed presentation content?
 - » Is there anything that needs to be done differently?
 - » Is there anything else that needs to be covered in meeting?
 - » Does this [proposed agenda] work or does this not work?
 - » Is there anything that is really important that the audience at the September 21st SWP session should know about the consultation process?
 - » Is there anything the tribal representatives are concerned about?
 - » Is there anything specific that should be pulled out and named during the meeting?



SESSION #7

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #7

 **Date:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022

 **Time:** 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Jimmy Barrera—U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Lindsey Bilyeu—Choctaw Nations
Carol Butler—Shawnee Tribe
Hector Canales—Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas (Virtual Attendee)
Maddie Currie—Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Jakob Daukei—Mescalero Apache Tribe
Holly Houghten—Mescalero Apache Tribe
Mathew Davila—Bullock Texas State History Museum (Bullock)
Rebecca Dobrasko—Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
Angie Glasker—Bullock Texas State History Museum (Bullock)
Turner Hunt—Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
Gano Perez—Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
Barbara Maley—Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Josefa Gonzales-Mariscal—Bullock Texas State History Museum (Bullock)
Scott Pletka—TxDOT
Kat Goldsmith—TxDOT
Fred Valdez—Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL)

THC Staff

Bradford Jones—THC
Laura Casey—THC
Marie Archambeault—THC
Amy Hammons—THC
Maggie Moore—THC
Emily Hermans—THC

SWP Planning Team

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) invited the THC and the Statewide Preservation Plan (SWP), Planning Team, to make a presentation about the SWP during the all-day Tribal Nations/TxDOT consultation meeting held on September 21, 2022, in Fort Worth. The minutes below reflect the presentation/discussion about the SWP.

Discussion

*Notes: Requests to Tribal Nation representatives contained in the following notes are in **bold** text. These items are also summarized at the end of the document. Additionally, some text has been added in parentheses to define acronyms or brackets to clarify information contained in the notes.*

Amy Hammons began her presentation about the Statewide Preservation Plan (SWP) by noting that a copy of the PowerPoint slides she was using would be available to everyone after the meeting. She also mentioned having a flyer with information about the SWP and the SWP website that she would leave for attendees. The questions Ms. Hammons presented to the Tribal Nations representatives in the April 12, 2022, meeting is provided on the back of the flyer. The flyer, like presentation slides, will be made available via email to representatives.

Ms. Hammons discussed the requirements for the SWP and that it is one of several plans the THC is involved with. She mentioned the THC's Strategic Plan and Legislative Budget Board Plan as examples of two others the THC is involved with. She stated the SWP is a plan for the public and informed by the public, but the planning process is administered by the THC. The content of the SWP comes from individuals and organizations who have participated in the planning process.

Statewide preservation plans are required by the National Park Service (NPS). Each state prepares one about every 10 years, typically with a 5-year [mid-term] update. These plans, which states usually prepare in-house, typically include a discussion of preservation priorities and historic resources specific to the individual state. Texas' last SWP was developed in-house but this planning round is different because the THC hired consultants to prepare the SWP and oversee public consultation for the plan. Because most states prepare the plans in-house, they do public involvement differently. For the Texas SWP, public engagement is at the forefront of the planning process.

This planning approach distinguished from other types of plans:

- **It is a public plan. The THC hosts the SWP, but the results reflect the public's input given during in-person and online public engagement opportunities. For example, the preservation of archival resources rose to the top when the public was asked to rank preservation priorities, so the plan will elevate that particular need in its goals. Stakeholders in the SWP are individuals and organizations across Texas who have a portion in plan goals and outcomes. Tribal Nations and individual tribal representatives are stakeholders in the SWP because they may be impacted by the goals and objectives in the SWP, even if a tribe or individual does not consider the tribe or individual as part of the general public.**

- **The SWP development process is not Section 106. The SWP is not making specific decisions about specific properties. THC clarified this distinction with NPS. However, the NPS was very specific about including Tribal Nations in the SWP engagement process as the plan is developed. Ms. Hammons thanked Tribal Nations representatives for their participation and helping the SWP team make sure it is sharing information in appropriate ways.**

Ms. Hammons next presented a breakdown of the SWP development process. Phase 1 included public engagement and preparation of the draft SWP and associated documentation regarding disaster resiliency. There were eight workshops held across the state at which participants voted on preservation issues, provided comments on maps about important places, etc. There was widespread input on the SWP through the very robust public engagement process. There were also eight virtual meetings, four of which were about disaster related matters and the other four were about SWP-related topics. The 50 Percent Draft SWP is now available online for review. [It can be accessed at www.texaspreservationplan.com/documents.] The SWP Planning Team is working on implementation action items now. There are two upcoming public feedback meetings about the 50 Percent Draft SWP. [The meetings will be held September 27, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.]

She shared the table of contents from the SWP and continued the discussion about the public engagement to develop the SWP. Within the 50 Percent Draft SWP, there is discussion about public engagement, and it summarizes the comments received during that engagement. She noted that when the SWP Planning Team started talking to Tribal Nations in April, representatives indicated that tribal consultation information should stand on its own rather than be incorporated in the SWP document. The minutes from the Tribal Nations Call discussions about the SWP are now assembled in a document entitled *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report. Within the SWP, there is a section that notes the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report and why a separate report was prepared. She shared an image of this section and noted this section in the SWP will be revised accordingly.

Ms. Hammons also noted that the 50 Percent Draft SWP includes case studies and success stories that have been submitted and included in the SWP. The SWP talks about how we [Texans, collectively] are going to do better in the future and how that will happen.

She continued the discussion with an overview of Phase 2 of the SWP development process. The timeline for Phase 2 is now [September 2022] through February/May 2023. There is a second round of public involvement happening [feedback on the SWP 50 Percent Draft document]. The SWP will be completed by February 1, 2023, and the THC hopes to have the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report done at the same time.

Ms. Hammons noted the following upcoming milestones for the SWP:

- **50 Percent Draft SWP Feedback Sessions, which are available to anyone, on September 27th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**
- **75 Percent Draft SWP posted to the SWP website in mid-December.**
- **100 Percent Draft SWP posted to the SWP website February 1, 2023.**
- **50 Percent Draft Disaster Assessment posted to the SWP website in late November.**
- **100 Percent Draft Disaster Assessment posted to the SWP website in March/April 2023.**

Next, Ms. Hammons discussed consultation with Tribal Nations. She described the Tribal Nations consultation as being different from what has been done with the public. For the public, promotion of the SWP and the public engagement opportunities has been done via email list-serves and other avenues whereas the THC has shared information about the SWP development process with Tribal Nations through Marie Archambeault, THC Tribal Liaison. For Tribal Nations, the SWP Planning Team has been attending the monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls since April 2022. For the SWP, the public comments have been distilled, analyzed, and summarized. For Tribal Nations consultation, the SWP Planning Team has been providing minutes from each monthly Tribal Nations/THC call in which the SWP has been discussed. For the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report, the minutes taken at each monthly call have been provided as presented, and the information has not been summarized. For the SWP, the SWP Planning Team prepared goals and objectives based on the public's comments and information provided through the public engagement process.

Ms. Hammons went on to indicate that for the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report, the SWP Planning Team would like to work with Tribal Nations to develop action items [related to addressing the preservation priorities identified during the Tribal Nations calls April-October 2022]. When identifying priorities and action items, the SWP Planning Team does not want to consider Tribal Nations as a monolithic entity, knowing that individual tribes (and individuals within each tribe) may have different priorities and action items to recommend. The SWP Team can suggest action items but would prefer to hear what tribes and tribal representatives want to recommend. The *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report is the beginning of the conversation with Tribal Nations that we hope will provide a better understanding of how to improve consultation with Tribal Nations.

Ms. Hammons provided a summary of the SWP-related topics covered in each of the monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls since April [see summary in attached PowerPoint presentation]. She also noted the flyer she left for meeting attendees has the preservation-related questions she presented in the April 2022 call. She mentioned her hope that the questions were open and respectful to encourage Tribal Nations representatives' participation in the process. She also acknowledged that the SWP Planning Team is aware that some places/topics are private to the tribes, not open for public discussion. She stated that the SWP Planning Team would appreciate comments from Tribal Nations representatives to whatever degree they feel is appropriate to share.

Ms. Hammons shared an image of the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report cover and table of contents. She described the formatting of the document to be complimentary to the SWP. The document includes the minutes from the listening sessions. It is a work in progress and will have some revisions, such as the text of the introduction and some headers. She anticipates that the draft *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will be sent to Tribal Nations representatives by the end of September 2022 for review. [Early October is the current submission timeframe.]

Ms. Archambeault noted that when Tribal Nations representatives receive the draft *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report for review that it is okay to edit or correct information as needed and/or indicate if there is information that needs to be removed entirely. The goal is to make sure the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report is representative of the information Tribal Nations representatives want to share with the public.

Ms. Hammons requested that Tribal Nations representatives let Ms. Archambeault know if there are any edits, information to be added, etc. The intention is to be as flexible and organic with the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report as possible. She also noted that these minutes and the minutes from the October Tribal Nations/THC monthly call will be included in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report. After that point, no additional

minutes will be included. The appendix to the report currently includes Ms. Hammons' April 2022 memorandum. It will also include the PowerPoint presentation she used for the meeting, which is the subject of these minutes.

Ms. Hammons briefly discussed the timeline for the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report. The SWP Planning Team will participate in the October Tribal Nations/THC monthly call to discuss action items. During the November through February Tribal Nations/THC monthly calls, there will be brief updates about the SWP development process, but minutes will not be included in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report since that report must be in its final draft form to allow time for review/approval from tribal leaders. The draft *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will be provided to Tribal Nations representatives by the end of September [now early November]. The revised draft *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will be provided by early November [now mid-November] for Tribal Nations representatives to take to Tribal Councils for review and approval. **The SWP Planning Team respectfully requests comments on *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report from Tribal Councils and Tribal Nations representatives by January 10, 2023.**

Ms. Hammons noted that the SWP and *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will be updated in five years, aligned with the time line for the mid-term update for the SWP. That will provide an opportunity to check in with Tribal Nations representatives about action items and what needs to be changed. This will also provide an opportunity on how to improve the process and do better next time [the statewide planning process is initiated].

Ms. Hammons indicated that the next step in the process for the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report was to develop action items. She suggested that one action item may involve ways in which to communicate your priorities to the public. This may include ways to improve the public's understanding of how to develop relationships with individual tribes and to have broader understanding of preservation from tribes' perspectives. [See slide 17 of Ms. Hammons's PowerPoint presentation, which is attached, for questions to consider.] Ms. Hammons mentioned the development of good tribal histories as an example of how to improve the public's understanding.

Ms. Hammons asked meeting attendees to consider two “big picture” questions when thinking about potential action items for inclusion in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report, as follows:

- **How can we help the public have a better understanding of your perspectives relative to preservation?**
- **How can we help improve the way we share the intangible and tangible aspects of tribal histories?**

Ms. Hammons concluded her presentation by noting Turner Hunt's comment in a session on September 20, 2022, at the TxDOT Environmental Conference—to be proactive rather than reactive. Providing action items for this report is a way to be proactive.

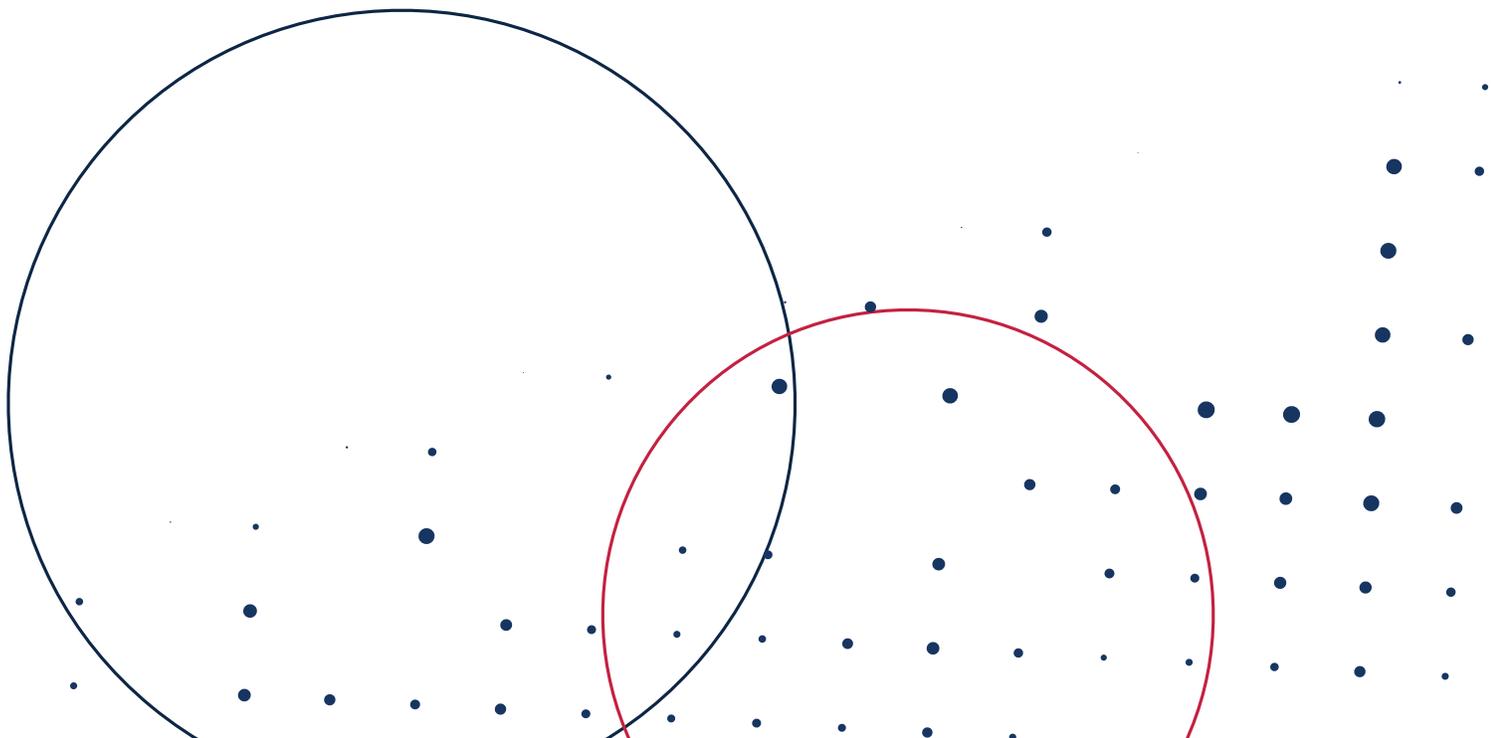
[Later in the Tribal Nations/TxDOT consultation meeting after the SWP session, Tribal Nations representatives held a Tribal Caucus and discussed the SWP session. Turner Hunt, speaking on behalf of all Tribal Nations present, offered the following comments:

Tribal Nations find the SWP a great opportunity to be proactive and a chance to reorient some of the portrayed Texas histories with a little bit more diversity and accuracy to include tribal nations rather than just focusing on common Texas topics like the Alamo and the “Come and Take It” campaign. Contributing to the SWP will be an additional effort for tribal representatives as it is outside of general Section 106 required efforts, but the benefits of being involved in the process and document outweigh the additional labor.]

Summary of Bolded Items --- for Tribal Nation Consideration

For the Conversations with Tribal Nations report:

- To facilitate the development of action items for the Conversations with Tribal Nations report consider the following “big picture” questions:
 - » How can we help the public have a better understanding of your perspectives relative to preservation?
 - » How can we help improve the way we share the intangible and tangible aspects of tribal histories?
- The SWP Planning Team respectfully requests comments on the Conversations with Tribal Nations report from Tribal Councils and Tribal Nations representatives by January 10, 2023.



SESSION #8

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #8



Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022



Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Hector Canales—Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
 Bryant Celestine—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
 Holly Houghten—Mescalero Apache Tribe
 Turner Hunt—Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
 Kay Rhoads—Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Oklahoma

THC Staff

Marie Archambeault—THC
 Bradford Jones—THC

SWP Planning Team

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
 Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc.

Discussion

*Notes: Requests to Tribal Nation representatives contained in the following notes are in **bold** text. These items are also summarized at the end of the document. Text in [brackets] is intended to clarify the discussion or provide additional information.*

The Statewide Preservation Plan (SWP) Planning Team members joined the meeting at approximately 1:35 p.m.

After introductions of the SWP Planning Team members who joined the meeting, Brad Jones introduced the topic of discussion pertaining to the SWP, which was the five priorities Marie Archambeault pulled from the notes of the SWP discussions during the monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls since April 2022. These priorities will be included in the SWP itself so that the Tribal Nations' voices and opinions are represented in the SWP. They will also be included

in the *Tribal Conversations Report*, which is the document resulting from the discussions about the SWP planning process in the monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls since April 2022.

Ms. Archambeault clarified that these priorities come from the main points that have been shared and discussed over the past several months with the SWP Planning Team during the monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls. She then shared her screen to show the meeting attendees the priorities. She noted that she would incorporate any comments made in this meeting and would provide the document to Tribal Nations representatives by the end of this week or on Monday [October 14 or 17, 2022] for review and comment.

1. Increase consultation and collaboration with Federally Recognized Tribes through regulatory arenas, as well as non-regulatory efforts and projects.
2. Provide more opportunities for Natives to share perspectives and preservation opportunities.
3. Expand efforts to tell Native history – focus on individual tribal histories rather than treating all tribal histories as one story.
4. Improve efforts to protect Sacred Spaces (specify types of sites, if preferred).
 - a. Cultivate a better understanding of why traditional preservation tools may not be appropriate nor effective mechanisms when related to Traditional Cultural Properties.
 - b. Increase awareness of viewshed impacts and infrastructure impacts.
5. Improve campaign to prevent the looting of archeological sites and other cultural resources.

After he read all five priorities, the attendees had discussion about the priorities, as presented below:

Kay Rhoads noted that when looking at the priority about regulatory arenas, they [Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma] have had a lot of problems with wireless networks putting up their cell towers on burial sites because they are the high point on the landscape. She said they do not know how to control any of that when looking at the regulatory environment. Ms. Rhoads also noted that with regard to priority three, some stories are not supposed to be shared, and that there would be some gaps in tribal histories. Mr. Jones clarified that priority three would focus only on those stories that Tribal Nations would want to share. It is not suggesting that we [THC] would tell their stories. He also mentioned that with regard to the regulatory environment, THC wants to improve conversations to make sure they are not approving projects that are impacting tribal resources. He also noted that THC has room for growth in this area. Ms. Rhoads relayed information about a lawsuit against the FCC. She mentioned that with the last President's agenda to reduce regulatory requirements, it opened things up to the FCC to build towers wherever they wanted with asking the Tribes.

Holly Houghten asked about the process where people apply for project funding, to which Mr. Jones and Ms. Archambeault clarified she was referring to the Texas Preservation Trust Fund (TPTF). Ms. Houghten recommended that a tribal representative is added to the TPTF's Board that considers the project applications. Mr. Jones noted that the specific recommendation may not be added to these priorities, but a broader priority to have more Tribal Nations representation on various preservation boards, such as the TPTF and the

National Register of Historic Places State Board of Review. He suggested this could be a subpoint of priority one. He also suggested this could be extended to the Undertold Markers program.

Ms. Archambeault asked the group if there are any priorities that should be added to the list? Ms. Houghten asked if a priority to enable the public to have more access to Tribes should be added to the list, or does that fall under one of the items already listed? She mentioned the previous recommendation that the SWP include a list of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and that it could potentially be added under priority one, which includes collaboration. She noted that it would be good to include contact information in the SWP. Mr. Jones suggested that a priority to include is to have more tribal liaisons at state agencies. He noted Ms. Archambeault has been very effective for the THC in collaborating with Tribes.

Ms. Archambeault asked if the tribal contact spreadsheet with contact information should be included in the SWP or the Tribal Conversations Report? She asked Ms. Houghten what that would look like in the SWP? Ms. Houghten indicated it would be a list with the Tribal Nations' contact information, including THPOs and areas of interest in the state, if possible. She noted the areas of interest in the state for each tribe could be generalized to regions. Ms. Archambeault noted that the information about the areas of interest has not yet been fully developed, as some tribes did not wish to participate. She agreed the information would be very effective if it could be completed. Ms. Houghten then noted that it would be good to have the contact list as an appendix [to the SWP] and to include a reference [in the SWP text] to the THC website for more information and how to contact Ms. Archambeault if the user of the SWP is not sure who to contact.

Ms. Archambeault then asked if there were any additional comments about the five priorities and/or text that should be changed? Mr. Jones also asked if there were any other comments on the SWP the attendees would like to share while the SWP Planning Team was in the meeting?

Mr. Hunt noted that his silence should not be taken as disapproval or lack of interest. He mentioned that others already shared what he was thinking and noted that the priorities called out did a good job summarizing concerns expressed and condense a much larger body of needs into these categories. He also noted he is in favor of the information and that it looks good.

Ms. Archambeault mentioned that some of the comments made in past meetings were about climate change. She tried to capture those comments with priority 4b, "Increase awareness of viewshed impacts and infrastructure impacts." She requested that Tribal Nations representatives let her know if more should be added to that item. Mr. Jones mentioned that this provided a segue to another issue being addressed in the SWP planning effort: disaster resiliency. He discussed the disaster resiliency components that are being developed in conjunction with the SWP planning process. He noted there can be issues with disaster response and sacred spaces and with how to provide information in a way that sacred spaces are not inadvertently destroyed during disaster recovery efforts. He noted there has been discussion about Traditional Cultural Properties. Part of the discussion about these issues is focused on the question of if there are ways, we [Tribal Nations and THC] can collaborate in the future to have a system that would tell people to avoid something, but not specifically what they were avoiding. He noted it is a point of concern and asked if anyone has had any experience working with other groups that would be helpful to them.

Ms. Houghten noted that with their state atlas [New Mexico's], tribes will give areas, marked as a quarter section, where a sacred site or property of interest is located and note that as a place to contact the tribe if work would be conducted in the area. Mr. Jones responded that it was a good suggestion to flag an area of interest as a place for which a tribe needs to be contacted. He mentioned they have a similar system with the Texas General Land Office for offshore impacts and noted that currently the THC Atlas is site specific. Ms. Houghten noted that they do not give the users of the data all the details but identify places that could be impacted. Mr. Jones mentioned there is concern in situations, such as after hurricanes, where decisions are made in a very short time frame. Ms. Houghten noted it is a hard situation to address and relayed a story about a house and important resources in the house that were damaged by a fire in Ruidoso last spring. There were efforts to recover important resources, but due to miscommunication, the house was demolished before the recovery efforts were completed. Ms. Houghten discussed how important it is to get the communication out and that it filters down to all people involved. Mr. Jones mentioned that he discussed with one agency about an app that sets geospatial boundaries to keep contractors out of sacred spaces.

Ms. Archambeault mentioned that she tried to capture a lot of what Ms. Houghten discussed with priority one but indicated that there needs to be another item added that is about education. Ms. Houghten noted that consultation should not just be a letter that asks if there are any concerns. Ms. Archambeault agreed that it should be viewed as a process, not an event.

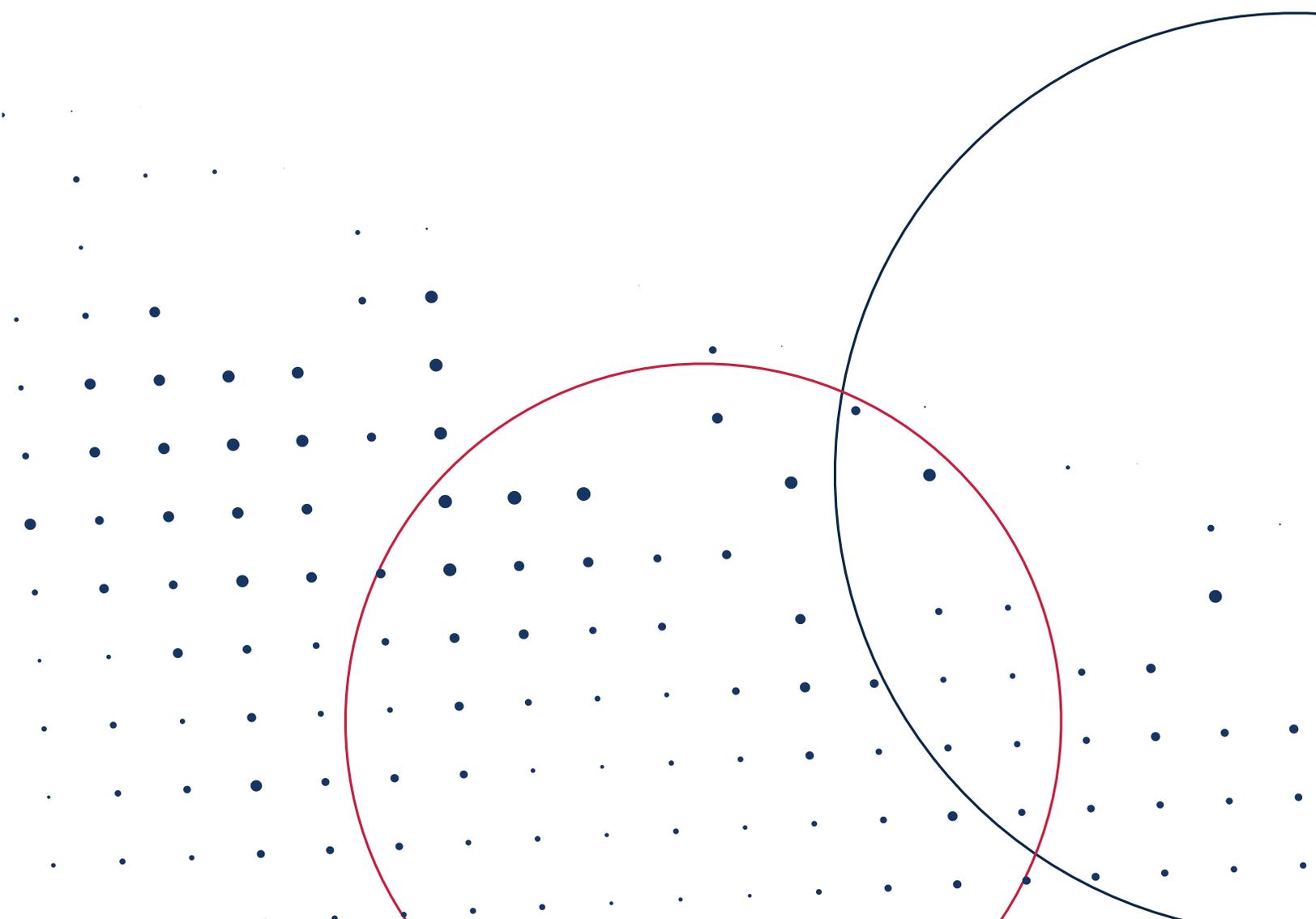
Bryant Celestine suggested that the agencies that do consultation need to a lot better promotion of their Tribal consultation. He suggested that THC should do a social media post about the agency's Tribal consultation work. He noted that THC needs to make other state agencies jealous of their Tribal consultation process to compel them to do their own consultation. Ms. Archambeault noted that there are other agencies that want to do consultation but do not know where to start. Mr. Jones indicated THC takes the process very seriously, and they do not want to misrepresent anything, so they keep consultation as private conversations. He noted they have been doing the Tribal Nations/THC monthly calls for almost two years, and they have been beneficial and well worth the effort. He also noted that he is appreciative of Mr. Celestine's comment. He suggested that perhaps it could be the topic of a future Texas Archeology Month poster.

Mr. Jones concluded the SWP priority discussion by suggesting that the group consider putting some sub items under priority one to tease out the discussions the group had in this meeting. Ms. Archambeault noted her to-do items with regard to the SWP:

- Send out last month's (September) meeting notes to the Tribal Nations representatives.
- Send out the priority list for Tribal Nations representatives' review and comment by Friday, October 14th or Monday, October 17th.
- Send out the draft *Tribal Conversations Report* at the same time as the priority list.

Summary of Bolded Items --- for Tribal Nations Representatives' Consideration

- Upon receipt of the draft priority list and *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report, review and provide comments and/or additional priority items for inclusion in the SWP and Tribal Conversations Report.
- Consider if priority 4b, "Increase awareness of viewshed impacts and infrastructure impacts," addresses comments about climate change made in previous meetings and let Ms. Archambeault know if more should be added to that item.
- Consider if priority 1 sufficiently addresses the discussion in the various meetings about education or if another priority specific to education should be included.



SESSION #9

TRIBAL NATIONS— LISTENING SESSION #9

 **Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022

 **Time:** 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tribal Representatives Present

Hector Canales—Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
David Frank—Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Holly Houghten—Mescalero Apache Tribe
Cristina Jensen—Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

THC Staff

Marie Archambeault—THC
Maggie Moore—THC
Amy Hammons—THC
Bradford Jones—THC

SWP Planning Team

Mikayla Brown—Blanton and Associates, Inc.
Heather Goodson—Blanton and Associates, Inc

Discussion

*Notes: Requests to Tribal Nation representatives contained in the following notes are in **bold** text. These items are also summarized at the end of the document. Text in [brackets] is intended to clarify the discussion or provide additional information.*

The Statewide Preservation Plan (SWP) Planning Team members joined the meeting at approximately 1:55 p.m. Marie Archambeault introduced Amy Hammons, THC's project manager for the SWP. Ms. Hammons provided an overview of the SWP and the steps the SWP Planning Team has completed over the last several months to have conversations with the Tribal Nation representatives and to discuss the statewide preservation planning process. She also described how the set of priorities [as shared on the screen with attendees] was developed from the meeting notes of those monthly conversations with

Tribal Nation representatives. A report entitled *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report is a stand-alone document that presents the information from the monthly conversations and will be a companion document to the SWP. The priorities are included in the Tribal Conversations Report and the SWP. The priorities will help start conversations with the public and will connect the public to Tribal Nation representatives. .

Ms. Hammons went on to mention that the priorities were shared in last month's meeting. She asked:

- Do they hold meaning?
- Do they need to have additions?
- Do they need to be reworked?

Ms. Hammons asked those Tribal Nation representatives to let the SWP Planning Team know if the priorities are going in a good direction.

Ms. Archambeault asked if Holly Houghten's comments in last month's meeting were appropriately reflected in the updated sub-items under items no. 1 and no. 4. Ms. Houghten indicated they look good. She expressed her appreciation for the priorities as a starting point to get people thinking about consultation with tribes. Ms. Houghten indicated that in item no. 4a, the word "traditional" in reference to preservation tools sounded odd and that she was not sure if the word flows correctly in the sentence. With discussion, a couple of alternatives were suggested: "standard" or "existing." Later in the meeting, Ms. Archambeault noted she received an email from Hector Canales because the meeting's chat feature was not working, asking if a descriptor for preservation tools was even needed in the text. Ms. Archambeault thanked him for the question and noted they would consider whether to leave out the descriptor or not.

Ms. Hammons discussed the importance of including the information the Tribal Nation representatives have provided in the SWP process. She noted that it is "weighty" because it is important and of value, not because it is a burden.

Ms. Archambeault asked if in item no. 4a, the phrase "Traditional Cultural Properties" should be changed to "Traditional Cultural Places" to be consistent with the recommendations for revisions to Bulletin 38. Attendees agreed the change should occur.

Ms. Houghten noted that item no. 1 refers to "Federally Recognized Tribes," but other items refer to "Natives" and asked why that is the case? Ms. Archambeault responded that she was not sure why that was the case. Ms. Hammons then responded it was based on comments in previous meetings. Ms. Houghten then asked if it was based on comments Mr. Celestine provided in previous meetings? Ms. Archambeault indicated that item no. 2 would be changed to use "Federally Recognized Tribes," but that item no. 3 would be appropriate to leave as "Native" to be inclusive of history. Ms. Hammons asked if there was discussion in the last meeting about individuals, rather than tribes? Ms. Archambeault asked if it would make sense to use "Federally Recognized Tribes (Tribes)" for first reference then use "Tribes" for the remainder for all the reasons discussed before? Mr. Jones noted that "Members" is subsumed in the phrase. Item no. 2 is more individual sounding, whereas item no. 1 is more organizational sounding. Ms. Archambeault then asked if "Representatives" should be used, rather than "Members" in the text? Ms. Houghten indicated that yes, that makes sense. She also discussed her concerns about people who say they are Apache, for example, but do not have perspectives on the culture. She does not want it to be so formal, but also does not want to open the door for things like that.

Mr. Jones offered the thought or question about a way to reference the fact that even though there are tribes not based in Texas, to capture the spirit or to recognize that tribal members live in the state. Ms. Houghten indicated that yes, it would be good to include that information, but was not sure how to get it into one sentence. Ms. Hammons indicated there could be more than one sentence, and not to think about the formality but to think about the specificity needed to convey the point.

Ms. Archambeault asked if we needed to add a sentence under item no. 1 that indicates tribal members are in Texas. Mr. Jones confirmed that yes, there may be people in Texas, not in Oklahoma, for example. Ms. Hammons asked for clarification about the intention. Is it to convey that while the tribal center or headquarters is not in Texas, there are tribal interests in Texas? Mr. Jones confirmed that is the intention to convey. The three tribes – Kickapoo, Alabama-Coushatta, and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo – are based in Texas, but there are members of other tribes here [in Texas], too. Ms. Hammons indicated a comment would be added about what we want to emphasize and keep in mind in the broader consultation process. She reminded attendees that they [*Conversations with Tribal Nations* report users] may or may not get the boundaries that are there. She noted that the more specific the information can be, the better.

Next, Ms. Archambeault asked Ms. Hammons to discuss the documents that will be emailed out to Tribal Nation representatives in the next week or so. Ms. Hammons noted the 75 Percent Draft SWP and *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will soon be ready to send out to Tribal Nation representatives. She reminded attendees that the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report is the result of the discussions with the SWP Planning Team in the monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls since April about the preservation planning process. The meeting notes from those discussions and the priorities that have come out through the conversations are what is in the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report. The SWP has several locations in which Tribal Nations are referenced. There is a section that explains why there is a separate report, and it will also include the priorities. Also, in the SWP, there is a paragraph about stakeholders and a section that discusses resources. Additionally, there is a case study about the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. When the 75 Percent Draft SWP is released, the SWP Planning Team will flag the sections in the SWP that have references to Tribal Nations.

A draft of the *Tribal Conversations Report*, dated August 29, 2022, was previously shared with Tribal Nation representatives. Notes from the SWP discussion sessions during the September, October, and November monthly Tribal Nations/THC calls, as well as notes from the SWP session at the September Tribal Nations/TxDOT Consultation Meeting in Fort Worth, will be added to the document. The updated *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report will be provided to Tribal Nation representatives for review and comment, and to get approval from Tribal Councils, as needed. All of the meeting notes have been shared over the last months, so the content in the *Tribal Conversations Report* will not be new. The SWP Planning Team anticipates submitting that report to Tribal Nation representatives by mid-November.

The SWP Planning Team requests that Tribal Nation representatives return all comments and approval of the *Tribal Conversations Report* by January 10, 2023.

The final SWP will be published on February 1, 2023, and the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report needs to be approved before that time.

Ms. Hammons asked if anyone had any questions about the two documents and/or the timeline for completing them? [It was at this point in the meeting when Ms. Archambeault mentioned receipt of Mr. Canales's comment via email, which was discussed earlier in these minutes.]

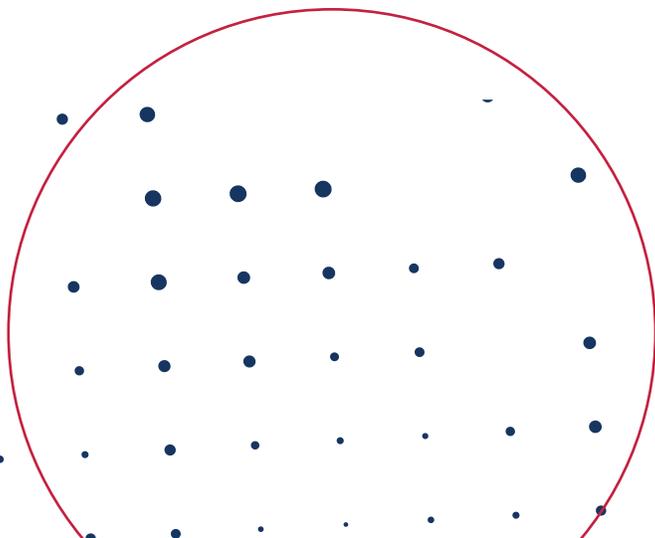
Next, Ms. Hammons discussed that she and Ms. Archambeault can identify specific action items to make the priorities happen. For example, there could be discussion forums to address each of the topics [in the priorities]. **She asked if Tribal Nation representatives have any ideas on how to implement the priorities, and requested they share in the meeting or reach out to Ms. Archambeault after the meeting with those ideas.**

Ms. Archambeault concluded the discussion by telling Tribal Nation representatives to look out for an email from her with the documents attached. She also noted that Tribal Nation representatives can provide additional comments at that time [between receipt of the documents and January 10th]. The next step in the process is the publication, so this is the time to let THC staff know if there are any edits, redactions, etc. needed for the content of the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* report.

Ms. Archambeault then turned the meeting over to Mr. Jones to close it.

Summary of Bolded Items --- for Tribal Nations Representatives' Consideration

- Request that Tribal Nation representatives let the SWP Planning Team know if the priorities are going in a good direction.
- Request that Tribal Nation representatives return all comments and approval of the *Conversations with Tribal Nations* to Ms. Archambeault by January 10, 2023.
- Request that Tribal Nation representatives share ideas with Ms. Archambeault and the SWP Planning Team on how to implement the priorities.



APPENDIX I





P.O. Box 12276
 Austin, Texas 78711-2276
 512-463-6100
 thc.texas.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: [Individuals involved in Tribal Nations Calls]
 FROM: Amy Hammons, Texas Historical Commission (amy.hammons@thc.texas.gov)
 DATE: April 12, 2022
 RE: Notes from today's meeting related to the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

Purpose of the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

- Align preservation efforts at the local, regional, and state levels.
- THC oversees the planning process, participating as one of many key stakeholders from across the state.
- We're tasked with taking comment from the public, more specifically communities and organizations related to Texas history and cultural resources (stakeholders).
- These stakeholders share ideas, express concerns, and prioritize goals that will move preservation forward and expand the ways in which we save what's meaningful about Texas
- And while sovereign nations are not considered as the general public, this planning process requires that the general public consult with tribes during this process.
- More than that, we want to consult with you and learn more about each tribe and your preservation priorities. However, it's up to each tribe to decide the degree you'd like to be a part of this planning process.

What would tribal consultation look like within this planning process? Options.

- **Who/Roles:** What role would you prefer to have in this planning process? Discuss individual and collective relationships to the plan—what you want that relationship to look like.
- **What/Content:** The content that each nation would like to offer and information we would like to gather. What information you want included in the planning document.
- **How/Information Gathering:** The ways in which we collect your comments and ways in which your comments can be provided within or attached to the plan document.
- **When/Timeline Forward:** Milestones that will allow your consideration of the comments provided and your approval of the placement of those comments within the plan document.

Details/options for the four categories noted above if more information is desired (only partially covered in meeting)

Who—role of sovereign nations within the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan process

- Public participation is actively requested throughout the planning process. While one may not identify as “the public,” the plan is still responsible for engaging “communities, large and small, urban and rural, throughout the state.”
- Tribes may be affected by the plan—be impacted by the plan’s goals and have impact on planning efforts and outcomes.
- Your role could be directing these efforts and outcomes.
- Plan might serve as a foundation to emphasize the need to handle tribes differently than the general public.

What—the content we hope to collect

- NPS quote for breadth of resources explored. *“The final plan addresses the range of historic and cultural resources that represent the breadth and depth of a state’s prehistory, history, and culture. These usually include buildings, structures, objects, archaeological sites, landscapes, traditional cultural properties, and underwater resources. Plans may also address cultural practices such as folklore, folk life activities, language, and traditional music and dance.”*
www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/planning-tips-for-developing-a-statewide-historic-preservation-plan.htm
- It may be that you don’t provide direct access to these sites/this documentation but provide ways in which the public might learn more or work through the tribes to learn more.

How—options for sharing information and providing comment

- **Options for sharing information:** words, images, projects, books/publications, websites, documentation of events, etc.
- **Options for comment:** comment in this meeting, hold a separate meeting in May after you’ve had time to consider questions, provide answers to our questions in a survey format, or simply submit general comments to Marie after the meeting.
- **Options for placement within the Statewide Plan document:** Section dedicated to input from different groups of people that we’ve spoken to during the engagement phase of the planning process, stand-alone section for comment from tribal representatives, appendices item, or separate document linked to the Statewide Plan document.
- **To be clear,** we aren’t seeking to provide a summation of your comments as we’re doing for most of our public meetings. Our intent is to use the information you provide, only formatting the text (layout-wise) for final document.

When—timeline going forward

- Options for approval of comment and placement within the plan—regular checks to approve placement.
- Plan document at 50% = Tribal representatives could review draft plan (tentative posting date of May 31). With this information, the THC is better equipped to illustrate options for placement of your comments within plan and tribes have a better idea of the options for placing comment within the plan.
- Plan document at 75% = Check to see that we’ve understood your preferences and chance to change your mind about placement for your comments.
- Plan document at 95% = Another chance to ensure that we’ve met your expectations.

TIMELINE FOR THE PLANNING PROCESS

Future engagement opportunities open to the public.

- Digital Town Hall #6: Interpreting Underrepresented Stories
April 12, 2022 —6:30 to 8:30 p.m. — Register [here](#)
- Digital Town Hall #7: Leveraging Preservation Benefits
April 14, 2022 —12 to 2 p.m.— Register [here](#)
- Digital Town Hall #8: Expanding Revenue Streams
April 19, 2022 —12 to 2 p.m.— Register [here](#)
- Individuals may attend these meetings or go on the plan website to comment (texaspreservationplan.com).
- Public comment for draft plan ends end of April/beginning of May but opportunities for public feedback in July.

Potential Participation of Tribal Representatives (all dates for 2022)

Today—we're offering up ideas and options for you to consider.

April/May—THC can provide a meeting dedicated to discussing the questions we've outlined to date. We'd appreciate holding that meeting prior to May 12 but could extend that time period to May 31.

June—The 50% draft planning document will be posted in June. Although your comments won't be included in this version, the document will provide a better opportunity for you to determine your preferred location for the comments provided by tribal representatives. We'll work with you to provide your preferred location to us by July. Our aim is to have one preferred approach that is satisfactory to each tribe.

July—Virtual meetings will be held in July to gather feedback from the public about the 50% draft plan document. You are welcome to attend these meetings and listen or comment.

October—Tentative month for the 75% version of the plan document. Again, we'd share this with you to show you how comments from tribal representatives have been incorporated into the plan or will appear in document format to accompany the planning document.

December—Tentative month for the 95% version of the plan document. This viewing is simply to show that our team has placed your comments as previously agreed upon within the planning document.

Questions that our planning team offers at this time for your consideration (were not covered in meeting).

1. We would appreciate knowing more about preservation efforts and needs for sites, features, landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural and spiritual value to your tribe.
 - Can you describe the issues related to the preservation of your tribe's cultural and historic resources?
 - What are the key preservation issues for your tribe related to these resources?

- Can you share anything about what your tribe may be currently working on to address these issues? Are their partnerships currently working to address these issues?
2. We would appreciate your help to enhance existing partnerships and create new partnerships with your tribes. Our hope is to relay your tribe's priorities related to the preservation of historic and cultural resources through the plan's goals and objectives.
 - We would appreciate your help to determine how best to connect communities and agencies to your tribes? Contact information and protocol.
 - We also would like the plan to provide how you'd prefer communities to be involved in your preservation work.
 3. This statewide planning effort includes an examination of disaster preparedness and recovery efforts in our state—what is ongoing and what should be modified or added.
 - Would you share how tribes have been affected by natural or human-made disasters?
 - What are the main concerns related to how these disasters affect tribes and their cultural resources?
 - Are there ongoing efforts to address these concerns or ideas about how to address concerns in the future?

END OF MEMO



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Conversations with Tribal Nations Document: Updated timeline of conversations and comment periods

| Date | Timeline tasks for gathering comments and priorities from tribal representatives—Updated Jan 2023 |
|----------|--|
| 10/01/21 | Identify appropriate way to share information with Tribal Nations. Agreed to work through Marie Archambeau, Tribal Liaison for THC. |
| 11/01/21 | Marie Archambeau, Tribal Liaison for THC, shares promotional material related to the SWP engagement phase—upcoming in-person workshops and virtual meetings that will gather preservation perspectives and recommendations from the public. There will be 16 public meetings between November 2021 and March 2022. |
| 04/12/22 | Representatives from Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SWP) team attend meeting to provide recap of SWP engagement phase to date; describes ways in which tribal representatives might want to be involved in planning process. Team provided a set of questions related to gathering information about preservation priorities/challenges and how Traditional Cultural Properties have been impacted by natural and human-made disasters. |
| 05/10/22 | Review previously submitted planning questions and request information related to those questions. |
| 06/14/22 | Discuss whatever information the group would like to share and provide updated timeline of planning process. |
| 06/30/22 | Provides planning update, reviews questions posed in April, requests comments related to preservation priorities. |
| 07/12/22 | Request approval of meeting notes to date, show 50% SWP draft, and consider action items for the public that will serve as recommendations for improving partnerships, preservation efforts, and overall understanding. |
| 08/09/22 | Brief check in to provide Statewide Plan process update. Repeat action items request. |
| 08/16/22 | 50% SWP draft public posting/feedback period begins—NOTIFY TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES |
| 09/01/22 | Offer feedback virtual meeting: SWP team will gather general feedback from tribal representatives on the 50% SWP draft. May also discuss action item recommendations discussed in monthly calls. Ask attendees in Sept. meeting if they would like this extra meeting; attendees did not opt for additional feedback meeting. |
| 09/12/22 | SWP team to provide Tribal Conversations document to THC. |
| 09/13/22 | Brief check-in to provide SWP process update. Review action item recommendations discussed to date and share Tribal Conversations document draft for consideration. Action items take the form of preservation priorities during this time period. |
| 09/21/22 | SWP team attends and provides brief overview presentation of SWP work to date. Attendees are asked to consider preservation priorities. |
| 10/11/22 | Brief check in to provide SWP process update. Take comments on Tribal Conversations document draft and identified preservation priorities. |
| 11/08/22 | Brief check-in to provide Statewide Plan process update. |
| 11/01/22 | Draft Conversations document and SWP draft should conform to all previous comments, providing documents that can be taken back to tribal councils for publication approval. |
| 12/13/22 | Brief check-in to provide Statewide Plan process update. Take comments on Tribal Conversations document. Share minor THC edits to Tribal Conversations document updated draft. |
| 01/10/23 | Brief check-in to provide Statewide Plan process update. Share version of Tribal Conversations report that includes THC edits discussed in December Tribal Nations call. |
| 01/10/23 | To publish, we'll need tribal council approval by this day in order to publicly post the Tribal Conversations document along with the SWP document. THC staff provide final review of document. |
| 02/14/23 | Brief check in to provide Statewide Plan process update |
| 02/01/23 | FINAL SWP DOCUMENT SCHEDULED FOR POSTING. Tribal Conversations document will be posted, as well. This document will be submitted to the National Park Service along with the final SWP document. |

APPENDIX II



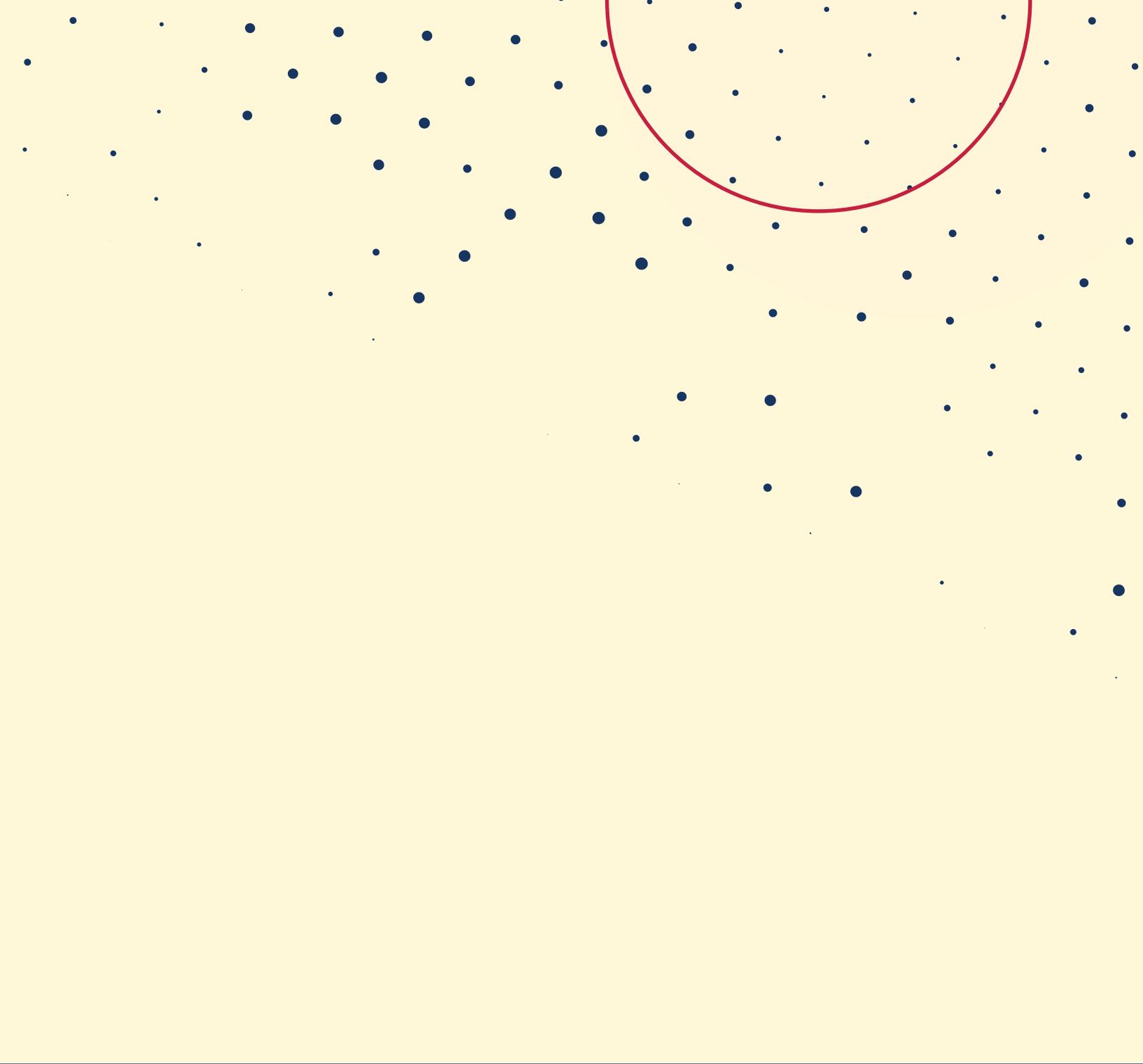


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Conversations with Tribal Nations Document: Tribal Priorities List

Final edits made October 14, 2022

1. Increase consultation and collaboration with Federally Recognized Tribes through regulatory arenas, as well as non-regulatory efforts and projects.
 - a. Improve conversations and consultation with Federally Recognized Tribes to make sure projects that are impacting tribal resources are not approved without consultation.
 - b. Improve representation of Federally Recognized Tribes on preservation-related boards and in preservation-related programs.
 - c. Increase positions dedicated as tribal liaisons.
 - d. Provide ongoing education about the consultation and collaboration process.
2. Provide more opportunities for Natives to share perspectives and preservation priorities.
3. Expand efforts to tell Native history—focus on individual tribal histories rather than treating all tribal histories as one story, as directed through each tribal nation.
4. Improve efforts to protect Sacred Spaces (specify types of sites if preferred).
 - a. Cultivate a better understanding of why traditional preservation tools may not be appropriate nor effective mechanisms when related to Traditional Cultural Properties.
 - b. Increase awareness of viewshed impacts and infrastructure impacts.
 - c. Develop system for identifying areas of concern, not specific sites, to be used for protection of sacred spaces during natural disasters and in other situations.
5. Improve campaign to prevent the looting of archeological sites and other cultural resources.



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REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES